

Minutes of the Old City District Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, July 17, 2019 4:00 pm
231 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA

In Attendance: Danielle DelRe, Timothy Snowden, Betsy Oliphant Ross, Donn Clendenon, Jennifer Nagle, Lynn Haskin, Patrick Shillenn, Peter Rothberg, Carlo Sena, Christopher McGill, Joseph Ritchie, Albert Taus, Dick Goldberg, Ashley Peel, Mary Hummel, Leo Addimando, Donal McCoy

Absent: Adam Teterus

Staff: Job Itzkowitz, Brett Mapp, Kate McGlinchey, Gabriella Sacidor

Guests: Janet Kalter, Joe Schiavo, Erik Derr, David Hansell, George Pomerantz

Call to Order: C. McGill called the meeting to order at 4:00pm.

Minutes:

- May 2019 board meeting minutes were previously distributed via email.
- L. Haskin made a motion to approve the May 2019 minutes. 2nd/ D. DelRe. All in favor; approved.

Chairman's Report: None

Executive Director's Report: J. Itzkowitz

- AARP approached OCD about sponsorships and its Livable Communities program. AARP is sponsoring Old City Eats and Old City Fest. J. Itzkowitz and K. McGlinchey are participating in the Livable Communities committees on public space and transportation.
- Meetings of interest:
 - J. Itzkowitz met with the new executive director of the Northern Liberties BID.
 - J. Itzkowitz and K. McGlinchey attended the City Council hearing for the proposed 2nd Street bike lane.
 - J. Itzkowitz met with the new events manager for the Science History Institute.
 - J. Itzkowitz toured the Comcast Center with tourism industry representatives.
 - J. Itzkowitz attended a meeting about the Philly Tech Week 2020 kickoff event.
 - J. Itzkowitz and K. McGlinchey are continuing to assist location scouts working on filming in the area.
 - J. Itzkowitz participated in the oTIS transportation roadmap group.
 - Old City Green and OCD met with Representative Isaacson about Commerce Street funding opportunities.
 - J. Itzkowitz and K. McGlinchey met with a caterer and former Old City resident who is interested in opening a pop-up grocery store in Old City.

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- Staff updates:
 - B. Mapp is still taking an accounting management course, and spent the last month working on the audit. He will serve as a judge for the Pennsylvania Council for the Arts this year.
 - G. Sacidor gave a presentation to Drexel's Fashion Merchandising class, and oversaw Drexel and Jefferson's student window display projects in Old City.
 - K. McGlinchey has been working on updates to Walk Philadelphia signage in and around Old City.

- New openings:
 - The Boiling Pot restaurant is open at 319 Market Street.
 - Room 244, an event space, is open at 244 Race Street.
 - Philadelphia Table Company is open at 158 N 3rd Street.
 - Nemo Tile and Stone is open at 242 N 3rd Street.

- Upcoming dates:
 - The next Board of Directors meeting will be on September 18th. There is no August Board meeting.
 - There will be a Board Development committee meeting before the September board meeting.

Special Business:

- David Hansell and George Pomerantz presented an overview of findings from OCD's audit.
- T. Snowden made a motion to approve the auditors' report as drafted. 2nd/J. Ritchie. All in favor; approved.

Treasurer's Report: T. Snowden

- T. Snowden provided an overview of OCD's finances and assessment collection.

Committee Reports

Marketing: P. Shillenn

- P. Shillenn thanked everyone who attended the Old City Eats block party kickoff. This is a record year for Eats participation, with 21 restaurants taking part in the block party and 50 restaurants participating in the summer dining promotion.
- Online registration is underway for Old City Fest, which will take place on October 13. OCD is pursuing sponsorships for the event.
- Registration for the 2020 brochure begins this month.
- The committee has started early conversations around redesigning the OCD website.

Minutes prepared by K. McGlinchey

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- Early planning for the holidays has started.

Economic Development: D. Goldberg

- Big Red Pedal tours presented at the last committee meeting, requesting support for a loading zone on S 2nd Street. The committee requested a petition showing support from businesses on the block.
- Staff is working on updating and adding signage in and around Old City through the Walk Philadelphia program.
- Staff is meeting with the National Park Service and JVM Studio at the end of July to discuss the Park at 2nd & Market project.
- Councilman Squilla is hosting a follow up meeting with Old City Green, OCD, and city officials to discuss Commerce Street redesign work.
- Lease negotiations for Dolly Ottey park are ongoing.
- The city is applying for additional federal and state grants for Market Street improvements, with support from OCD.

Clean and Safe: T. Snowden

- 312 Market's Special Assembly Occupancy License was revoked. They are appealing and will appear at the L&I Review Board on July 23rd.
- 240 Market Street, the Old City Beer Garden, has applied for a liquor license. OCD filed a petition to intervene and is negotiating a conditional licensing agreement with the applicant's counsel.
- OCD has received a number of complaints regarding panhandling and vagrancy issues in the neighborhood, and will host a public meeting on August 5th with Councilman Squilla and representatives from other city offices to discuss these issues.

Board Development: J. Itzkowitz

- J. Itzkowitz and A. Teterus met to discuss board development.
- The committee will interview Valerie Lyons, an Old City resident who sits on the Marketing Committee, at its next meeting.
- The committee will oversee several upcoming renewals and fill several upcoming vacancies on the board.

Old Business: None.

New Business: None

Public Comment:

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- Janet Kalter asked for additional information about the panhandling complaints, and asked about the Architectural Committee application for banners on the 100 block of Chestnut Street.

Adjournment:

- D. Goldberg moved to adjourn the meeting. 2nd/ D. DelRe. All in favor; approved. The meeting adjourned at 4:47pm.

The next meeting will be held Wednesday, September 18, 2019 at 4:00pm, at 231 Market Street.