

SOCIETY HILL CIVIC ASSOCIATION

Board Meeting, March 18, 2026

Held at the Old Pine Community Center, 401 Lombard St, Philadelphia, PA

Members Attending In-Person: Robert Kramer, Mary Purcell, Jay Borowsky, Nick DeGregorio, Brooke Marshall, Antonio Atacan, Kathleen McAfee, Kim Williams, Lorna Katz Lawson, Paul Boni, Bernard Gelman, Joe McLaughlin, Debbie Zak-Cohen, Tanya Brassie, Martha Levine, Larry Spector, Mary Tracy, Priscilla Lo and Nancy Landon.

Members Attending Remotely: Judie Koss, Rick Herskovitz, Judy Neiswander, Mike Fox, Helen Grady.

Absent: Ned Scharff, Nelie Shah, Jeff Parker, Ellen Geller, Bernice Koplin.

Administrator: Samantha Brown (Remotely).

Call to Order

- President Robert Kramer called the board meeting to order at 5:45 p.m. A quorum existed for voting purposes.

Treasurer Report – Speaker Nick DeGregorio

- SHCA is exploring moving banks to Wells Fargo, adjacent to Headhouse Square, for convenience purposes and for better functionality.

Donation to McCall Elementary School – Speaker Robert Kramer

- The following motion was presented for approval:
Approve a \$2,500 donation to McCall Elementary School HSA for its 2026 Gala and Auction.
- The motion passed.

Finance Committee – Speaker Nick DeGregorio

- Nick DeGregorio reported that the Finance Committee had convened and recommends that the SHCA board form a Donations Task Force. The purpose of this task force would be to recommend donations up to \$75,000 in total to worthy community groups, institutions, and projects. The board would have final approval of the task force's recommendations.
- Discussion: A comment was made that the SHCA should consider grant applications with specific rules and requirements.

Spring 2026 Garden Tour – Speaker Martha Levine

- The Garden Tour is SHCA's largest fund raiser. SHCA board members were asked to volunteer at the event and to help publicize the event.
- Currently, there are eight gardens on the schedule, but two to three more are needed to complete the schedule. Board members were asked to help secure more volunteers to exhibit their gardens.

- Discussion: A comment was made that it would be ideal if those who are exhibiting their gardens be available for questions during the tour and/or create a list of the plants in their gardens for those interested.

Foglietta Plaza – Speaker Larry Spector

- The following motion was presented for approval:

It is hereby moved that the SHCA supports conceptual development of a painted ground mural applied to the six parcels of stone paving surface that make up the central expanse of Foglietta Plaza, with final SHCA approval of the developed concept contingent on broad community engagement, with specific engagement of near neighbors.

- Discussion:
 - Comments were made that foot traffic and weather conditions may lead to deterioration of the painted surface. This was rebutted with a statement that the paint to be used has suitable durability.
 - A comment was made that community engagement should occur prior to any conceptual development starting.
- The motion passed.

Adjournment

- Bob Kramer adjourned the SHCA board meeting at 6:30 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
J. Brooke Marshall
SHCA Secretary

Incorporated changes by Robert Kramer [Update following review and approval of Board on 4/15/2026].

Approved by SHCA Board on 4/15/2026.