

# Ohio City Incorporated Regular Board Meeting

## Meeting Minutes

February 6, 2019

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### **Attendance**

*Board Members* – Frondorf, Davis, Doyle, Gill, Malone, Owens, Qin, Rocha, Smith, Trares, Scheve, Sheppard, Wimbiscus

*Staff* – Tom McNair, Chad Biggers, Hattie Kotz, Carrie Miller, Lisa Raber, Ashley Shaw

*Absent* – Benjamin, Knittel, Nosse, Schmitt, Trimble (Staff)

Meeting began at 6:04 PM

### ***Meeting Minutes – Brendan Doyle, Alex Frondorf***

October meeting minutes presented for approval. Helen Smith moved that the minutes be approved and Andy Trares seconded. Meeting minutes unanimously approved.

December meeting minutes presented for approval by Alex Frondorf. Priscilla Rocha moved that the minutes be approved and Ryan Sheppard seconded. Meeting minutes approved with Brendan Doyle abstaining.

### **Committee Reports – presented by Committee Chairs**

#### ***Finance Committee – Andy Trares (for Maria Nosse)***

Financial statements presented for OCI and 2523. OCI us up \$140,000 because CDBG funds were finally received. OCI has billed development fees and received \$40,000 from Knez and \$11,000 from the 1800 Fulton pass-through. Staff is in the process of collecting other fees. Fodor Building will appear on the balance sheet from this point forward, as will Fairview Gardens.

As part of the 2523 update, it was noted that there are vacancies in the office building and new tenants are actively being sought. MED Pilot has moved out of the building since it received an angel investment. A question was asked about the Fodor Building which closed on Friday and we did not go with PNC but did an IFF loan which will give additional dollars to do work on the property.

Resolution 2019-0601 was presented to the Board providing for the application of funds from the Year 45 Community Development Block Grant program administered by the City of Cleveland.

Motion to approve the resolution was made by Roger Scheve and seconded by Helen Smith. The Resolution passed unanimously.

### ***Governance Committee – Brendan Doyle***

Sharhonda Greer, Deputy Director of Asset Management Operations for CMHA, was introduced to the Board to be voted upon for appointment. Ryan Sheppard made a motion to appoint her to the Board and Mark Owens seconded. The motion to appoint was passed unanimously. The Board went around and introduced themselves.

Details were also shared with the Board regarding the CMHA Board seat that will be open to applications in the next couple of months.

### ***Safety – Helen Smith***

As part of the safety camera program and an effort to make it easier for crimes to be reported, the Near West Safety website was introduced where people can find a link to file a police report and request safety camera footage. Chad Biggers discussed his meeting with Second District Police Commander Stacho. Helen noted that Preferred Security is continuing to do its audit of the safety cameras. Alex Frondorf asked how crime had been trending and Chad Biggers told him that things have been relatively quiet except for a few hit-skips.

### ***Advancement Committee – Alex Frondorf (for Chris Schmitt)***

A partner event will be held on February 27<sup>th</sup> and Carrie Miller said that she can add anyone that the Board believes is civic-minded and interested in the Ohio City neighborhood. Looking at the event calendar, Evening in Ohio City is scheduled for May 11<sup>th</sup> and March 19<sup>th</sup> is the Annual Meeting. The Committee is discussing a fundraiser for Near West Rec which will be a Night at the Races. Mark Owens stated that this can be an opportunity to bring everyone together and educate them on the program, not necessarily to make money the first year.

### ***Community Engagement Committee –Priscilla Rocha for Helen Qin***

The Committee has solidified a code of conduct and subcommittees. The Creativity Sub-Committee will be holding an event at SPACES Art Gallery. The Committee also received a grant in the amount of \$2,000. The Environmental Health Subcommittee continues to work on air quality issues and educating residents that if Ontario Stone is not wetting their gravel to inform OCI. The Committee is also working on trying to preserve the trees on Fulton Road during the construction project.

### ***Economic Development Committee – Andy Trares***

Andy and Alex Budin are co-chairing the Committee. Approximately 10-12 people attend regularly and 16 people are on the Committee. The holiday hop went very well and a number of businesses were involved. It was on a Saturday and it was warm which helped. The Retail Plan will be

presented and discussed on February 12<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 PM at St. John's Church. This will be its final meeting. Ashley Shaw walked the Board through the Ohio City Retail Plan and answered the Board's questions.

The Committee is also discussing how businesses can get better involved in the Ohio City Street Festival.

### ***Real Estate & Land Use –Joel Wimbiscus***

The Committee has had two meetings since the last Board meeting. They have discussed that on brick streets in the neighborhood, bricks are not being replaced and are now being removed and concrete is used. They are discussing this issue with Councilman McCormack and he has expressed an interest in championing this issue by passing new legislation.

The developer of the Casto project is in talks with the City for support for 10 affordable units. The construction on Fulton will start south of Lorain and then move north of Lorain. The Committee is interested in the City's plans for the Franklin traffic circle and ways that the neighborhood can get more involved in those plans.

The Stir project did not receive approval from the BZA and will not be going forward at this time.

Ohio City Design Review had some members step down and they need spots filled by people with more diverse professional backgrounds.

Carrie Miller and Tom McNair walked the Board through the Ohio City Neighborhood Vision summary.

### ***Executive Director Report – Tom McNair***

Ashley Shaw explained the expansion of the SID to the Board.

There is not a lot of time to waste on the Irishtown Bend project since the NEORSD cameras showed that the land has shifted six inches recently. The partners are working together on moving this project forward.

Councilman McCormack has stated that he would like the West Side Market to be privately managed. The City would still own the Market, but it would be run by a non-profit. Tom will give updates when appropriate.

Tom gave an update on the Red Line Greenway project.

Helen Smith moved that the Board go into executive session and Joel Wimbiscus seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously to go into executive session.

*Executive Session*

*Adjournment*

The meeting adjourned immediately following executive session.