

SJBCC General Membership Meeting - October 8, 2025

OFFICER REPORTS:

President's Update (*Paul Sabol*)

1. What has happened since July 2024:
 - a. Interim Office and Board Members selected
 - b. Amended and Restated Bylaws
 - c. Updated PA Department of State Registration/Organization
 - d. Had to refile for IRS EIN
 - e. Submitted IRS 1023 for 501(c)(3) status. On hold since Federal Government shutdown
 - f. Applied for and received PA DCED Grant for repairs to the SJBCC
 - g. Banking changes - Aaron to discuss
2. Building updates: Working on bidding for concrete patio coating to address water infiltration. The committee is also getting bids for safety updates and air conditioning.
3. Membership update: 79 Voting members
4. Events updates: Rentals revived (private, community-led, and instructor-led events) and the committee is working hard to streamline processes. See "Announcements" for upcoming events.
 - a. Pot Luck Dinner
 - b. Pickleball Fundraiser - Thanks, Libby
 - c. Summer Party
5. Logo design Thank You- Leah Christy

Treasurer's Update (*Aaron Weidman*)

1. The Center has made significant financial strides in 2025. After losing an average of over \$5,700 annually from 2020-2024, we implemented a transaction tracking system this year to thoroughly account for our day-to-day revenue and spending.
2. Based on this tracking system, we are happy to report that SJBCC shows a roughly \$800 net operating profit for 2025 as of September 30, which represents nearly 5% of our total revenue so far for the year (roughly \$15.5k).
3. Many people deserve credit for our progress, particularly Libby Fischer, Lauren Malacarne, Linda Binstock, Paul Sabol, and Steph Kater, all of whom headed planning for our Pickleball and Summer Party fundraisers (which netted close to \$2k combined); Kate Edelman, whose merchandise store has netted nearly \$1,500; and the dozens of Swisshelm Park neighbors who have contributed by becoming members, renting the center, and giving generous donations.
4. A full 2025 financial report will be available to SJBCC members at the January 2026 General Meeting.

REFOUNDING THE SWISSHELM PARK COMMUNITY CENTER

Linda Binstock, Director, Legal Matters

1. Setting up a tax-exempt non-profit legal entity [under IRS code 501 (c) 3]

- a. Required: By-Laws "Amended and Restated", application to Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (granted/reinstated), application to US IRS (new and underway)
2. Establishing a functioning organization
 - a. Required: Officers and board members (through networking), standing committees (through advertising and networking), monthly board meetings, learning Rober's Rules of Order
3. Offering community-building activities
 - a. SJBCC sponsored events: 2024 Halloween Parades and Party, Spring Potluck, Summer Party (potluck, grill, ice cream, car show, and chicken exhibit), 2025 Halloween Parades and Party
 - b. Community sponsored events: K-2 Meetup, Community game fest, Kid-led Market, Yard Sale at the Community Center, Swisshelm Park Garden Club Meetings
 - c. Private events: Starting soon
 - d. Logo Contest and Swisshelm Park Merchandise
4. Addressing building issues
 - a. Required: Finding and understanding the status of ownership of the building, fundraising events, major grant, and general contractor for updates
5. Launching the future
 - a. Requires: Elections for Officers and Board members to carry on and evolve the work, recording the past year's accomplishments to ensure a "smooth transition" to the next Officers and Board

ELECTION PROCESS

Christina Cerkevich- Director, Communications

1. Voting Members: You'll receive an email confirming your voting status by the end of this meeting. If you haven't been getting emails or want to confirm in person, see Sam or Aaron after the meeting.
2. Nominations: Review of roles, eligibility, and how to nominate. Nominees may submit a 200-word personal statement. Need help with the online form? See us after the meeting.
Nominations due Oct 15.
3. Elections: Ballots will be emailed by 10/22/25 and due 11/5/25. Each voter receives a unique code for an anonymous ballot, which includes role descriptions and nominee statements. Vote for one person per officer role and up to eight directors. Candidates may run for multiple positions. For questions or to request a paper ballot, see Christina after the meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Lauren Malacarne, Vice President and Director, Events

1. Next SJBCC General Meetings
 - a. Wednesday, January 7, 2026 at 6 PM (elected board will assume office)
 - b. Wednesday, April 1, 2026 at 6 PM
2. Upcoming events

- a. SJBCC Annual Halloween Parades and Party, Saturday, October 25th
 - i. Pet Parade- 11:00 AM from the SJBCC
 - ii. Kids Costume Parade- 5:00 PM from the playground
 - iii. Halloween Party- 5:30 PM at the SJBCC
 - iv. Need help delivering Halloween Flyers
- b. Swisshelm Park Garden Club (date TBD, before the end of 2025)
- c. Check the website for other classes and events being offered at the SJBCC, and consider hosting a community event yourself

3. Swisshelm Forward Announcements

- a. Now is the time to contact the URA with comments about what you would like to see in their solar farm design plans. Send your comments to URA project manager Lilly Freedman at Lfreedman@ura.org. Please CC our City Council Member Barb Warwick at barbara.warwick@pittsburghpa.gov and swisshelmforward@gmail.com so we can make sure the URA is hearing our neighborhood's voice. We have flyers in the lobby with more information.
- b. You can go to www.swisshelmforward.org to sign up for Swisshelm Forward's 2nd Annual Halloween Decoration Contest by Oct. 24. Voting starts on 10/25.

4. Look out for election related emails



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