

**Greater Bustleton Civic League**  
**March 26, 2024 Membership Meeting**

*Thank you for your continued involvement.*

In observance of Passover

**NEXT MEETING: Thursday, April 18, 2024**

Please sign-in at the welcoming table,  
and pick up your 50/50 tickets.

**Tonight's Agenda**

- Housekeeping – Treasurers Report
- Community Updates and PSA's
- **6<sup>th</sup> Anniversary - UPS warehouse** developer announces purchase, who is now suing the GBCL.
- Presentation: OTIS, Office of Transportation, Infrastructure, and Sustainability – Updates on Roosevelt Blvd. and work on Verree Rd.
- Two Zoning Presentations with VOTE:  
220 Geiger - Proposed use Adult Training Facility  
9969 Wisteria – Private residence garage

## **What is the Greater Bustleton Civic League?**

The **GBCL** is an all-volunteer, non-political, neighborhood organization that works to keep residents and businesses of Bustleton / 19115 informed of issues affecting our neighborhood. No offices, no salaries, no benefits; we are all Bustleton volunteers. We have existed in Bustleton for over 70 years.

### **Current Executive Board:**

- President – Jack O’Hara
- Vice President – John McKeever
- Treasurer – Mike Herskovitz
- Chairperson Community Safety Committee - Ellen Dwyer
- Chairperson Zoning Committee – Carl Jadach

GBCL has limited resources. Please consider volunteering some of your time to help operate the GBCL; Membership Meetings, Membership Drive, Website.

### **Housekeeping:**

- GBCL welcomes our elected officials or their representatives attending tonight.
- The GBCL is very grateful to the **American Heritage Credit Union** and its staff for continuing to provide a safe and comfortable meeting space for our meetings.
- Treasurers Report – Mike Herskovitz, Treasurer
  - PayPal option is now available.
  - Please consider a DONATION to the GBCL.

## Community Updates & PSA's

- **7th Police District:**

- Captain Steven O'Brian
  - Hosting future presentation "Elder Fraud Financial Abuse". Date to be announced.
- Community Relations Officer Joe Staszak



- **Dates to remember:**
  - Phillies Home Opener: March 28
  - April Fool's Day: April 1
  - Solar Eclipse: April 8
  - Tax Day: April 15
  - GBCL membership meeting: April 18
- **[Northeast Philadelphia History Network](#)**. Monthly presentations of local historical interest held at [Pennepack Baptist Church](#), 8732 Krewstown, & via Zoom.
- **Pennypack Environmental Center**, 8600 Verree Rd. [Upcoming Events](#). [Facebook](#). A true Bustleton jewel to be enjoyed by all ages. Saturday, April 27 @ 12 PM, **Sheep Shearing Day at Fox Chase Farm**
- **GBCL hosted Hand-Only CPR Training – [VIDEO](#)**
- **The Pine Road Bridge over Pennypack Creek will be closed beginning April 1<sup>st</sup>** until the end of the year. There will be no pedestrian access across the bridge during construction. Demolition of the bridge will be coordinated with PWD due to the existing bridge-mounted water main lines. Significant road congestion is expected. Be safe. Good luck. Streets Dept. project Fact Sheet: [LINK](#).

- **Pennsylvania 2023 Property Tax/Rent Rebate** - 888-222-9190. Applications for 2023 Rebates are **due by June 30, 2024**. The program is one of five programs supported by the Pennsylvania Lottery. Based on your income, this program provides a rebate ranging from **\$380 to \$1,000** to eligible older adults and people with disabilities age 18 and older. Since the program's inception, qualified recipients have received more than \$7.6 billion in tax and rent relief. [LINK](#) to apply.

Eligibility:

- 65 and older - Widows and widowers 50 and older
  - People with disabilities 18 and older
  - Household income must be \$45,000 or less annually.
  - [VIDEO](#) on how to apply.
- **Bustleton Bengals** <https://www.bustletonbengals.org/>  
What a successful year. Congratulations to all the basketball teams winning their league championships. Great job to all the players and coaches.  
State Champs - Seventh-grade girls' team won their third state championship in four years. **The team will be recognized at our April 18<sup>th</sup> membership meeting.**  
Clothing Drive - Saturday April 13, 2024  
Engraved Bricks - Purchase a fundraising brick that will be placed outside the gym and remembered forever.

