

Minutes of the Old City District Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, November 16th, 2016 4:00 pm

231 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA

In Attendance: Christopher McGill, Pat Lavelle, Dick Goldberg, David Neff, Laurie Townsend Rapp, Tim Snowden, Sheryl Bar, Peter Rothberg, Luca Sena, Joe Ritchie, Reginald Cummings, Harvey Spear, Josh Grimes (counsel)

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

Absent: Dan King, Lynn Haskin, Leo Addimando, Sonia Silverstein, Albert Taus

Guests: Joe Schiavo, Janet Kalter, Mary Hummel, Gina Gilliam, Steve Kow, Jean Burdick

Call to Order: C. McGill called the meeting to order at 4:05pm

Minutes:

- October 2016 board meeting minutes were previously distributed via email.
- D. Goldberg made a Motion to approve the October 2016 minutes. 2nd/ D. Neff. All in favor; approved.

Chairman's Report: C. McGill

- C. McGill thanked P. Lavelle for her work on board development.

Executive Director's Report: J. Itzkowitz

- No update on pending litigation.
- Staff met with DRWC regarding potential collaborations for projects & holiday events.
- Staff met with the Streets Department and NV5 regarding the Market Street Traffic Study, Streets agreed to participate in the steering committee for the project.
- Staff met with Jasmine Sadat from DCED regarding grant opportunities.
- J. Itzkowitz met with Rick Sauer from PACDC regarding CDC strategy.
- Staff met with Joe Schiavo and Arnon Dreyfuss regarding potential planters on N 3rd St.
- J. Itzkowitz had speaking engagements about Old City District at Slice Communications and Ballard Spahr.
- Staff updates: B. Mapp has been working on invoices for the brochure, Old City Fest follow up, and working with OCD's auditors on the district's finances; G. Sacidor has been coordinating OCD's holiday promotion, working on the brochure, and collaborating with Visit Philly and Elfreth's Alley on the holiday; K. McGlinchey completed City Services Access Training, attended several grant info sessions, has been researching CDC background, and has been organizing the Commerce Tour.

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- New openings/development: Occasionette opened a holiday pop-up store at Conversion on S. 3rd; Nature's Way Medicine has opened on N. 4th; site work is beginning on The National.
- Administrative: A leak from the 3rd floor caused some ceiling tiles to collapse in the OCD office, damage is minimal and the building owner will cover the costs.
- Staff reviews are complete.
- Upcoming dates: Small Business Saturday November 26th, Commerce Tour November 30th.
- Next Board of Directors meeting is Wednesday, December 21st, 2016 at 4pm.
- C. McGill proposed reducing the number of Board meetings from ten to nine per year, skipping the meeting in June. D. Neff made a Motion to approve. 2nd/P. Lavelle. All in favor; approved.

Treasurer's Report: T. Snowden

- T. Snowden reported that OCD continues to collect on delinquent assessments.
- T. Snowden provided an update on OCD finances.

Committee Reports

Marketing: S. Bar

- The Firehouse Park ribbon cutting was held on November 1st and had good attendance despite chilly weather.
- The brochure is on schedule and on budget, S. Bar thanked G. Sacidor & B. Mapp for their work on it.
- G. Sacidor reported on social media, with positive growth on all platforms with boosts thanks to partnerships with Visit Philly and Instagram takeovers from local business owners.
- G. Sacidor provided updates on the December Thursday night holiday promotion, including partnerships with Visit Philly, DRWC, and Franklin Square.

Clean & Safe: D. Neff

- The PTI that OCD filed for 312 Market Street was denied due to lack of standing, but the attorney still met with staff and agreed to look over a proposed CLA.
- The CBA for Bleu Martini has been sent to Cpt. Ryan for approval, Bleu Martini security staff has signed up for additional training sessions, and there have been no major incidents since August at the location.
- The illegal nightclub at 108 Chestnut continues to be an issue, staff has notified L&I and PLCB about the issues. The owner has applied for zoning and will be at the December RCO meeting.
- Old City Task Force will hold a fall meeting in November.

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- Center City District is launching an initiative to address the homelessness issue, J. Itzkowitz & K. McGlinchey will attend the first meeting.

Economic Development: D. Goldberg

- The Committee heard a presentation from Barbara Hogue of Christ Church Preservation Trust about the Trust's capital campaign to stabilize the Church's steeple and purchase a new organ.
- Data collection is complete for the Market Street Traffic Study and is currently being processed by NV5. Staff met with the Streets Department and is working on setting up a steering committee.
- Staff received a proposal from NV5 for the Christ Church Park redesign and is currently reviewing.
- Staff reviewed the first draft of the Design Guide and returned it to NV5 for edits before it is circulated to the Committee.
- K. McGlinchey submitted an application for the Knight Cities Challenge grant for OCD, and is researching additional grant opportunities for OCD.
- The Committee discussed turning the Old City Community Fund into a Community Development Corporation. K. McGlinchey & J. Itzkowitz will prepare a memo for the Committee to consider if this change makes sense.
- There will be a community meeting on Monday, November 21st at 5:30pm at the OCD offices regarding the proposed project at 141-143 N 4th & 319 Cherry Streets.

Board Development: P. Lavelle

- P. Lavelle thanked attendees for coming to the meeting to review and prioritize the list of potential members. The next step is to interview five candidates in preparation for the December 21st Board Development meeting at 2:30pm.
- P. Lavelle reported that D. King resigned from the Board.
- D. Goldberg made a motion to reappoint P. Lavelle and T. Snowden for another term. 2nd/P. Rothberg. All in favor; approved.
- Officers will be voted on in January.

Old Business: None.

New Business: None.

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Public Comment:

- J. Schiavo suggested that OCD notify the Historical Commission staff of the November 21st meeting so they are aware of it.

Adjournment: D. Goldberg moved to adjourn the meeting. 2nd/D. Neff. All in favor, approved. The meeting adjourned at 4:50pm.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 21st, 2016 at 4pm., at 231 Market Street.