

SCG AGM AND 1ST BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

Many thanks to the members who attended SCG's AGM and 1st birthday party, held at the Water Poet at 7pm on Wednesday 4th July, 2012.

Charlie de Wet, Acting Chair, welcomed the 50 members present and introduced steering group members who summarised achievements throughout the last year.

Jon Shapiro (Public Affairs) referred to the Quality of Life survey conducted in September 2011 which led to the objective of a saturation policy being prioritised, in support of which a decision was reached to focus on licensing issues. Liaison with LBTH departments, councillors and police has been ongoing, alongside public meetings: Meet the Police, with the then Borough Commander, Paul Rickett, and his opposite number in LBTH, Andy Bamber, and Meet your MP, with Rushanara Ali.

Selina Mifsud (Environment) listed campaigns undertaken including Public Life licence review, and objection to Truman Brewery's restaurant applications, to an off licence application at 80 Commercial Street, and to Sainsbury's licensing application, amongst many others. Consistent objection is helping keep the negative impact of the night time economy on the ward in the spotlight.

David Gadd (Finance & Membership) gave the latest membership figures of 180+ members, and explained the healthy financial figures for SCG's first year with total income from:

Membership subscriptions	£1,743.00
Filming	£1,600.00
Total Income	£3,343.00
Expenditure (Meetings, et al)	£ 988.00
SCG Surplus for year	£2,355.00
Plus Raised for Charity	£1,749.00

David explained that given these healthy figures the acting committee had decided that all current subscriptions would continue through to July 2013. David also explained our intent to donate income raised for charity each year, and that we would shortly be asking members to suggest suitable local recipients for the £1,749.00 as shown above. A summary of the accounts is attached to this email.

Matt Piper (Community) summarised the many fundraising and social events organised. These included a pub quiz in November at the Water Poet, a bric-a-brac stall at the Christ Church Christmas Fair, the Christmas party at the English Restaurant, a monthly coffee morning at the English Restaurant and a litter-pick on the Chicksand Estate. Most recently SCG organised 10 stands at the Spitalfields Music Midsummer Festival including a cake stand, bottle tombola, face-painting, crafts for children, and stalls selling books, DVDs, clothes and bric-a-brac.

Jon Shapiro thanked Charlie de Wet for her magnificent work in chairing SCG through its first year. Jon mentioned Charlie's many time-consuming activities (Olympic Ambassador, Senior London Tour Guide, etc) and said how grateful we all were for Charlie's vision, leadership and enormous hard work in establishing such a strong SCG in its first year.

The 12 nominations for the 12 committee vacancies were read out:

- Tarik Ahmed
- Peter Boisseau
- Kathy Boyle
- David Gadd
- Charles Gledhill
- Paul Johnston
- Selina Mifsud
- John Nicolson
- Frank Pickard
- Matt Piper
- Jon Shapiro
- Peter Sinden

There being no objections to any of the above nominations, all twelve candidates were elected unanimously to form the first elected committee of the SCG.

Questions were raised by members regarding the need to broaden the membership to make it more representative of the whole ward, and the benefits to be gained by working with the Spitalfields Society. Jon confirmed that both these matters were already objectives of the SCG.

(And indeed a message was read out from Nicholas Morse, congratulating SCG on its first birthday and welcoming a positive and constructive relationship in working together.)

THANKS were made to Kay and Peter Sinden (English Restaurant) for their generosity in hosting meetings and making donations to fund raising events, to Peter Dunne (Water Poet) and to Sandra Esquilant (Golden Heart) for generous donations to the Midsummer Festival, to Philip Butler for making the wonderful birthday cakes, and to Kathy Boyle for her excellent work on the SCG website.