

Minutes of the Old City District Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, October 16, 2019 4:00 pm
231 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA

In Attendance: Peter Rothberg, Dick Goldberg, Adam Teterus, Ashley Peel, Danielle DelRe, Timothy Snowden, Christopher McGill, Lynn Haskin, Betsy Oliphant Ross, Patrick Shillenn, Jennifer Nagle

Absent: Donn Clendenon, Joseph Ritchie, Donal McCoy, Mary Hummel, Carlo Sena, Albert Taus, Josh Grimes (counsel)

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

Guests: Erik Derr, Jonathan Dubrow, Joe Schiavo, Janet Kalter, Wendi Barish

Call to Order: C. McGill called the meeting to order at 4:08pm.

Minutes:

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

Chairman's Report:

- C. McGill thanked everyone for their involvement in Old City Fest.
- C. McGill shared that Leo Addimando has resigned from the Board due to limited availability and no further real estate interests in Old City.
- C. McGill noted that both he and P. Rothberg are rolling off the Board this year, and asked Board members to begin thinking about executive roles for 2020.

Executive Director's Report: J. Itzkowitz

- J. Itzkowitz thanked everyone for their support of Old City Fest.
- J. Itzkowitz testified at City Council's Rules Committee this morning regarding zoning legislation for Old City and Councilmember Squilla's bill regarding parking minimums in historic districts.
- Staff updates:
 - All staff worked extensively on Old City Fest leading up to this past weekend.
 - G. Sacidor has been working on the 2020 brochure.
 - K. McGlinchey has been working on grant renewals and wrapping up the retail inventory.
- New openings:
 - Eggcellent opened at 113 Chestnut.
 - Thai Koji Sushi took over the Jasmine Rice Space at 220 Market.
 - Root, a pop-up grocer, will open in the Silence Dogood's space on 10/20.

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- Budget:
 - J. Itzkowitz provided an overview of the proposed 2020 budget. The Board will vote on the budget at the November meeting.
- Upcoming dates:
 - There is no RCO today.
 - The next Board of Directors meeting will be on November 20th.
 - The Old City Tree Lighting will take place on December 5th, and the menorah lighting will take place on December 22nd.

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 excellent, with great weather and the highest attendance yet. Coverage included 29 TV and radio segments.
- The 2020 brochure and map deadline is Friday. Currently OCD has 125 businesses signed up, including 26 new businesses.
- Historic Holiday Nights will kick off on Small Business Saturday with a window decorating contest, and the tree lighting will be on December 5th, followed by the menorah lighting on December 22nd.
- Staff is drafting a 2020 sponsorship package.
- The committee continues to work on a website redesign for 2020.

Clean and Safe: T. Snowden

- 312 Market's Special Assembly Occupancy License was revoked. They remain open while they appeal the decision. The first BLIR hearing ran out of time, and there will be a second hearing, which is currently scheduled for October 29th. Since OCD testified at the prior hearing, J. Itzkowitz will not testify at the 10/29 hearing.
- 240 Market Street and OCD agreed on a Community Benefits Agreement, and 240 Market received its liquor license.
- ACAM is now handling short dumps instead of OCD reporting them to SWEEP.

Economic Development: D. Goldberg

- The committee did not meet in October, the next meeting will be in November.
- OCD received its 3rd Eco-Counter pedestrian counter and will install it soon.
- Staff is wrapping up the internal retail vacancy. Job is continuing to work with PACDC and the City on potential strategies for vacant storefront properties.
- Negotiations continue regarding Dolly Ottey Park.

Minutes prepared by K. McGlinchey
October 17, 2019

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- The City sent a letter to the owner of 319 Market requesting proof of the legality of their encroachments on Commerce Street.

Board Development: A. Teterus

- The Board Development Committee interviewed Valerie Lyons for a Board seat, and voted to approve her for the Board, pending approval by the City.
- P. Rothberg made a motion to submit Valerie Lyons to the mayor for a seat on the Old City District Board of Directors. 2nd/ L. Haskin. All in favor; approved.
- The committee is still looking to fill seats for this year and next year.

Old Business:

- OCD is hosting a commercial broker meeting to discuss potential retail recruitment strategies for Old City.

New Business: None

Public Comment:

- Janet Kalter asked about oversight with OCD's cleaning crew.
- A. Teterus asked if additional filming is expected in the neighborhood.

Adjournment:

- D. Goldberg moved to adjourn the meeting. 2nd/D. DelRe. All in favor; approved. The meeting adjourned at 4:40pm.

The next meeting will be held Wednesday, November 20, 2019 at 4:00pm, at 231 Market Street.