



*Neighbors Helping Neighbors*

## **March 2020 Newsletter**

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### **In This Issue:**

- **General Meeting TONIGHT**

On the Agenda:

Q&A with Parks and Recreation

Census Information with Philly Counts

PSCA Board Election Information

*(Please note there is a School District Planning Meeting as well tonight in another location - 6pm South Philly High)*

- **Street Sweeping - Next sweeping Friday, March 6**
- **Zoning Meeting - Tuesday, March 10**
- **EPX/PSCA/DSWCA Social Hour - Wednesday, March 11 at Stogie Joe's**
- **PSCA Planning Committee Meeting - Monday, March 16**
- **Language Exchange - Thursday, March 19**
- **Step of the Month February Winner**
- **Trees, Gardens and Beautification**
- **2020 Art Auction: March 28, 2020**
- **Philly Spring Clean-Up April 4th**
- **PSCA Board Elections coming May 5th (apply by April 3rd!)**
  
- **Passyunk Parks**
- **Passyunk Schools**
  
- **Wash Your Hands! COVID-19 Prevention**
  
- **Other Community Upcoming Events**
  
- **Volunteer Opportunities**
- **Make A Donation**

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## **March Meeting**

**Tuesday, March 3 - TONIGHT!**

**6:30pm**

**South Philadelphia Older Adult Center**

1430 E. Passyunk Avenue

PSCA General Meetings are typically the First Tuesday of every month at 6:30pm at South Philadelphia Older Adult Center and are preceded by the PSA-3 3rd District Police Meeting.

Childcare will be provided during general meetings with Manny the Nanny. *\*\*We remind neighbors that we welcome families to our meetings. We expect and will insist that adults attending conduct themselves accordingly.\*\**

This month's speakers:

- 1) Information on PSCA Board elections ([applications open now through April 3](#))
- 2) Senior Staff from Parks and Recreation to answer questions about various park projects in our neighborhood
- 3) Census Information from [Philly Counts](#)

Please note, we realize there is also a school district planning meeting tonight (6pm at South Philly High - more details and an [input form here](#)) See below for information on accessing our meeting minutes if you cannot attend our meeting tonight.

We continue to work to support our neighbors on and near the 1400 block of S. 8th Street this past month. There are generous offers of support coming in from all over our area and it has been amazing to see our neighborhood come together to offer help. We have set up a facebook forum and google group to connect neighbors and help share information. If you know of neighbors in need of connection to these groups or any assistance, please email us at [8thstreetfire@passyunk.org](mailto:8thstreetfire@passyunk.org).

Minutes from our past general meetings are available on our website

[www.passyunk.org/about/general-meeting-minutes](http://www.passyunk.org/about/general-meeting-minutes)

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## **Street Cleaning**

A clean-up crew is now sweeping all numbered streets from 6<sup>th</sup> to 13th (between Washington and Tasker, excluding the lower 9th Street market) every other Friday. Help us keep track of the work being performed! Email a photo of your block taken Friday after 4 pm to [cleanstreets@passyunk.org](mailto:cleanstreets@passyunk.org) and help us monitor the condition of the streets on days they should be swept.

***Paying for supplemental sidewalk clean up is the largest single expense for PSCA, and we can't make it happen without financial support from neighbors***

***like you! To make a contribution to support this and other work of the civic please consider making a gift now.***

Upcoming Street Sweeping dates:

March 6

March 20

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### **Zoning Meeting**

Tuesday, March 10

St. Maron's Hall, 1013 Ellsworth Street

### **This month we will hear the following cases:**

- 706 Washington Ave
- 833 Wharton Street
- 1145 Tasker Street
- 1143 Tasker Street
- 1149 S. 12th Street
- 1156 S. 9th Street

For updates, additions and past and upcoming case details, visit [www.passyunk.org/zoning](http://www.passyunk.org/zoning) or the [Passyunk Square Facebook page](#). Meetings are typically held on the second Tuesday of every month at Saint Maron's Church.

### **Update on Municipal Complex Redevelopment:**

Thank you to everyone who submitted comments on the [proposed plans for the area around 1100 Wharton Street](#). Your comments have been forwarded on to the developer and as this process moves forward, we will be posting updated renderings when they are available and confirmed, likely later this month.

