

I. **Minutes From Last Meeting**

Minutes from the March meeting were approved.

II. **Guest Speaker**

Officer Mark Hiller from Police Service Area (PSA) 3 came to introduce himself and to provide information about the PSA's. He was first on the agenda in order to allow for another appointment. PSA 3 covers the area from Sixth St. to Broad St. and Washington Ave. to the Navy Yard. He spoke about how to contact the police in the service area and discussed recent crimes in the area.

The lieutenant for our area is Lt. John Hewitt. He can be contacted via email at ppd.03_psa3@phila.gov. Emails can be sent to provide concerns, reports or tips about crime or criminal activity. Reports can be made anonymously or you can leave your name and phone number for a call back.

Officer Hiller gave a brief report of some of the crime in the area and cautioned people to be on the alert as follows:

- Near the end of March, beginning of April, there were two robberies in the area in which a handgun was used, with similar descriptions. Officer Hiller cautioned residents not to be outside alone at night, to pay attention to your surroundings and to stay in well lighted areas.
- There have also been some thefts from automobiles. All were cautioned not to leave a GPS in vehicle or the mount for a GPS. Make sure all doors are locked and any personal items are well out of view.
- Burglaries are not really happening in this area. However, entry points are always in the back of the house. All are reminded to make sure that windows and doors are locked and that back doors are locked.

Officer Hiller also spoke about 911 response time and indicated that response time can vary depending upon the urgency of the matter. There are five levels of urgency from #1 a police officer requiring help to #5 illegal parking, graffiti, etc. If there is something that is occurring which is not getting adequate response, the more people who call about a problem, may raise its response level. When

reporting an issue, it was advised to have an officer come to your residence to make a report and to get the "DC" number for the report.

Officer Hiller further reported that there is not much crime reported in this immediate area. He indicated that some matters are often not seen as important enough to report. However, it is important for residents to share information about issues that they see in the community to help the police to be more proactive instead of reactive. He encouraged residents to send emails or make phone calls or go to the PSA office to provide information to the community service officers of the PSA, Ace Delgado and Jimmy Harkins. PSA action plans are developed to address pressing concerns of the community.

III. **New Recreation Leader**

Our new Rec Leader, Katie Wimsey was introduced. She has been with the Recreation Department for five years, mostly serving in the Northeast. This is her first assignment in South Philadelphia. She will be in charge of both Columbus Square and Capitolo parks. She invites those with thoughts, ideas or questions to pop into the office, send her an email or call. She is very interested in meeting the needs of the community.

IV. **Treasurer's Report**

In March, \$1600 was paid out for field maintenance activities and supplies. The current balance is \$5,840.71. As always, a full review of the account is available at the office.

V. **Department of Parks & Recreation Report**

Registration for **Summer Camp** has started. Flyers and information have been posted in the kiosks and are available in the office. Camp will run for six weeks from July 5 through August 12th. There is a capacity of 30. It is anticipated that there will be more demand for camp this year because the camp at Jackson School has been discontinued. The price has been raised slightly from last year to \$360. It includes breakfast, lunch, trips and T-shirt. See the Summer Camp Registration Sheet for more information.

There are plans to start a Tot Recreation program, similar to preschool, in the fall, contingent on enough interest. The fee charged would need to be sufficient to support a teacher. Referrals are requested to identify an appropriate teacher. There will be more information about this at future meetings and on the website.

VI. **Committee Reports**

Abbreviated committee reports were provided in order to allow time for Officer Hiller to speak.

Programming: Two more cooking workshops are scheduled, Indian Rice on Wednesday, May 18th and Greek Mousaka on Saturday, June 4th. Information about the classes has been posted, or see Katie for more information.

VII. New Business

A question was raised about maintenance of the facility. Katie explained that the park now has one person, Jeff, who is assigned both to Columbus and Capitolo. He is assigned to Capitolo Monday, Wednesday and Friday and to Columbus on Tuesday and Thursday. His job is to clean the facility inside and out. Maintenance, especially cleanliness of the facility has been an ongoing issue. It is hoped that this will be something that is better addressed in the future.

VIII. Next Meeting: Thursday, May 19, 2011 at 7:00 PM.