
Central Park Dance Skaters Association

Newsletter © C.P.D.S.A., 1997

Editorial: Lezly Ziering, Bob Nichols, Amy Nathanson

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GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

On August 15 at 6:30 PM, the CPDSA will hold a general membership meeting at the Adam Clayton Powell Jr. State Office Building located at 163 West 125th Street.

This meeting will be open to all past, present and prospective members of the CPDSA.

The agenda will cover discussion about the new skating surface, openings for volunteers in the various committees: security, grounds, fund raising, finance, medical, entertainment, and communications. Entertainment for "Skate Fright" will also be discussed

This is the perfect opportunity for you to join the organization, volunteer for a committee or to bring up any questions you may have related to the "Skate Circle"

This meeting will be wide open to new ideas. The CPDSA needs your input if it is going to represent your interests. Please attend and speak your mind.

Directions:

Adam Clayton Powell Jr. State Office Building 163 West 125th Street 8th floor.

Take the #2 train to 125th Street and Lenox Avenue, walk west one block.

Take the A, B, C or D Train to 125th Street and St. Nicholas Ave. Walk two blocks east to 7th Avenue.

NEW PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I'm taking this opportunity to express my thanks for your confidence in my assuming the office as the Association's President.

The aim and purpose of this organization remains the same - to provide a safe high-quality dance skating environment for all.

We are having a General Membership Meeting on August 15, 1997. I would like to meet and hear from everyone. Your attendance is important and is welcomed.

The year 2000 is rapidly descending upon us, therefore, we need to be prepared for its debut and for the role that the CPDSA will play in the new millennium.

Gene Williams

SKATERS ROAD PAVEMENT NEW LOOK

At 8 in the morning on Monday July 14th - perhaps in celebration of Bastille Day - the Department of Parks began work on recoating the surface of the Skaters Road. Word spread through the skate community and by 5:00 that afternoon a small group of CPDSA members had gathered to check out the work.

On Tuesday a delegation of CPDSA representatives met with the Tony Church of the Parks Department - the supervisor of the project - to examine the work and to discuss completion, the finishing coat and

white guide lines delineating the rink. The CPDSA was able to get more of the concrete epoxy patching material that we used last year to fill cracks and to smooth imperfections in the roadway.

On Wednesday morning - on a day when the temperature reached 97 degrees - Steve Heurung and Bob Nichols met with the work crew and were given two half-cans of an epoxy patching material to fill cracks in the road before the sealer was applied to the old circle and other places that had not yet been coated. Unfortunately, there was not enough material to fill all the cracks.

Late Thursday afternoon, Lezly, Bob, Leroy and a few others met at the circle equipped with chalk and string to make temporary marks on the pavement sketching out the outlines of the rink markings. Friday morning, Lezly, Bob and Steve Heurung met again with a tape measure and further refined the markings for the rink.

On Friday, the work crew finished putting down two coats of the refined coal tar asphalt sealer called "Flurry" on the road surface from the edge of the volleyball courts down to the northern end of the roadway.

Early in the morning of Saturday July 19th, an unknown person or persons came out with some yellow paint and used the chalk lines as guides for painting more visible lines so that the dance skaters would have pavement markings for the weekend.

The response of skaters to the new pavement sealer has been mixed. While everyone was happy to see anything done to improve Skaters Road, many people were dismayed by the strong petroleum smell of the pavement sealer. Some people left the area and said that they would not skate there until the smell was gone. A few people expressed some concern about the chemicals that we were breathing, saying that it was a health hazard. No determination of danger has been made, however, and the smell has dissipated considerably in the past few weeks

More permanent markings are planned by the CPDSA in conjunction with the Parks Department, but those lines will not be painted until some final questions have been answered. The CPDSA must also provide thirty rolls of two-inch wide masking tape to the Parks Department painting crew so that our lines are drawn in a crisply professional manner.

The View From Skaters Road

We should give the Parks Department credit - they did put a fresh surface on the Skaters Road. Most of us think that the sealer is better than nothing and now that the petroleum smell has dissipated it doesn't seem so bad.

Personally, I'm a little disappointed. Last year we were told that the road would get a coating of a material similar to that used on the volleyball courts, except that it would be black instead of green and that it was designed specifically for roller skating. We were very excited to be getting a high quality skating surface.

Last year the Parks Department gave us two cans of epoxy/cement patching material. We were told that the stuff was expensive and that we couldn't get any more. Lezly Ziering, Steve Heurung and I went out and patched the road in the CPDSA's area. The hard work was worthwhile, we ended up with a better road. You skaters understand, we want the best skating surface we can get.

Please. Don't Litter!

That is why I was so disappointed last month when I saw the new surface. I hoped that it was an undercoating for the final finish., but, unfortunately, we were told that this was the best that could be done for us. The material used on tennis, volleyball and basketball courts is just too expensive. If we want anything better, we will have to pay for the material ourselves - somewhere around seven thousand dollars to coat the roadway from the volleyball courts down to the bottom of the hill.

As an experiment, try skating on the volleyball courts and compare the surface there to the new surface on the rest of the Skaters Road. If you feel a difference and think you'd like that kind of coating on the whole roadway, then you should get involved and help us raise the money needed for a really smooth first class skating surface. It's up to us to finish the job.

The Skate Circle lives!
 Bob Nichols

The Skaters' Ten Commandments

Skating can be a hazardous activity.
 Skate at your own risk!

1. Skate with caution, consideration, and control.
2. No speed skating.
3. No alcoholic beverages or illicit drugs.
4. No belligerent behavior.
5. No glass containers.
6. No littering.
7. Respect the environment.
8. Respect our boundaries.
9. Supervise your children and pets.
10. No unauthorized commercial sales or solicitation of funds.

Have a great day!

Official CPDSA Contacts

If you are interested in helping us, please let us know. All inquiries should be directed to:

Lezly Ziering: (212) 777-3232
 Gene Williams (718) 319-3036

CPDSA Membership Application Form

MEMBER # _____ DATE _____

Central Park Dance Skaters Association
 14 Washington Place # 11F
 New York, NY 10003
 (212) 777-3232

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE # () _____ FAX # () _____

WORK # () _____ E-MAIL _____

Amt of Contribution Check / Cash / Money Order

\$15 () \$25 () \$50 () \$100 () Other \$ _____

Please be kind. Don't Litter!