

Minutes of the Old City District Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, June 17th, 2014 4:00 pm
231 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA

In Attendance: Board: Harvey Spear, Peter C. Rothberg, Sheryl Bar, Sonia Silverstein, Joshua Grimes, Laurie Townsend-Rapp, Lynn Martin Haskin, Dick Goldberg, Jafar Maleki, Daniel King, Christopher McGill, David Neff, Carolyn Pfeiffer, Luca Sena, Pat Lavelle, Reginald Cummings, Jane Cowley

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

Absent: Albert Taus, Joseph Ritchie, Leo Addimando,

Guests: Joe Schiavo, Janet Kalter, Mary-Ann Hunter, Timothy Snowden

Call to Order: Vice Chairman H. Spear called the meeting to order at 4:05 pm.

Minutes

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

Chairman's Report: None

Executive Director's Report: Job Itzkowitz

- J. Itzkowitz reported that current year assessment collections are currently at 85% of budget goal. Prior year assessments are at 115% of budget goal.
- J. Itzkowitz reported on various meetings he attended in the last month, including with leaders in the Old City tech community.
- J. Itzkowitz attended a meeting of the Independence Mall Partners who discussed the upcoming papal visit as well as the Dalai Lama who will be in Philadelphia to receive the Liberty Metal in October.
- Openings: Swiss Haus coming soon, Wildbit & Flyclops have relocated to the restored Indian Affairs Council Building, Tataway opened on S. 3rd Street and Long & Foster Realtors opened a branch on Arch Street.
- Blurr nightclub will be closing at the end of June or July. The owner plans to transfer the liquor license to a different property and may convert the building to a residential use.
- There will be an RCO review of 401 Race Street directly following this Board meeting at 5:15pm.

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- The Vision 2026 public survey has been published and will remain open through June 25th. There will be a public open house on June 23rd from 5-8pm at the Arch Street Meeting House.
- The OCD office will be closed on Friday, July 3rd.
- Press: The Phila Business Journal and KYW Newsradio both ran pieces on the Vision 2026 Master Plan.

Treasurer's Report: Peter C. Rothberg

- P. Rothberg presented and reviewed financial statements for April and May 2015.
- P. Rothberg & C. McGill discussed draft audit statements with OCD's auditors and will present drafts for approval at a subsequent Board Meeting.

Marketing Report: S. Bar

- The Mighty Engine has submitted a first draft of the Strategic Marketing plan; the implementation portion will follow shortly.
- The Guide to Old City brochure is closed to entries and will go to the printer shortly. Hard copies need to go to the distributors by August 15th.
- S. Bar thanked P. Lavelle for securing an Old City Fest sponsorship from Colonial Penn for \$5,000 and thanked C. Pfeiffer for securing a sponsorship from the Kaiserman Company for \$10,000 worth of radio airtime.
- The First Friday 25th Anniversary celebration will take place throughout 2016 during First Fridays and at two events- a fundraiser and a neighborhood block party.
- The Marketing Committee is working on a holiday event for this year.
- Old City Restaurant Week will take place in July.
- The Inside Old City video series is near conclusion with the final videos being produced.

Clean & Safe Committee Report: H. Spear

- Blurr is closing down this summer.
- JJ Bootlegger's has requested a revision to its CLA to allow for live music. The attorney also represents Gaslight who made a similar request. Renewal is annual so there would be opportunity for recourse if violations occur.
- Old City District hosted a meeting between the operators of Bleu Martini and a group of neighbors who had raised complaints about nuisance issues. The parties were able to reach a solution, with the club agreeing to close on Sundays. Capt. Korn retracted his SAOL objection.

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- Recess has asked for a new meeting with OCD. J. Itzkowitz requested that the management hire a police officer as was agreed upon at previous meeting and will allow a month for them to do so.
- OCD staff has received numerous complaints from neighbors regarding Barra and its patrons. OCCD convened a meeting between the neighbors, PPD and L&I to discuss enforcement options.
- A Nuisance Task Force meeting will be held in the 2nd week of July with a meeting for bar & restaurant operators to directly follow.

Economic Development Committee – D. Goldberg

- There will be a public open house for the Vision 2026 Master Plan held on Tuesday, June 23rd at the Arch Street Meeting House. An initial Steering Committee meeting and walking tour was already held.
- There has been some opposition to the proposed N3rd Street Parklet including a petition of opposition which was circulated. The Committee decided to hold a meeting with those opposed and to reach out to the Councilman's office before deciding whether to proceed.
- The Committee has budget reserved for additional planning services and would like to expend some of the funds to commission a high-level economic analysis of the economic impact of IndyHall in Old City.
- The owner of 240 Market Street has entered into a license agreement which authorizes OCD to clean, seed and fence in vacant lot. J. Itzkowitz requested a Motion to assign the contract to the Old City Community Fund and to direct it to expend funds sufficient to execute the contract, not to exceed \$12,000. R. Goldberg offered the motion. 2nd/ P. Lavelle. All in favor, approved.
- Representatives for a development project proposed at 401 Race Street will present their project to the Old City RCO directly after the Board meeting at 5:15 Board members are encouraged to attend as part of the RCO Committee.

Board Development Report: P. Lavelle

- The Board Development Committee met and reviewed Board member term limits, bylaw requirements for Board members, the Municipal Authorities Act and implications for staffing, etc.
- The Committee identified a strategy for grooming candidates for Board membership and Board candidates for Officer positions utilizing involvement in Committee work to develop and identify relevant skills sets.

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- A. Hornik resigned from the Board due to work commitments. P. Lavelle offered a Motion nominating Board candidate and Old City resident Timothy Snowden of First Service Residential to fill the vacant seat. 2nd/ R. Goldberg. All in favor, approved.

Old Business: None.

New Business: None.

Public Comment: None.

Adjournment: Motion P. Lavelle . 2nd/ R. Goldberg. All in favor, approved. Meeting adjourned at 4:40 pm.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 15th, 2015, 4:00 pm, at 231 Market Street.