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### **Happy Hour with PSCA, East Passyunk Crossing Civic and Dickinson Square West Civic Associations**

**Wednesday, March 11, 5pm-7pm**

**Devil's Den, 1148 S. 11th Street**

Please join the three civics for our first happy hour of the year to meet neighbors and learn about what we do. More information on [the Facebook event](#).

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### **Planning Committee Meeting**

**Monday, March 16, 7pm**

**Capitolo Playground, 900 Federal Street**

Come discuss policies, challenges, and opportunities to make our neighborhood successful and vibrant. Projects include neighborhood branding street signs, the Percy Street project, discussions around larger development projects and opportunities, census participation, trends in land use, historic preservation and much more. For more information email [planning@passyunk.org](mailto:planning@passyunk.org).

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## **Language Exchange**

**Thursday, March 19**

**Place TBD**

The PSCA Language Exchange typically meets on the third Thursday of every month. Check your emails and Facebook for details on which neighborhood restaurant we will meet.

In the meantime, please consider helping us reach our Spanish speaking neighbors. This spring, Passyunk Square Civic Association, and East Passyunk Crossing Civic held the Spanish language "Intro to RCOs" presentation. [This presentation is available on our website](#). Part of the feedback from this meeting was to survey our neighbors as to what might be most helpful programming. Please [share this survey with anyone you think might be interested](#) in helping us with some comments on how we can better serve!

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## **Step of the Month**



1132 Gerritt Street is feeling the LOVE! It was a close call but you called our winner and loved the red blooms in the plant stand! Congratulations to our PSCA Step of the Month for February.

Our winner will receive a PSCA Step of the Month window decal and donated gift certificate to Molly's Books & Records!

Please send your nominees for March's contest to [stepofthemonth@passyunk.org](mailto:stepofthemonth@passyunk.org).

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## **Gardens, Trees and Beautification**

### **PSCA Tree Tenders**

Be sure to join our [Tree Tender Facebook group](#) to be part of planning for plantings and for tree care work:

If you're a recent Tree Tender graduate (or one we haven't been in touch with recently) please reach out! We'd love to have you help us a planting team leader. Email [beautification@passyunk.org](mailto:beautification@passyunk.org) for more information.

If you would like a street tree you can apply [here](#) or get a paper application by emailing [beautification@passyunk.org](mailto:beautification@passyunk.org). We'll include your application in the next available planting.

### **Tending to other green spaces, art spaces and community gardens**

See an area that needs some weeding and help in a park, schoolyard or lot - likely we can tell you about who might be looking for help tending it! Or interested in knowing more about community gardens in our area? Email us at [beautification@passyunk.org](mailto:beautification@passyunk.org). We love to answer questions and hear ideas!

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### **PSCA Art Auction**

March 28, 7pm

Theater Exile, 1308 S. 13th Street

\$15 tickets



Support Passyunk Square Civic Association by buying local artwork. It is a silent auction format with food, drink and a great opportunity to meet neighbors and the artists themselves. Prior Auctions have included the best of the region's artists with work in a variety of mediums: sculpture, painting, glass blowing, woodworking and photography to name a few.

Ticket and sales proceeds support PSCA and it's efforts to beautify and clean the neighborhood on a regular basis, as well as community events to promote a cohesive community of residents, businesses and institutions.

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### **Philly Spring Clean-Up**

**Saturday, April 4th**

Spring is almost here and that means it's time to come outside, reacquaint yourself with your neighbors and think about organizing a block clean up. The city will help provide you with supplies and recycling bins as part of the Philly Spring Cleanup 2020. We'll be hosting a clean up on the 1300 block of Percy Street - but we

encourage neighbors to think about sprucing up their own corner of the neighborhood! Information and a sign up for [are available here](#) or you can email [cleanstreets@passyunk.org](mailto:cleanstreets@passyunk.org) with questions.



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### **PSCA Board Elections - Applications open through 4/3**

The election for the Passyunk Square Board of Directors will be held at the Passyunk Square Civic Association General Membership meeting on May 5, 2020 from 6:30 pm until 7:30 pm. At the April 7, 2020 General Membership Meeting, the Election Committee will present a slate of nominees who will be on the ballot for the May election. YOU can be on that ballot.

