

BBHCA

General Meeting 3/19/19

19 March 2019 / 7:00 PM /

15 in attendance

Agenda

1. Treasury Report
2. Speeding, Crime and other neighborhood issues
3. 661 W. Johnson, construction update
4. Vision Zero application status
5. Upcoming Neighborhood events
6. Vote on changing civic year from september start to Jan.
7. Questions/comments from neighbors

Treasury Report

- ❖ Checking: 1,110.71
- ❖ Cash: 215.00
- ❖ Total: 1,325.71
- ❖ 50 Households in membership

Sahlee Brown, Urban Park Ranger Supervisor

Overview of what rangers do, when you need to call them and when you need to call PPD.

- Dog off leash
- Music issues
- Permit dispute
- Amplified sound

- For all of these issue you can call a park ranger.
- Please note that there are only two or three that cover Germantown, Mount Airy, Chestnut Hill area.
- There is a new line to contact a park ranger. This line goes directly to the supervisor who is on shift that day. 267-253-5207
- They've been trying to stay on top of the permits and dog issues. Last two years had a ranger stationed at BBH during permit season.

Questions for Sallie:

Any progress with problem permits?

- The office has been working on this but if they use a different name it's hard to stay on top of. Times rangers are on duty are 7am - 10:30pm. Anything after 10:30 call PPD for immediate assistance.

Who's responsible for the fallen fence that is along Johnson st at Lincoln drive?

- That's the park, we will take a look at that. John Smeltzer out of District 3 is a new manager that will look at it.

Can the playground at Allens Lane get new mulch?

- District 3 maintenance. Henry Ave across from Saul school is our main office.

Another park has a large no amplified noise sound that's big, can we get one?

- That's Kimball park at Ardleigh and Haines. We can work on that.

Who can get that?

- We can put it in but every push helps to make it happen, like us and your council person.

What's the district 3 you refer to?

- That's the maintenance area, other than FOW district 3 & 4 do park maintenance.

What can we do about the dirt and trash along walnut lane bridge?

- That's usually volunteer work. Do you know David Bower? He organizes a lot of volunteer work. The park can take care of things along the park right before the bridge. We can take a look at it.

Out of curiosity how many permits do you give to BBH?

- Hundreds, I don't know the exact number.

Any other questions? I'll take a look at the wood chips and fencing.

The phone numbers on the signs in the park are the direct ones that you can call. 215-685-2185

We're starting to our busy season, but park gates still close at 6pm until April 1st.

Blue Bell is now the 39th district and they both (39th and 14th) have keys.

39th Dist Community Relations Officer Lukaitis

- A lot of new things in the 39th. We have crime bulletins we send out. To get on the e-mail list send a request to Bernard.spain@phila.gov.
- We have community meetings on the 4th Monday of every month.
- We have a Facebook page – Philadelphia 39th Police District Advisory Council
<https://www.facebook.com/39THPDAC/>
- We are on Twitter – PPD39TH <https://twitter.com/ppd39dist?lang=en>
- I am on Twitter - <https://twitter.com/ppdjoelukaitis?lang=en>
- Crime wise:
 - Theft from autos, people still leaving stuff in cars. Do not leave anything in your car. Always lock it.
 - People taking off catalytic converter, it has palladium in it. People are stealing them and selling the palladium. Not cheap to replace it.

Register your house camera at www.phillypolice.com. Go to the bottom of the page, click on "safe camera," select "basic." An officer will come out and confirm your camera. That's how we catch a lot of things these days. We don't log into your camera. If there's an event that happens by your house and your camera is registered we will call you to check your camera. If something happens and you have a camera that we don't know about it's no help. One time registration, no fee.

If you do clean-ups let us know – clean neighborhoods prevent crime. We want to work close with you guys getting anything you need. It's a small section, but a good section.

