



General Membership Meeting Minutes
Monday, January 13, 2025
Arch Court, 7:00 pm

In Attendance (26)

John Canning, Laurie Charlton, David Demko, Larry DiCicco, Jessica Farrell, Joan Gielas, Jordyn Gilliard, Arthur James, Max Joffe, Douglas Kamper, Jim Lawrence, Morgan Martin, Glenn Olcerst, Sarah Olexsak, Maryrose Radelet, Lindsey Robles, Nathan Salamacha, Nancy Schaefer, Barbara Talerico, Richard Thompson, Erin Tobin, Lynne Weber, Chris Wheelock, Nada Wheelock, Steven Williams, Matt Williamson

Introduction

The regular monthly meeting for the membership of Allegheny City Central Association was held on **Monday, January 13, 2025** at **Arch Court**, located at 1310 Arch Street. The meeting was presided over by **Nancy Schaefer**, ACCA President, and minutes were recorded by ACCA Secretary, **Larry DiCicco**.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

- Minutes from the ACCA Meeting that was held on November 11, 2024 were approved.
- All Meeting Minutes can be found on ACCA's website:
<https://www.alleghenycitycentral.org/acca/meeting-minutes/>

Announcements

ACCA Treasurer's Report:

- ACCA Treasurer, Dick Thompson, stated the balance of ACCA funds is extremely low. The only revenue the Association is experiencing is the membership dues, which currently stand at \$5/year or \$3/year for age 60+.
- Dick Thompson stated it will be a matter of time before funds are depleted.
- Annual costs for ACCA include:
 - Website: \$300 +/-year
 - Post Office Box: \$200 +/-year
 - Taxes on ACCA-Owned Alpine Lots
 - Board Required Insurances
- A discussion of options followed the Treasurer's Report, including:
 - Raise Membership Annual Fee to \$20.00
 - With respect to the Annual Membership dues increase, this motion was tabled until the General Election Meeting in May 2025, when the Membership Fees can be adjusted, per the ACCA By-Laws.
 - Merger possibilities with the Mexican War Streets Society
 - An exploratory team volunteered to move this topic ahead. Specific steps were not defined at this point, but the team will proceed to investigate possibilities with Mexican War Streets Society. The team includes Nancy Schaefer, Dick Thompson, Barbara Talerico, and Steve Williams.
 - Review parameters of West Park Court documents to determine if ACCA can legally access funds.
 - The ACCA Board will arrange to discuss ownership and management arrangements with West Park Court Board. Specific ownership structure, management, and cash flow questions remain unclear.

Update from Councilman Bobby Wilson's Office:

- Jordyn Gilliard, Constituent Services Coordinator from the Office of Councilman Bobby Wilson announced that the design phase of the Norfolk-Southern Railroad bridge in West Commons is completed. Start of construction was not clear at this point.
- A member asked whether Councilman Wilson's office could assist in helping ACCA secure Community Development Management Grant (CDMG) money, in light of the financial challenges facing the group. Jordyn Gilliard will investigate.
- Jordyn announced that there will be a collective City-Wide Safety Council Meeting on January 28th at the Katz Theatre, located at 5738 Darlington Road in Squirrel Hill. For more information or to register, visit:
<https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=1036870098483460&set=a.230237389146739>



Safety Committee Report:

- The Safety Committee Chair, Max Joffe, shared information from the recent Zone 1 Safety Council Meeting, including crime statistics.
- The Zone 1 Safety Council Meetings are held each month on the first Thursday at the Mattress Factory starting at 6:00 pm.

Update on Intersection of Brighton Road and West North Avenue:

- The design work for the upgrades to the intersection of Brighton Road and West North Avenue, where West Park Court (WPC) is located, were discussed with respect to the elevation changes and the impact this would have on the front and main entrance of WPC.
- Michael Baker is the Project Engineer for this project. It was agreed to reach out to Michael Baker to share these concerns. Senior Associate, Timothy Zinn is the Michael Baker contact.

Note: Erin Tobin sent out a heads-up email to Timothy Zinn shortly after the General Membership meeting.

Update from Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy:

- Erin Tobin, Assistant Director Community Engagement for Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy, shared that the annual clean-up of Lake Elizabeth (What the Muck?!) is scheduled for the end of March and should be completed before the Steel City Duck Derby is held during the third week of April.
- The lack of an Aeration system for Lake Elizabeth remains a problem. Erin stated that the lack of an adjacent power source makes this undertaking expensive. She encouraged ACCA members and others to continue to call 311 to raise the issue.

Review of Rising Tide Partners' Plan:

- Rising Tide's participation in the November ACCA meeting was reviewed. No update is available regarding the formation of a Citizen's Committee to support their project at the former Light of Life Building.
- It has not yet been communicated whether Rising Tide plans to demo the existing building or renovate.

Update on ACCA-Owned Alpine Street Lots:

- Development Committee Member, Jim Lawrence, updated members on activity related to the ACCA-owned lots on Alpine Street, including RFP preparation to start discussions with developers. Some of the variables associated with this development present some challenges.
- The Development Committee is tentatively targeting the 1st quarter to issue the RFP.



February 2025 General Membership Meeting:

- The next General Membership meeting is scheduled for **February 10, 2025** at West Park Court, located at 710 West North Avenue.

The Meeting was Adjourned.



ALL TOGETHER. DIFFERENT.