[Click on this link](#) for more details and for the online candidate information form that must be submitted by 11:59 pm on April 3rd. Questions? Nominating Committee Member Pam Zenzola will be at our March General Meeting. Or email us at [nominating@passyunk.org](mailto:nominating@passyunk.org)

***Suggest a Nominee for the Board!*** Do you know someone who would be a great fit for the Passyunk Square Civic Association Board of Directors? [Nominate this neighborhood hero using the form at this link!](#) Submissions are due by 11:59 pm on March 27, 2020.

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### **Passyunk Parks**

Please note a representative from Parks and Recreation will be coming to our March Meeting (tonight 3/3!) to answer questions about work happening in our neighborhood. If you have questions but can't attend - please feel free to email us at [contact@passyunk.org](mailto:contact@passyunk.org) and we'll pass them on tonight.

- [Capitolo Playground](#): 900 Federal Street
- [Columbus Square](#): 1200 Wharton Street
  - Columbus Square is closed for renovations until next summer. For details about the plan, visit [their website](#): For updates on renovations, check the Columbus Square Facebook page.
- [Gold Star Park](#): 625 Wharton Street
  - Gold Star is currently closed for renovation.
- [Paolone Park](#): 700 Sears Street

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### **Passyunk Schools:**

**Please note that tonight (3/3) the School District is holding an input session at 6pm at South Philly High for our area. Details available here [Comprehensive School Planning Review meeting](#)**

See 2019-2020 calendar here. Get in touch with a Friends group, School Advisory Council or Home and School Association to support Passyunk neighborhood schools:

**Andrew Jackson Elementary School, 1213 S. 12th Street**

Andrew Jackson Home and School Facebook page

**Eliza B. Kirkbride Elementary School, 1501. S. 7th Street**

Friends of Kirkbride Elementary Facebook page

**Vare-Washington Elementary School, 1198 S. 5th Street**

Friends of Vare-Washington Facebook page

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### **Community Calendar**

Check our calendar for ongoing updates on neighborhood events! Have an event to list? Send us an email at communityevents@passyunk.org

### **Other Upcoming Events**

- March 3 - Comprehensive School Planning Review meeting -
  - Study Area 1 (South Philadelphia) Tuesday 3/3, 6-8pm @ South Philadelphia HS 2101 S Broad St.
- March 5 - GRASP all candidates for all State House Districts in South Philly to meet with voters in an informal meet-and-greet setting.
- Theater Exile, 1340 S. 13th Street
  - "Babel" Now through - March 8
  - "Orphans" April 9 - May 3

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### **3rd Police District Events**

Come out to get to know your neighbors and promote harmony in our community! We encourage neighbors to attend the 3rd District Captain's monthly Town Hall at 11th and Wharton. For more information, visit the 3rd district webpage

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### **Wash Your Hands! COVID-19 Prevention**

We encourage all neighbors to take common-sense precautions as recommended by the City's Department of Public Health:

Wash your hands  
Don't touch your face  
Cover your cough or sneeze  
Stay away from sick people  
Stay home if you're sick

More information available here: <https://www.phila.gov/services/mental-physical-health/environmental-health-hazards/covid-19/>

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## **Volunteer Opportunities**

PSCA is an all-volunteer organization and we can always use help. Interested in getting involved?

In particular, we are looking for volunteers to help us with:

- Fundraising (We need someone to help with a simple annual campaign, sponsor benefit fulfillment and new plan for a resource guide)
- Events and Promotions (We need people who like to help at parties and tabling at events!)
- Social Media (We need some help with interesting Facebook/Twitter posts, Nextdoor presence)
- Greening and cleaning help (we're always looking for volunteers who don't mind getting a little dirty - is that you?)
- Education support (we're looking for help staying in touch with all the different school support groups - the supply drive is a great time to get involved!)

[Fill out this form](#) and tell us what interests you! Or email us at [contact@passyunk.org](mailto:contact@passyunk.org) for more information on any of these opportunities.

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## **Make A Donation**

We depend on donations from neighbors to continue our street cleaning program, to support various administrative efforts (like running our general meetings and zoning meetings) to providing supplies for our gardening and greening programs and to support other programs for the neighborhood. If you're interested in making a donation to support this work, you can do so via our website at [www.passyunk.org](http://www.passyunk.org)



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