

GIRARD ESTATE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION (GENA)

Quarterly Membership Meeting at Donatucci Library

17 November 2015

1. Mark Leuzzi, Jr., the GENA President, opened the meeting and cited the topics for discussion.
2. Katy Traveline updated us on plans for the South Philadelphia Food Co-op, a cooperatively owned grocery store that will be coming to the area. They are searching for an appropriate site for the store. Go to www.southphillyfoodcoop.org for more info.
3. Maggie Dunn from the Philadelphia Water Department briefed us on “Green City Clean Waters,” a 25-year initiative to clean city rivers and streams through green infrastructure. She detailed specific efforts planned for the Girard Estate Area and scheduled to begin in about 18 months. These efforts are primarily focused in the Stephen Girard Park area from 21st to 22nd sts and from Oregon to Wolf Streets. Both stormwater tree trenches and bumpouts are planned. More info is available on the Water Department’s web site:
http://phillywatersheds.org/what_were_doing
5. First Police Captain Louis Campione and some of his men received a warm welcome. The Captain introduced his new Community Relations Officer, Tom Cavanaugh. He also warned about an ongoing telephone scam in which the caller poses as an IRS agent and states that agents are on the way to arrest the person for back taxes unless they wire money immediately. The Captain said that most of the auto thefts and many of the house burglaries were because of unlocked doors or windows. If you are buying or selling on Craig’s List, you are welcome to safely meet the other party at their 24th and Wolf Sts. building, which is open 24 hours a day.
6. Jessica Frye, Chair of the Events Committee, said that Christmas in the Park is scheduled for Saturday, December 12th. Santa, carolers, a DJ, and a tree lighting will all be part of the event. Volunteers are needed and welcome. A winter coat drive is planned for early January.
7. Rob Frye, GENA Treasurer gave a financial update.
8. Jasmine Sadat, from Councilman Kenyatta Johnson’s office, said that the first stage of upgrades to Girard Park, the lighting, will be installed at the end of the month.