

CULVER SECOND CENTURY COMMITTEE - GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

JULY 9, 2007

The following members were present for the July meeting: Dusty Henricks, Bob Kline, Jim Weirick, Ben Schaller, Jack Cunningham, Ed Pinder, Lara Pinder, Leon Bennett, Peg Bennett, Bobbie Runhow, Jim Bonine, Rick Tompos, Ralph Winters, Dick Brantingham, Jan Sanders, Margaret Dehne, and Chuckie Strang.

Chairman Cunningham called the meeting to order and conducted the pledge.

The minutes from the May 22nd general meeting were read and approved as written by a motion from Henricks, seconded by Tompos. All ayes.

Treasurer Schaller notified the membership that \$1,000 in dues money has been received to date bringing the Second Century Fund up to a balance of \$2,702. The only outstanding bill is for sign work for a total of \$150.

Chairman Cunningham reported to the members that there was a general consensus that Second Century needed to work on two vital things to be able to continue to provide a positive impact on the community:

1. Clarify and expand on SCC's role in the community and its connection to, and differences from, the Chamber of Commerce in Culver.
 - Formed as a sub-committee of the Chamber as a long-range community development team the SCC By-laws have always addressed that the Second Century Committee is a separate entity from the Chamber that is expected to draw its membership from a wide-ranging and diverse group of people and organizations. (*Article IV*)
 - The Chamber Board recently reiterated that it is not necessary to be a member of the Chamber to be a member of the Second Century Committee.
 - All funds collected from dues, donations, or fund raising by the SCC have always been kept, and will always be kept, in a totally separate SCC account and not co-mingled with funds of the Chamber.
 - Both the Chamber and the SCC have their own Secretary and from now on each will be responsible for their own group's membership list. While membership information will be the responsibility of each respective secretary, they will work together to ensure the maximum benefit to both organizations since, at its root, SCC still operates under the umbrella of the Chamber.
 - To further strengthen SCC's accountability, the Chair will notify the Chamber Board at their July 31st meeting of the SCC's wish to appoint Mr. Rick Tompos as our Treasurer, separate from Mr. Shaller (Treasurer of the Chamber), and amend our By-laws to allow our Treasurer to be considered an officer and a seated and voting member of the Second Century Steering Committee. Both gentlemen agreed that the workload would be easier to oversee this way and the SCC would like the Treasurer to take a greater role in the groups planning and organizational activities.
2. A Membership Campaign will begin immediately to recruit new people to participate in the Second Century Committee.
 - After ten years existence, the SCC has successfully completed the majority of the projects originally identified in the Community Assessment Study and the Charrette. Most of the remaining projects are underway. It is important now to tap into unexplored sources to help identify new ways to enhance and strengthen the social, aesthetic, and economic climates in our community.
 - Each member is asked to bring a new guest to the September 11th general meeting who may have an interest in this type of long-range planning.
 - Each Steering Committee member will personally contact a number of different individuals to provide them with an understanding of our organization and request they consider becoming a member.
 - The Secretary will explore various media sources to expand awareness of the Second Century throughout the community and work with the Steering Committee on this issue on an on-going basis.

Dick Brantingham reported that the on-going Curb and Sidewalk Program has been slightly restructured by the town authorities with Second Century input. Now one half of the annual \$25,000 the town dedicates to this program will be used for a major "community safety" issue. One such project would be the sidewalks around the school and church, which is in the bid stage at this time and is expected to complete this summer according to Town Manager Jon Guenin. The remaining half of the annual sidewalk fund will remain as a 50/50 cost share program for repairing existing residential sidewalks or putting in new ones at older homes where none has ever existed. Ralph Winters pointed out that, for now, no sidewalk funds would be used for any new construction or remodel construction for residential or commercial properties because sidewalks are mandated by town ordinance for this type of project. Clark advised the members that Culver Redevelopment funds could be used for new or upgraded sidewalks/curbs that involved commercial/industrial areas throughout town. All agreed that other funding sources should be sought to expand this program and Brantingham noted he has been investigating different grants.

Kathy Clark reported that the Jefferson Street Gateway project is moving along. A couple items are pending at this time and once the results of those are known a firm time table for construction can be put together. Funding for most items, sidewalks/curbs, utilities, trees can probably be done by the Redevelopment Commission. One new project that may need to be started on by someone in Second Century would be fundraising for the new monument sign.

Jim Weirick reported that the Uniform Street Lighting team has decided on the style of lights used throughout the campus of the Culver Academy. He believes that money can be saved by "piggy-backing" onto the Gateway project when discussions begin with NIPSCO about burying utility lines and other engineering issues. The Gateway's latest architectural drawing includes street light placement from 17 to Main Street and this spacing will be considered for the Uniform Lighting overall plan. Funding for lights throughout commercial districts may be able to be received from CRC funds but some long-range plan will probably be needed from the town.

The fence/building outline lighting project that was started seven years ago still does not have a SCC leader. Members are urged to consider forming a group to re-energize this project. Mrs. Runhow will pass on a list to Ms. Clark of the businesses that participated in the beginning.

No new project ideas were offered by the members.

Members are reminded that the next general meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 11th, at the Edgewater Grill – noon.

Meeting was adjourned on a motion made by Ed Pinder, seconded by Weirick.

Respectfully

Kathy J. Clark
Secretary, Second Century Committee
July 11, 2007