- [Classic Body Worx](#), 9902 Bustleton Ave, 10% DISCOUNT to all GBCL members as a way of saying thank you to the community and to give something back to its members. Mention **GBCL** when you come in for an estimate and receive a 10% discount applied to your entire estimate; Parts, Labor and Materials. Since they cannot discount Insurance repairs, they are offering the discount to all out-of-pocket repairs. Thank you, Joe Pellegrini.



- **GBCL Elections** – Annual Executive Board elections for President, Vice President, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, and Treasurer. Nominations submitted in April, voting in May. Volunteers for the election committee contact Tommy James at [junie412@hotmail.com](mailto:junie412@hotmail.com)

- **Home Projects.** Work smart. Check the rules before you start. Helpful links to zoning Do's and Don'ts:
  1. [SHEDs](#)
  2. [DECKs](#)
  3. [FENCEs](#)
- **Spring Cleanup – Saturday, April 6, 10:00 to 2:00 PM. –**  
Pennypack Environmental Center – 8600 Verree Road
- **Truck Tractors** - It is illegal for trailers or truck tractors to park on any residential street. Please REPORT violations.

### **CODE 12-1135**

170.1 Added, Bill No. 230208 (approved July 12, 2023).

§ 12-1135. Prohibited Parking or Maintaining of Semitrailers and Truck Tractors at Residential Properties.

(1) Definitions. The terms Semitrailer and Truck Tractor have the meanings as defined in the Vehicle Code at 75 Pa. C.S. § 102.

(2) No person shall park or maintain a semitrailer or truck tractor on a driveway or other part of a property utilized or zoned for residential purposes that is visible from a location outside of such property.

(3) Penalties. The penalty for a violation of this Section shall be a fine of five hundred dollars (\$500) for each offense for each day the violation continues.

- [Tractor Trailer Enforcement](#)
- [Tractor Trailer Enforcement Request Page](#) - Picture is

required. \$100 tickets. Vehicles W/ three or more unpaid tickets eligible for boot.

- [Report abandoned vehicle](#) - 311 site.
- [License Plate Not Displayed](#)

Philadelphia Code:

[§ 12-919. ON-STREET PARKING OF BOATS, MOTOR HOMES, TRUCK CAMPERS AND VENDING CARTS.](#)

...C.S. § 102.. (2) *Prohibited* Conduct. 112 112 (a) No person shall park a **boat, motor home, truck camper or vending cart** for more than fifteen (15) days in any on-street parking space located on a single block of any street or highway. Any boat, motor home, truck camper or vending cart parked in an on-street parking space shall be on wheels and readily movable.



## ZONING - UPS Warehouse UPDATE



- The GBCL considers the proposed 1.1 million square foot **warehouse the most damaging development** our Bustleton community has ever faced.
- Despite being sued by the UPS developer, and the time and expense required to contest these attacks, the GBCL will continue to represent the community's opposition.
- GBCL is very grateful for the citywide support and assistance that helped secure insurance coverage and allowed us to continue serving Bustleton community.

- Is protection from developer lawsuits against neighborhood groups in the future? Initial steps in protecting RCO's from **SLAPP** lawsuits (Strategic Lawsuit Against Public Participation) will begin with an April 23rd primary's ballot question:

*“Should the **Philadelphia Home Rule Charter** be amended to require the City to provide for the indemnification and defense of registered community organizations in connection with claims made against them arising directly out of their lawful participation in the City’s zoning variance process?”* Please vote YES.

A “yes” vote means that you approve of requiring the City to devise a system to help RCOs pay for the costs of defending against such lawsuits, which may include the costs associated with losing or settling the lawsuits.

### UPS Warehouse Legal Summary

- GBCL is involved in two (2) ongoing proceedings.
  1. Zoning Appeal in PA Commonwealth Court.
    - After being denied the opportunity to present a case in Phila., GBCL appealed to the state asking them to send the case back to Phila. and allow us our “due process” to present our evidence. GBCL is exercising its legal right to appeal and will continue to work through the law and the legal process. Oral arguments have been scheduled to be heard April 9, 2024.

