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**General Membership Meeting Minutes  
Monday, May 12, 2014  
Allegheny Traditional Academy, 7:00 p.m.**

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**In Attendance (62)**

Michele Adams, Steve Adams, Jacob Anderson, Jeff Brizek, Patricia Buck, Alicia Cafardi, Nicholas Cafardi, John Canning, David Charlton, Christopher D'Addario, Patrick Dexter, Nan Donovan, Jerome Ferrar, Kimberly Flaherty, Federico Garcia, Chris Gates, Joan Gielas, Matt Gillespie, Grant Gittlen, Justin Greenfield, Pam Grove, Tom Hardy, Darlene Harris, Ray Hayes, Kenneth Heusey, Rebecca Hudock, Arthur James, Atiya Johnson, Tim Johnson, Diana Nelson Jones, Brian Kaminski, Kate Kay, Christina Keffer, Deena Kelly, Carolyn Klingman, Mark Klingman, Randi Marshak, Al Meyers, Jan Meyers, Mark Myers, Glenn Olcerst, Jason Owens, Laura Pascal, Henry Reese, Andrew Reichert, Craig Reinhard, Vincent Salvino, Bob Sechler, Sheila Sechler, Lauren Stauffer, Aylesa Stevenson, Patrick Sweeney, Barbara Talerico, Leslie Ward, Karina Westfall, Thomas Westfall, Andrew Wickesberg, Matt Williamson, Craig Worl, Al Zanon, Randy Zotter, Wayne Zukin

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**Introduction**

The regular monthly meeting for the membership of the Allegheny City Central Association was held on Monday, May 12, 2014, at 7:00 p.m. in the auditorium of Allegheny Traditional Academy, with President Steve Adams being in the chair and Secretary Arthur James being present.

Minutes from the 4/14/14 meeting were approved.

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**President's Message**

Steve Adams reported the following.

- Thanked Andrew Wickesberg and Pam Grove for helping to organize the Redd Up Day effort along with the Mexican War Streets Society.
- The June general membership meeting will be held at the church at 1400 Buena Vista.

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**Announcements**

Members of the general membership made the following announcements.

- The Mexican War Streets Yard Sale will be May 31. Registration is closed. Over 40 homes are registered to participate.

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**Treasurer's Report**

Steve Adams presented the Treasurer's Report.



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## Northside Community Census

Vincent Salvino reported.

- The Buhl Foundation will be investing millions in the Northside over the next 10 years.
- Their first step is to perform a census survey.
- Vince is employed by them to collect surveys.
- Only need one survey per household.
- Surveys may be filled out online, or in person.
- Vince will be going door to door to perform surveys.
- You may sign up to take the census at [www.northsideconversation.com](http://www.northsideconversation.com).

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## ManorCare Health Services – Northside

Aylesa Stevenson from [ManorCare Health Services – Northside](#) presented.

- ManorCare Northside is a 24-hour, nursing and skilled care facility.
- It's located on Rhine Street in Spring Hill.
- Provides post hospital care.

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## Music Festival in West Park

Ken Heusey presented his plan to produce a music festival in West Park near Lake Elizabeth.

- Ken is originally from Pittsburgh, went to LA for a while, and is now back in Pittsburgh living downtown.
- Originally hoped to have the music festival this October, but will more likely be October 2015. Plans to hold the festival over the Columbus Day weekend.
- Will use about 5 acres of the park
- Plans to draw people from outside the city to come to the festival.
- Proposing operating the festival as a nonprofit with most of the proceeds going back into the park.
- Will book national bands. Hasn't book anyone yet.
- Will sell tickets for the first year, but may consider operating future years as a sponsored, free event.
- Plans to address people's concerns about:
  - Noise – would have a 9pm curfew for the bands.
  - Displacing the dog park – looking for a temporary alternate location for dogs during the festival.
  - Trash – would contract a waste disposal company to manage trash during the festival, and clean up the park after the festival.
  - Impact on the park – would budget for reclaiming grass that might get damaged. Also will manage foot traffic during the festival to reduce impact. Festival will be laid out in sections to reduce traffic. Also, vendors will be mobile and move throughout the crowd instead of having a fixed stand of vendors.

Ken then answered questions.

Q; How will you address parking?

A: Not certain yet. Will offer advanced ticket sales to neighborhood residents to reduce the number of cars coming in. Could offer parking at Allegheny Center. Could shuttle people in from remote lots.



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Q: Who would be selected for vendors?

A: Would give preference to local vendors.

Q: What would the capacity be?

A: A matter of debate still, but could be as big as 9,500.

Q: Will you coordinate with the city?

A: Yes, spoke with City of Pittsburgh's Special Events Committee already. Unless the Pirates make it to the World Series, it won't conflict with any other large events going on in the city at the same time.

