



# THE NAVIGATOR

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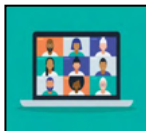
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## Reconnecting, Virtually



The Peninsula, Reef, and Regatta Associations connected with owners earlier this year via Zoom for our first ever virtual Owner and Board Election meetings. Participation was at a record high, both in terms of attendance and voting. Owners in attendance received updates on financials, building operations, and plans for the community.

The presentation materials were posted to BuildingLink following each meeting. If you were unable to attend, downloading and reviewing the presentation is a great way to get caught up.

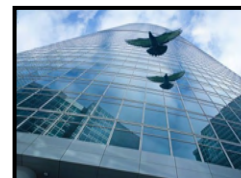
Voting for executive board candidates was facilitated electronically by the Vote HOA Now platform. Votes were cast confidentially by electronic ballot and tabulated automatically for reporting soon after each meeting. Thank you to all the candidates for their participation!

Each meeting was concluded with an engaging question and answer session. Questions were submitted via chat and responded to by management or the board. Look for notification of the next virtual owner meeting, coming soon.

*Article contributed by Ryan Zeichner*

## Lights Off to Save the Birds

Many of Philadelphia's skyscrapers, such as the Comcast towers, BNY Mellon Center, and the Liberty Place buildings, will soon go dark from midnight to 6 a.m. as part of a program to protect migrating birds from being lethally drawn to the lights.



The new voluntary program, called **Lights Out Philly**, is an effort to prevent bird deaths as they migrate north in the spring and south in the fall. Most birds migrate at night and often become disoriented by artificial lights, causing them to strike buildings or windows. The lights can also throw birds off their migration paths, leaving them exhausted and confused, and vulnerable to other threats.

The first season of Lights Out Philly launches April 1 and runs through May 31, the peak spring migration period. The next season runs Aug. 15 through Nov. 15 as birds travel south in the fall. During those periods, participating building owners will turn off crown and façade lights. They'll also ask tenants to voluntarily turn off interior lights. WFS will be participating in the program by turning off existing crown lighting and the soon to be installed roof lighting on the Reef building will be programmed to follow a bird-friendly on/off schedule. Residents who would like to help out can turn off the lights in their units or draw their blinds during those time periods.

*Excerpted from the Philadelphia Inquirer*

## Spring into Reading

Grab a book and head to your favorite sunny spot to enjoy some “al fresco” reading this spring! Here are some suggestions:



***Klara and the Sun*** by Kazuo Ishiguro (Fiction/Science Fiction) This is Ishiguro’s first novel since he won the Nobel Prize for Literature. It tells the story of Klara, an Artificial Friend programmed to give kindness and recognize it in others, who becomes the companion to an ailing teenage girl.

***Later*** by Stephen King (Fiction) Part detective story, part thriller, this is the story of a boy with an unnatural ability that his struggling single mother urges him to keep secret. But he’s drawn into danger by a NYPD detective in pursuit of a killer.

***The Girl with the Louding Voice*** by Abi Daré (Fiction) The story of a teenage girl growing up in a rural Nigerian village who longs to get an education so she can find her “louding” voice and speak up for herself.

***The Four Winds*** by Kristin Hannah (Historical Fiction) The story of a woman battling to survive the Great Depression and the Dust Bowl in 1934 Texas. She and her neighbors face an agonizing choice: fight for their land or move west to California in search of a better life.

***The Light of Days*** by Judy Batalion (Nonfiction) Recently optioned for a movie adaptation by Steven Spielberg, this book tells the stories of Jewish women who fought back against the Nazis in WW II while at the same time caring for the sick and spiriting refugees out of danger.

## Drink Philly Tap



Did you know:

- 💧 Tap water is held to stricter safety standards than bottled water?
- 💧 Tap water in Philly costs less than a penny a gallon?
- 💧 Single-use bottled water uses fossil fuels to make and transport the bottles?

A collaborative, city-wide campaign involving Penn’s ImpactedED, the Water Center at Penn, PennEnvironment, and the Philadelphia Water Department is helping to spread the word that Philadelphia tap water is safe and healthy to drink.

A survey several years ago indicated that 40% of city residents drink bottled water at home. That finding led to the Drink Philly Tap initiative. Through public outreach including neighborhood water ambassadors, and ongoing projects such as murals at neighborhood rec centers, the initiative hopes to get the message across that drinking water from the tap is not only safe but has many benefits, including cost savings and less litter in the environment.

For more information, check out <https://drinkphillytap.org> and <https://www.inquirer.com/science/a/delaware-river-philadelphia-drinking-water-waterfront-watershed-history-future-20190710.html>

## Fire Safety: Extinguishing Cigarette Butts

Fire safety is one of management’s highest priorities at Waterfront Square. The towers have full interior sprinkler coverage and fire alarm devices throughout the buildings that connect to a monitored fire alarm panel. The systems are inspected and tested annually to ensure they will function properly in an emergency.



Exterior elements, such as private balconies and the grounds surrounding the base of each tower, do not have the same level of coverage. As a result, discarding lit cigarette butts over your balcony can cause serious harm.

It’s imperative that residents who smoke in their units dispose of cigarette butts and ashes appropriately. Fill a reusable glass jar with water and completely extinguish cigarette butts by saturating them in water before discarding them in a proper receptacle. A few extra seconds can save lives and prevent devastating losses.

Smoking in the fire towers, which is known to happen, is prohibited by fire code and odors can emanate into adjacent units. Constructed of fire resistant materials and special ventilation, fire towers are designed to provide building occupants with a safe place to hold or exit. Please avoid smoking in the fire towers.