## 2. UPS warehouse developer suing GBCL and Officers.

- Relteva Complaint: *“GBCL and Sandmeyer have submitted frivolous appeals of both the zoning and building permits lawfully issued to Relteva that have absolutely no legal merit and which were submitted solely for the purpose of delay, harassment and thwarting the development of the Property.”*
- GBCL Defense Attorney continues preparing case. GBCL believes UPS developer lawsuit is without merit and will aggressively defend against it. We are confident the facts and law are in our favor.

## What can you do to help your community opposition?

- Continue to share our story with family and friends.
- Contact elected officials, UPS, and other News Outlets.

### **1<sup>st</sup> - City Councilman Brian O'Neill:**

[brian.oneill@phila.gov](mailto:brian.oneill@phila.gov) 215-686-3422, 215-685-6431, 215-685-0432

- **State Representative Kevin Boyle:** 215-331-2600, 215-695-1016, [kboyle@pahouse.net](mailto:kboyle@pahouse.net)
- **State Representative Martina White:** 215 330-3711 [mwhite@pahousegop.com](mailto:mwhite@pahousegop.com) (717) 787-6740, (215) 330-3711, (215) 632-3237
- **State Representative Nancy Guenst:** 215-259-5962 [RepGuenst@pahouse.net](mailto:RepGuenst@pahouse.net)
- **State Senator Jim Dillon:** 215-281-2539, 717-787-9608, [info@dillonforpasenate.com](mailto:info@dillonforpasenate.com)
- **UPS Carol Tome**, CEO [ctome@ups.com](mailto:ctome@ups.com)
- **UPS Mark Giuffre**, State Government Affairs, [mgiuffre@ups.com](mailto:mgiuffre@ups.com) 502-727-7539
- **UPS Kim Krebs**, UPS Public Relations, [kkrebs@ups.com](mailto:kkrebs@ups.com) 404.828.4404

## Upcoming ZBA Hearings by date:

- **9855-89 Bustleton Ave** - ZBA Hearing: **3/27/24**, 9:30 AM - Variance request for USE as an event center. 4/24/23  
VOTE: 15 Oppose, 3 Support
- **220 Geiger** – ZBA Hearing: **4/10/24**, 2 PM – Variance request is for a change of USE to allow Personal Services (Adult Training Facility). **MARCH PRESENTATION**
- **90 Red Lion RD.** – ZBA Hearing **May 1, 2024**, - 1/24/23  
VOTE: 13 to 4, to SUPPORT, with 5 PROVISOS:
  1. No additional signage added to existing sign.
  2. No SALE signs in or on vehicles
  3. No additional outside lighting to be added.
  4. No parking of vehicles on Red Lion Rd. front grass area.
  5. No parking of vehicles on Red Lion Rd. or Geiger Rd.
- **9969 Wisteria** - ZBA Hearing: **June 26, 2024**, 03:30 PM
- **615 Alburger** - ZBA hearing **August 7, 2024**, 09:30 AM. CONTINUED. Variance needed to legalize existing Side Deck, too close to party line. December '23 Presentation – VOTE to OPPOSE, 19 to 2.

Instructions on how to attend ZBA Hearings: [LINK](#)

## **TONIGHT - Two (2) Zoning PRESENTATIONS and VOTE**

**9969 Wisteria** – For the erection of a detached accessory structure (private residence garage). Reason for Refusal:

1. Private residence garages may not exceed a maximum depth of 25'-0" whereas the proposed depth is 44'-0"
2. Private residence garages with gable, hip or gambrel roofs are subject to a maximum height limit of 15'-0" whereas the proposed height is 16'-4"
3. The minimum required parking stall width shall be 8'-6" whereas the proposed widths of the two (2) proposed parking stalls are 8'-0".

**220 Geiger Rd.** - Adult Training Facility, Proposed use, personal services prohibited in this industrial district.  
Stephen Pollock DBA: Horn Williamson LLC