Joseph.lukaitis@phila.gov 215-686-3390

QUESTIONS

We have a speeding issue in the neighborhood. If there's traffic and people use us as cut through streets. Cars are speeding around each other.

- I'll let the captain know and try to get some people up here.

We've been trying to do a lot of work to get support from the city and the state because we have two state highways. Does the police dept ever support neighborhood to get work like signage as preventive measure?

- Yes. But what I say is go right to the councilman and let me know and what I can do help.

When there's accidents who's responsible for the clean-up aftermath?

- Tow trucks are responsible to clean-up the mess.

Who keeps tracks of the accidents in the neighborhood?

- Traffic unit and the reports go straight to the state. You can go to the district and they can give you the amount of accidents that happen as long as its reported to the police. If it's a minor fender bender and we're busy, we won't show up.

ALWAYS HAVE A POLICE REPORT DONE AFTER AN ACCIDENT. You can walk to the district and get one made.

Permits for block parties has changed. All electric now.

<https://secure.phila.gov/Streets/BlockParty/>

Sargent Becker from the 14th District

Theft from autos and burglaries are the biggies. Don't leave anything in your car and lock it. Change, anything valuable.

- If you see someone walking down the road looking in cars, call 911 – get a good description. Don't confront them. Take note of what they are wearing, tall, fat, short. What shoes they have on. They go block after block, quiet blocks.
- Burglaries, lock doors and windows. Be vigilant of neighbors house. Thieves look in mailboxes to see if you have mail. If you have a lot of newspapers they notice that.

The safe cam is a great tool, register your camera. We catch a lot of people with the safe cam. We never tell people who gave us the footage.

Speeding: We'll try to get someone out here. We'll try to get someone out here but the mornings are hard. I know that Walnut and Wissahickon are like speedways, people trying to make the light. I'll see if we can get at least a car sitting out here every now and then. We don't have radar. State police are the only ones with radars but they cant use it around here.

Description of shoes is very important in reporting a person.

If the music at the park is really loud we will come out – we'll talk to them or unplug it or give them a fine. When it comes to the priorities of calls most of the crime in Germantown is with shootings. Its not around here, our man power is not over here.

Spring Events

Visit <https://bluebellhill.net/upcoming/> or the events section of our FaceBook page <https://www.facebook.com/groups/BlueBellHillCivic/?ref=bookmarks> for additional details.

- ★ BBH Spring Clean-up
 - Saturday, April 13th 10am-12noon
- ★ WRV & BBHCA Forest Maintenance
 - Sunday, April 28th 10am-12noon
- ★ Ice Cream Social
 - Tuesday, June 11th 6pm
- ★ Festival of Speed
 - Saturday, June 15th 3pm

Civic Year

Vote to change our current civic year from a September start to following the calendar year.

- 15 in favor
- None against

661 W. Johnson Street

Owner Max addressed the meeting to discuss his plans for the property.

- The house was purchased site unseen. Cannot be renovated, must be demolished.
- Asbestos exterior has been removed. Inside has been certified as having no asbestos.
- A company is going to do a hand demolish, no machines. The house will be dismantled by hand. A couple of large trucks will haul away material, no dumpsters will be on the street.
- They will follow a school schedule to be least disruptive to neighbors. Start at 9am or 10am, and stop before school is over around 3pm.
- Demolition will take a week.
- There will be a mesh fence barrier.
- They should be watering the site to keep the dust down.
- Yellow sticker on the door with all the info for the demo guy - Kurtz.
- The day before we will get a date and we can notify the neighborhood, but will try to get it earlier than that.
- We will rebuild as quickly as possible. Plans for a slightly bigger house, same footprint but bigger interior.

- “If you see anything you don’t like please contact me. It’s a lot more than I expected to get into but it will be great for the neighborhood. It’s not an investment property we will live there.”
- Contact: max.bezahler@sap.com

Additional questions/comments for the community

- Reverend Joe asked for help keeping the church lawn clean. Keep dogs off of it, please.