Article contributed by Ryan Zeichner

## Walk Me Home? Please?



Maybe I helped you upstairs with your Target run, your groceries, or a case of beer. I lightened your load - now don't leave me to find my own way back to the lobby!

*Do your part and return your cart!*

## Where Are They Now?

In the last several editions of The Navigator, we've provided information on several new building projects in close proximity to WFS. Following is a list of those projects and their current status according to <https://atlas.phila.gov>. The city's "Atlas" site is a great place to research zoning and building permits, property assessments, and 311 service requests among other things.



**300 N. Christopher Columbus Blvd.** (across from Dave & Busters)

- 25 story/360 unit building
- Zoning Permit issued 11/13/20

**501 Christopher Columbus Blvd.** (Festival Pier)

- 2 buildings/500 units/6 floors
- Zoning Permit issued 10/12/20

**700-30 N. Delaware Ave.** (Bus Depot)

- 2 structures/482 units/7 stories
- Building Permit for one building issued 1/6/21

**626-30 N. Delaware Ave.** (Behind Lukoil)

- 96 units/14 stories
- Zoning Permit issued 8/5/20

**918-80 N. Delaware Ave.** (across from Rivers Casino)

- 4 buildings/462 units
- Building Permits issued 2/15/21 and 3/8/21

**1325 Beach Street** (The Battery, former PECO power plant)

- 216 units
- Commercial Building Permit issued 1/28/21

## Spring Garden Street Improvement Project

The City of Philadelphia recently completed a public open house soliciting input on safety issues along the Spring Garden St. corridor, bicycle lane upgrades, streetscape improvements, etc. Dubbed the "ALLways River to River" project, the goal is to create a pedestrian and bicycle friendly link connecting the Delaware and Schuylkill Rivers.

Public outreach was critical in moving the project from a conceptual phase to a city-led project entering the engineering and design phase.

There was clear public consensus on four points:

- Pedestrians and bicyclists want safety improvements on Spring Garden Street and identified six key intersections to consider. The intersection with Delaware Ave. was among the six.
- Participants were overwhelmingly in favor of curbside parking protected bicycle lanes.
- Participants want a green, clean, and beautiful corridor and suggested planted medians, murals, and storm-water infrastructure.
- Connections to other neighborhoods, bicycle facilities, and the rivers are critical.

For the full executive summary, visit <https://www.springgardenstreetimprovements.com>. Here's hoping this vital improvement project keeps rolling along!



## Get Ready to Vote - Again!



It seems like we just wrapped up the November election, but a citizen's work is never done!

On November 2, 2021, the city of Philadelphia is holding general elections for district attorney, city controller, judge of election, inspector of election, common pleas judges, and municipal court judges. Pennsylvania will also be electing a variety of judicial positions on that date as well. The necessary primary elections will be held on **May 18, 2021**.

Polls are open on election day from 7 A.M. to 8 P.M. For the primary election, the last day to register to vote is **May 3, 2021** and the last day to request a mail-in or absentee ballot is **May 11, 2021**.

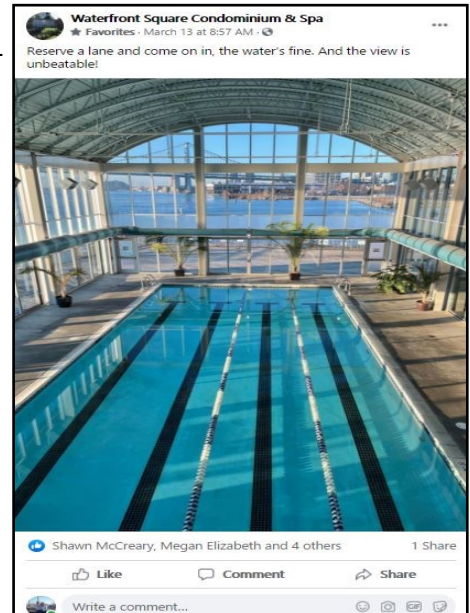
For more info, visit <https://www.votespa.com>

## Give Us a Like

Our Facebook page could use some love - or at least some likes!

Our recently introduced FB page is intended to focus on the community as a whole - reminders about fundraisers, local events, and photos of what makes WFS special. When you like a page, you automatically follow it, which means that you are more likely to see updates from our page in your news feed.

So to be sure you're seeing all our posts, search Facebook for **@wfsquarecondo** and give the page a "Like"!



## Who Are the People in Your Neighborhood?

Check out Northern Liberties Neighbors Association to find out!

The NLNA is the heart of our neighborhood. Here's just some of what they do:



- Maintain the **Community Center**, a place that's available for neighbors to meet and discuss community issues, or to rent for private affairs. (700 N. 3rd St.) (Temporarily closed due to COVID-19.)
- Run **Zoning** Meetings and attend Zoning Hearings at City Hall.
- Maintain **Liberty Lands**, a beautiful two acre park on reclaimed vacant land with community gardens, a playground, and other amenities. (913 N. 3rd St.)
- Assist with issues like trash, snow removal, vandalism, graffiti, abandoned cars, potholes, and more.
- Run **Clean & Green** programs that include storm water management and street tree management.
- Provide **Neighborhood Updates** via emails.

Be sure to go to [nlna.org](http://nlna.org) and sign up for their neighborhood emails. They're very informative. You can also follow their Facebook page. Search Facebook for **@NorthernLibertiesNeighborsAssociation** and "Like" the page so that you get updates in your news feed.