

THE RESIDENT NEWSLETTER
OF THE SOCIETY HILL CIVIC ASSOCIATION

February 3, 1975

Notice of Meeting

There will be a meeting of the membership of the Society Hill Civic Association on Tuesday, February 11, 1975, at 8 p.m. at the Old Pine Street Church, 4th and Pine Streets. In addition to members of the Civic Association, non-resident property owners and businessmen within the SHCA area are also invited. As is noted below, the meeting will involve several issues (including the proposed Black History Museum) on which two votes will be taken - one of the membership, and one of those qualified to vote as the designated Project Area Committee.

Results of Election

At the annual meeting and election held on January 22, 1975, four persons were nominated for officer positions and a large number of persons were nominated for the remaining board positions. The persons who were elected to the 1975 SHCA Board are: John Smith - president, Damon Childs - vice president, Janet Lewis - treasurer, Ruth Dugan - secretary, and Dan Cathers, Peggy Davies, Gene DiRe, Harry Doyle, Elizabeth Schall, Bob Smith, Tillie Speck, and Roswell Weidner - board members. Hopefully, the wide-spread interest and respect for differing views which characterized the meeting are a barometer for the coming year.

Membership Dues for 1975

1975 will be a critical year for the SHCA area, with Bicentennial planning, several proposed developments in the neighborhood, and parking/traffic problems on the agenda.

Members are asked to pay their 1975 dues, which will be \$5 for individuals and \$8 for two adults residing together at the same address, to Janet Lewis - treasurer.

Residents of the SHCA area (middle of Front to middle of 8th, middle of Walnut to middle of Lombard) who are not already members are encouraged to join. You can pay your dues by sending Janet a check (made payable to "Society Hill Civic Association") at the SHCA address, 313 Pine Street, or at her home, 220 Spruce Street, or by giving her your check or cash at one of the open houses or meeting described below. Non-residents can have their names placed on the mailing list by paying the same amounts.

Proposed Black History Museum
at 6th and Pine

Many of you are aware that Philadelphia '76, Inc., and others have proposed that a Black History Museum be constructed at the SE corner of Sixth and Pine Streets. It has been the concern of the SHCA Board (i) that the sponsors of the project and the neighborhood have an adequate opportunity to hear each other's views and (ii) that a meeting of the neighborhood, both as an association and as the designated Project Area Committee, be held prior to final action on the project. We have accordingly corresponded with City Council and the Redevelopment Authority, stating certain concerns and asking that final action not be taken until the neighborhood has had an opportunity to express its views. This will be reiterated at a meeting of Council's Committee on Finance at 10 a.m., February 5, 1975. The Board has also scheduled several open houses over the next few days and the February 11 meeting.

You are invited to attend one of the open houses from 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. on Tuesday, February 4, or Thursday, February 6, in the Duffield Room of Old Pine Street Church. The open houses will also be attended by representatives of Philadelphia '76, Inc., who will answer your questions and listen to your views. The open houses are for an exchange of information only. No votes will be taken until the meeting on February 11, by which time the entire neighborhood will have had an opportunity to attend an open house and carefully to consider its views.

At the meeting on February 11, Philadelphia '76 will again make a presentation and we will consider the proposal both as an association and as the PAC, as noted above.

Other Matters

At the February 11 meeting, time permitting, we will also consider a proposed change in the plans for the Velvardi parking lot at 4th and Manning. Members will also be asked to sign up for a variety of committees - Cultural, Membership, Education, Bylaw, Zoning, Bicentennial, Recreation, Parking, and Liquor License - and reports will be made on additional topics of concern.

We look forward to your participation.