

Minutes of the Old City District Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, September 16th, 2015 4:00 pm

231 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA

In Attendance: Board: Peter C. Rothberg, Sheryl Bar, Joshua Grimes, Laurie Townsend-Rapp, Lynn Martin Haskin, Christopher McGill, David Neff, Luca Sena, Pat Lavelle, Jane Cowley, Albert Taus, Joseph Ritchie, Timothy Snowden, Reginald Cummings, Dick Goldberg, Leo Addimando, Harvey Spear

Staff: Job Itzkowitz, Brett T. Mapp, Gregory Diehl

Absent: Sonia Silverstein, Jafar Maleki, Carolyn Pfeiffer, Daniel King

Guests: Joe Schiavo, Janet Kalter, Pat Rathman (American Bible Society)

Call to Order: Chairman J. Ritchie called the meeting to order at 4:07 pm.

Minutes

- July 2015 board meeting minutes were previously distributed via email.
- L. Haskin offered a motion to approve. 2nd/L. Addimando. All in favor, approved.

Chairman's Report: No Report.

Executive Director's Report: Job Itzkowitz

- J. Itzkowitz reported that current year assessment collections are currently at 86% of budget goal. Prior year assessments are at 151% of budget goal.
- J. Itzkowitz reported on meetings with Pat Murdoch of the American Bible Society, Heather Hanowitz of PIDC, Councilman Squilla, Reverend Salford & Barbara Hope of Christ Church, and Dave Perri of the Streets Department.
- Openings: Ici Macaron, Rocket Fizz, Conversion
- There was no Board meeting in August, during that time Fork held the benefit for Eli Kulp. Ellen Yin thanked OCD for its support and included the District as a sponsor.
- The staff has been disseminating information regarding next week's Papal visit regularly and has received many phone calls and drop-ins about it.

Minutes prepared by J. Itzkowitz & G. Diehl

Sept. 17th, 2015

Page 1 of 5

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231 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA

- Committees should be discussing 2016 budgets at their October Committee meeting to be approved at the November Executive Committee and adopted at December's Board Meeting.
- Old City Fest will be on Sunday October 11th from 12-6 pm.
- The October Board Meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 21st.

Treasurer's Report: Peter C. Rothberg

- P. Rothberg presented and reviewed financial statements for July and August 2015.

Marketing Report: S. Barr

- The Guide to Old City brochure has been published and is being distributed.
- Select Old City galleries will participate in a Craft event on November 12th and OCD is working to involve restaurants and shops as well.
- Opera on the Mall returns on October 3rd.
- There is a funding gap of approximately \$20k in the Old City Fest Budget which could be closed in some degree by a substantial donor who OCD is meeting with this week. S. Barr thanked OCD Board members who have made contributions to Old City Fest.
- The 25 anniversary of First Friday is next year and there is a meeting planned for the end of October with gallery owners to discuss the anniversary celebration and the issues with street vendors.
- J. Itzkowitz has looked into decorations for the Holidays and has discussed electrifying forty (40) pedestrian light poles on N. 3rd Street with the Streets Dept. in order to allow for lighted Holiday decorations on N. 3rd Street.
- S. Barr offered a Motion to Direct the Old City Community Fund to expend funds not to exceed \$16,000 from the Special Projects Fund for the electrification of forty (40) pedestrian scale light posts on 3rd Street. 2nd/ L. Haskin. All in favor, approved.
- S. Barr offered a Motion to Direct the Old City Community Fund to expend funds not to exceed \$18,000 from the Special Projects Fund for the purchase of holiday decorations for 3rd Street. 2nd/ P. Lavelle. All in favor, approved. Narducci Electric

Minutes prepared by J. Itzkowitz & G. Diehl

Sept. 17th, 2015

Page 2 of 5

Minutes of the Old City District Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, September 16th, 2015 4:00 pm

231 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA

has submitted a proposal to install remove and store the holiday lights. They have offered to store the decorations at no cost.

- The District has hired a part-time Outreach Coordinator to assist with social media and community outreach for Old City Fest, the Holiday Season, the First Friday 25th anniversary and the Guide to Old City Brochure participants.
- S. Barr offered a Motion to Direct the Old City Community Fund to expend funds not to exceed \$20,000 from Reserve Marketing Account in order to cover any Old City Fest funding gap after sponsorships opportunities are fully explored. 2nd/ P/ Rothberg. All in favor, approved.

Clean & Safe Committee Report: H. Spear

- There has been little activity reported by Oracle Security over the summer as things have been calm.
- There are no current ongoing CLA negotiations.
- The PPD and the District Attorney's office continue to investigate allegations made about Barra by neighbors.
- Recess hired a police detail for weekend nights per their agreement with their neighbors and will schedule a meeting with them for the fall.
- The Nuisance Task Force met on July 28th, which was followed by a meeting of Old City Bar & Restaurant operators and members of the Task Force.

Economic Development Committee – D. Goldberg

- There will be a meeting of the Vision 2026 Steering Committee held Thursday Sept. 17th from 3-5 pm here at the Old City District office. As a part of the planning process, the team will look at five sites of potential future development in detail to envision scenarios.
- The current contract between Old City District and RBA Associates does not include a 2nd public meeting, which the ED Committee feels is crucial for community input. RBA has submitted a proposal to host a second community meeting at the cost of \$9,180.

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Wednesday, September 16th, 2015 4:00 pm

231 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA

- R. Goldberg offered a Motion directing the Old City Community Fund to expend \$9,180 to fund a second public meeting as part of the master planning process. 2nd L. Addimando. All in favor, approved.
- There will be a meeting of the Old City District Registered Community Organization (RCO) to review a proposed development at 300 Market Street held directly after the Old City District Board meeting today at 5:15 pm.
- D. Goldberg and J. Itzkowitz met with Street Commissioner Perri to discuss the proposed reconstruction of several crosswalks on Market Street. The Commissioner asked the District to select and fund an architectural consultant to select materials and design architectural treatments for the project. A. Taus agreed to volunteer his services on a pro-bono basis to serve as the architectural consultant. Old City District will conduct community outreach.
- R. Goldberg offered a Motion to engage A. Taus at no fee for time and services to provide architectural consulting services for the Market Street Crosswalks project. The District will reimburse A. Taus for any expenses he incurs in providing these services. 2nd/ L. Addimando. Sixteen in favor, one abstention, approved.

Board Development Report: No Report.

Old Business: None.

New Business: None.

Public Comment: J. Kalter asked a question regarding the enforcement of the requirement that developers provide pedestrian chutes when sidewalks are closed due to construction. Chairman J. Ritchie advised that J. Kalter could discuss this with the RCO Committee chairs after the conclusion of this meeting.

Adjournment: Motion D. Neff. 2nd/L. Addimando. All in favor, approved. Meeting adjourned at 4:52pm.

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The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 21st, 2015, 4:00 pm, at 231 Market Street.