Q: How many stages will it have?

A: For the first year, just one stage.

Q: What is your contact info?

A: [kenheusey@gmail.com](mailto:kenheusey@gmail.com)

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## Inuksuit

Federico Garcia, director of [Alia Musica Pittsburgh](#), presented.

- Alia Musica is a contemporary music and orchestra company.
- As part of the [Pittsburgh Festival of New Music](#), "Inuksuit" will be performed at Lake Elizabeth on Sunday, May 25 at 2:00pm.
- Inuksuit is a piece written for up to 99 percussionists and has been performed in other cities.
- Last count had 60 percussionists set to perform the piece. Expecting about 200 spectators.
- The Inuksuit performance is free.
- There are four days of events for the Pittsburgh Festival of New Music. Most are at the New Hazlett Theater and tickets for those events are \$15.

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## Board Elections

Per the bylaws, board elections happen at the May meeting. There are 8 board seats available for a total of 15 board members. The slate of 8 nominated candidates is:

- Jeff Brizek
- Patrick Dexter (returning)
- Ray Hayes
- Tim Johnson
- Patricia Rogers
- Tom Westfall
- Andrew Wickesberg (returning)
- Matt Williamson

Randy Zotter moved:

*To accept the slate of 8 nominees.*

The motion passed.



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## Garden Theater Block Development

Wayne Zukin of Allegheny City Development Group reported on the Garden Theater Block development.

- Work is continuing inside and on the back of the Garden Theater.
- Thrilled with how the Garden Theater façade is cleaning up.
- The tall vertical “Garden” sign will be coming down soon. Had hoped to restore it in place, but it’s deteriorated too much for that to be safe. Will hopefully be restored off site and then brought back.
- Will meet with the URA soon. Hope to close on the Masonic the first of June.
- Masonic will house City of Asylum/Pittsburgh on the first floor. The upper floors will be apartments.
- Hope to start work on the Masonic immediately after closing with the URA and hope to have it done by the end of the year.

Wayne then answered questions:

Q: What circumstances would prevent the “Garden” sign from being restored and re-installed?

A: Money. An application for a CITF grant has been submitted to cover the restoration, but those grants don’t get awarded until the fall. If that grant doesn’t get awarded, then will have to look for other funding options.

Q: When will the theater be complete?

A: The restaurant should open in the late fall. An occupant for the upper floor hasn’t be finalized yet.

Q: What about the lower horizontal marquee?

A: It will be repaired in place.

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## Federal and North Master Plan

Arthur James reported on Federal and North Master Plan.

- Steering Committee has met twice with Moore Design Associates.
- There will be one more Steering Committee meeting on May 29.
- The Master Plan will be presented to the community for input and feedback at the general membership meeting on 7/14.

Q: We have a group of residents on Federal Street that would like to provide input. Can we get on the steering committee?

A: Yes. Select a representative to attend the 5/29 steering committee meeting. Email [ajames@accapgh.org](mailto:ajames@accapgh.org).



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## Federal Street Speeding and Accidents

Pam Grove addressed the problem of cars speeding up and down Federal Street and crashing into the townhomes.

- Every pertinent city department, including the Mayor is aware of the problem.
- Stop signs and speed bumps are not options.
- Will have the police patrol it more.

Q: Can we get someone from the city to attend our next general membership meeting and address the topic?

A: Yes. Will ask Grant Gittlen from the Mayor's Office.

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## Safety

Pam Grove reported on safety topics.

- Reviewing the camera locations with Tom Westfall, who has a lot of experience with security cameras in the neighborhood.
- Trying to identify some of the next hot spots to install cameras for. Areas of activity are Boyle, Federal and Buena Vista.
- Will need volunteers to help with legwork in organizing National Night Out. National Night Out is on Tuesday, August 5. Contact [safety@accapgh.org](mailto:safety@accapgh.org).

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## Tree Trimming

Randy Zotter raised the issue of the recent trimming of trees under power lines that's being performed for Duquesne Light.

- Randy talked with three different supervisors for the company that's been contracted to trim the trees.
- They all say they're using best practices for trimming the trees.
- Randy has talked with other tree professionals who say that the contractor is just topping the trees. This is the quickest way to trim trees under power lines, but it doesn't produce the best looking tree. A more professional way to do it is to perform a v-cut so that the power lines can pass through the middle of the tree.
- Randy is asking the ACCA to consider if it should take this on as an issue and fight the city on this.
- Andrew Wickesberg stated that the newly formed Beautification Committee will meet on May 19 and can discuss the issue then. Contact Andrew at [beautification@accapgh.org](mailto:beautification@accapgh.org).

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## Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:15.

Meeting minutes prepared by Arthur James, secretary.

Meeting minutes approved on 6/9/14.



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