

# Minutes of the Old City District Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, October 18th, 2017 4:00 pm

231 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA

**In Attendance:** Christopher McGill, Peter Rothberg, Lynn Haskin, Timothy Snowden, Danielle DelRe, Pat Lavelle, Harvey Spear, David Neff, Joseph Ritchie, Patrick Shillenn, Albert Taus, Laurie Townsend-Rapp, Mary Hummel, Ashley Peel, Luca Sena

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

**Absent:** Leo Addimando, Sheryl Bar, Dick Goldberg, Josh Grimes (counsel)

**Guests:** Janet Kalter, Leslie Obleschuk, Marc Harris, Paula Connell, Katie McCallum, Donal McCoy, Jim Puchy, Jean Plough

**Call to Order:** C. McGill called the meeting to order at 4:04pm.

## **Other Business**

- C. McGill made a motion to reinstate Joseph Ritchie to the Board. 2<sup>nd</sup>/D.Neff. All in favor, approved.

## **Minutes:**

- September 2017 board meeting minutes were previously distributed via email.
- L. Haskin made a motion to approve the September 2017 minutes. 2<sup>nd</sup>/ M. Hummel. All in favor; approved.

## **Chairman's Report:** C. McGill

- C. McGill reported that despite challenging weather conditions, OCD held a great Old City Fest on October 8<sup>th</sup>.

## **Executive Director's Report:** J. Itzkowitz

- Despite the rainy conditions, Old City Fest had around 15,000 in attendance and received great PR.
- All staff attended the MRP press conference at the Bourse.
- J. Itzkowitz and K. McGlinchey are exploring options for pedestrian counters and alert systems for the neighborhood.
- Several businesses in the District are participating in Box Tops for Education for the McCall School.

Minutes prepared by K. McGlinchey and J. Itzkowitz  
October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2017

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- October First Friday was busy and included Design Philadelphia tours and events throughout the neighborhood.
- Staff updates: B. Mapp has been working on the budget, the office phone transfer, and Old City Fest; G. Sacidor has been working on Fest PR, the brochure, holiday planning, and will host a social media workshop for Old City businesses tonight; K. McGlinchey has been working on the Flagpole Park process and reviewing the parking study, and attended South Street Headhouse District's reauthorization hearing and participated in LISC's real estate development class.
- New openings: Both Minima and Petit Jardin en Ville have opened additional spaces in Old City.
- Administrative: The 5 Year Plan and budget are underway. The District is wrapping up a dispute with its former insurer from last year.
- Upcoming dates: The next Board of Directors meeting is Wednesday, November 15<sup>th</sup> at 4pm. There is an RCO meeting at 5:15pm tonight to review an "escape the room" proposal for 221 Chestnut Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor.

## **Treasurer's Report:** T. Snowden

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

## **Committee Reports**

### **Marketing:** P. Shillenn

- Old City Fest was a success and had great media reach, receiving coverage on all four major TV networks.
- Philly Free Streets is on October 28<sup>th</sup>.
- Danielle DelRe is organizing an Instameet around the holidays.
- Brochure sales are wrapping up.
- Small Business Saturday is November 25<sup>th</sup>.
- Holiday planning continues. The design tree will be displayed in the Betsy Ross House courtyard and programming for Historic Holiday Nights is being planned.
- OCD has hired a photographer on retainer for next year.
- OCD is considering a website audit in the coming months to make the website more functional.

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- Inside Out is currently on display in Old City through December.
- Old City was featured heavily in a recent Vogue article about visiting Philadelphia.

## **Clean and Safe:** D. Neff

- Noise complaints continue for 312 Market. The Old City Task Force had a conference call earlier today to discuss steps being taken to address these complaints.
- OCD is waiting to hear back from Jolly's Piano Bar regarding the revised CLA.
- OCD met with the new restaurant tenants for 126 Chestnut Street to discuss their concept and any revisions to the existing CLA for the property.
- Market Street leaf blowing is going well.

## **Economic Development:** J. Itzkowitz

- There will be a second Flagpole Park task force meeting early next month. OCD and the Design Collaborative team met with the Water Department to discuss stormwater management plans for the property.
- J. Itzkowitz and Jonas Maciunas are presenting the Market Street Traffic Study to Paul Levy next week, and OCD will host a public presentation in November. The City is pursuing funding at the state level for the proposal.
- The Old City parking study is in final revisions. The study shows that there is parking available in Old City in garages, most significantly in the Wyndham parking garage.
- OCD continues to work with Councilman Squilla on reaching out to DRPA for information regarding the plans for parking under the Benjamin Franklin Bridge.
- Old City Green continues to work through the Community Design Collaborative application process for Commerce Street, and plans to hold a public community meeting soon to discuss the project.

## **Board Development:** P. Lavelle

- The Board currently has six people who have been nominated for upcoming vacancies, one person ready to interview, and one seat remaining that needs to be filled.
- P. Lavelle will work to pair up new and more experienced Board members to help new members learn Board processes.

## **Old Business:** None.

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## **New Business:**

- J. Itzkowitz presented a memo outlining the 2018 OCD budget.

## **Public Comment:**

- Janet Kalter congratulated the OCD Board of Directors on their good work on behalf of Old City.

## **Other Business:**

- P. Lavelle made a motion to move into executive session to discuss employee reviews and ongoing litigation at 4:45p.m. 2<sup>nd</sup>/P. Rothberg. All in favor, approved.

## **Adjournment:**

- P. Rothberg moved to adjourn the meeting. 2<sup>nd</sup>/P. Lavelle. All in favor, approved. The meeting adjourned at 5:00pm.

**The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 15<sup>th</sup> at 4pm, at 231 Market Street.**