



Friends of 40th Street

30 January 2009

Friends of 40th Street
Meeting Memo No. 41

Date/Place/Time: 30 January 2009/ Community Room – 3901 Market Street /8:00 a.m.

Attendance:	Marge Arndt	American Law Institute
	Brenda Alexander	3901 Market Street
	Jessi Averill	The Partnership CDC
	Randy Belin	LISC
	James Braxton	3901 Market Street
	Ethel Briscoe	3901 Market Street
	Herbert Briscoe	3901 Market Street
	Shirley Carter	3901 Market Street
	Joyce Caulley	3901 Market Street
	Ila Clark	3901 Market Street
	Catherine Dekle	3901 Market Street
	Marc Desir	3901 Market Street
	Shirley Dilday	3901 Market Street
	Nick Esposito	Portfolio Associates
	Gloria Finney	Center Post Village
	Capt. Joseph Fischer	University of Pennsylvania Police Dept.

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Lee V. Goode	3901 Market Street
Andrew Goodman	PennPraxis
Yvonne Griffin	3901 Market Street
Winnie Harris	UC Green
Russell Hicks	The Enterprise Center
Antoinette Gayh	3901 Market Street
Ethel Jeter	3901 Market Street
Eleanor Johnson	3901 Market Street
Veeda Johnson	3901 Market Street
Mia King	The Enterprise Center CDC
Stafford Knuckle	3901 Market Street
Elizabeth Lambert	3901 Market Street
Kathryn Laws	3901 Market Street
William McCollum	3901 Market Street
Ida Morris	3901 Market Street
Nancy Mosley	3901 Market Street
Janice Pompey	New Courtland
Paul Robinson	3901 Market Street
Richard Rogers	3901 Market Street
Richard Southerland	Science Center
George Stevens	CSP Reprographics
Arthur Summers	3901 Market Street
Francis Talley	3901 Market Street
Imanni Wilkes	The Enterprise Center CDC
Dorothy Wilkins	3901 Market Street

Geraldine Williams	3901 Market Street
Matt Wolfe	UC Republican Committee
James Wright	People's Emergency Center

Items Discussed:

1. Andrew Goodman (AG) welcomed everyone. Everyone introduced themselves. AG announced about the upcoming public meetings organized by Friends facilitator Harris Sokoloff called, *The City Budget: Tight Times, Tough Choices*. In these forums, citizens asked to give their input so the city can make wise choices in balancing its budget. The West Philadelphia forum will be held Monday, February 23, at Pinn Memorial Baptist Church (2251 North 54th Street). Results will be discussed on WHYY radio.

Someone asked if there have been further discussion about the next steps for the Friends going forward and future change in administrators. AG said that there have, though not yet final, and that there would be a report at the next Steering and General Meeting.

2. AG introduced Janice Pompey (JP) and Gloria Finney (GF) to present on New Courtland Management and Center Post Village Apartments. JP started by introducing New Courtland Management, the management company of Center Post Village Apartments on 40th Street just north of Filbert Street. New Courtland was founded in 1995 and specializes in senior housing and services. JP said that there are currently vacancies, so anyone who knows seniors who are looking for new housing should suggest Center Post.

Someone asked if these apartments are accessible for those in wheelchairs. JP commented that upgrades are being made this spring and summer.

New Courtland manages other properties besides those on 40th Street, which are a part of the Philadelphia Corporation for the Aging Transitional programs. Through these programs and Penn's Living Independently for Elders (LIFE), furniture and/or food are provided for those moving into independent living situations from nursing homes, etc. New Courtland manages cottages and apartments in Germantown for those living with dementia, retirement affordable housing on City Line Avenue called Belmont, and multi-family units at Center Post Village.

Next, GF announced about Center Post's Neighborhood Networks programming. Neighborhood Networks particularly is involved in after-school computer classes for residents and the community. GF stated that she is always in need of volunteer help with outreach, office work, and their after-school programs.

AG welcomed JP and GF to the Friends, noting the importance of continuing to expand the circle and how great it is to welcome a neighbor just to the north on 40th Street. AG said that the Friends of 40th Street began based on principles of equal access and including all those interested in the positive development of 40th Street, so hopefully this will be just the beginning of a growing relationship between the Friends and Center Post.

3. Captain Fischer (CF) spoke next. He explained that around the 40th & Market Street Intersection, there are three 24-hour surveillance cameras monitoring the block. Management at the University Townhomes continues to work alongside Penn Police especially relating to their tenant eviction processes. Also, CF proposed that an upcoming

Friends meeting be hosted at Penn Police's facilities as a way to re-acquainted people with their services and, simply, location. Perhaps Penn Police could assist with travel for some members if necessary. The event will likely be sometime in May.

A question was asked about what Penn Police's patrol zone is. CF replied by saying it's from the Schuylkill River to 43rd Street, Market Street to Baltimore Avenue. However, they do help monitor along Powelton Avenue by Presbyterian Hospital. Officers will many times attend community meetings to keep people aware of their services.

4. Since a representative from the Mayor's Office for the Re-Entry of Ex-offenders (MORE) could not make this month's meeting due to sickness, this person will be rescheduled for another time.
5. A question was asked about what is happening with the property the former Philadelphia Housing Authority (PHA) apartment high-rise rested on. At this time, it is not known what the plans are for this property. This is something to follow up on for a later meeting.
6. Next, AG opened up the meeting to any community announcements. First, Winnie Harris (WH) of UC Green announced about their spring tree plantings. She said they are always looking for volunteers to come to either planting days (days to still be determined). She also announced that they will be hiring youth for summer planting and maintenance jobs, so anyone interested should contact UC Green at 215-573-4684.
7. A representative from the Science Center announced that the Office of Councilwoman Blackwell and PennDot have approved plans for Market Street improvements as part of the Streetscape project from 34th to 41st Streets. Bids will be put out soon for the contractors. It is expected that the work will be between mid-April and late October of this year. The representative went on to say that there now is a streetlight at 37th & Market Street to help slow traffic speeds along that block. It took five years to request and install this light. There is also a crosswalk just down from the light to help pedestrian better navigate what is usually a high-speed area.

A question was asked about the installation of an elevator at the 40th Street El Stop. In order to install this it will cost around \$5 million, so at this time it seems that SEPTA does not yet have it within its budget. However, SEPTA has acknowledged at past Friends meetings that they are considering installing an elevator, they are just trying to coordinate the necessary funds for this project at this time.

Finally, a question was asked about whether the Science Center was able to request enough funding from the State to cover the gap in the Streetscape project. The project has enough funding for 38th to 41st Street improvements. More will be added to the scope of the project once more money is received.

Submitted by:

Jessi Averill
The Partnership CDC

Cc: Those in Attendance
Friends of 40th Street