

Ohio City Incorporated Regular Board Meeting

Meeting Minutes

February 7, 2018

Attendance

Board Members – Mancuso, Schmitt, Knittel, Smith, Frondorf, Schmitt, Doyle, Scheve, Crockett, Gill, Budin, Trares, Wimbiscus, Nosse, Owens

Staff – Tom McNair, Carrie Miller, Ben Trimble, Chad Biggers, Lisa Raber

Meeting began at 6:08 PM

Minutes from December Board Meeting to be Presented for Approval at Next Meeting

Committee Reports – presented by Committee Chairs

Finance Committee – Maria Nosse

Ohio City Elderly, LP is still waiting for an appraisal from PNC and staff continues to do its due diligence to determine if taking any action with regard to this property is a good fit for the organization.

2523 Market Corporation – Repairs and updates continue to be made to the property.

The \$5,000 goal for the Annual Appeal has almost been reached which is very exciting as it is well ahead of where the fundraising has been in recent years. Tom McNair has also almost secured our first non-Ohio City corporate sponsor which is also a great accomplishment.

Governance Committee – Alex Frondorf

A meeting was held regarding the upcoming Board elections for which there are three (3) seats open. Applications for the position are now open and this information will be in the next newsletter. April 1st is the deadline to become a new member of the organization in order to be eligible to vote in the May election.

Real Estate & Land Use – Joel Wimbiscus

An update was provided on the property at 2316 West 40th Street. Apparently the heirs to the property are not interested in it. The property is surrounded by vacant lots and staff is researching the property to determine if it might be a good candidate for nuisance abatement.

An update was provided on the property at 1800 Fulton. Key Bank currently holds a lien on the property and staff is trying to see if Key might be willing to release the lien which is approximately \$80,000 at this point. Updates will continue to be forthcoming.

An update was provided on the Family Dollar acquisition. It is moving towards closing and the City has finally signed off on its portion of the deal. Chris Schmitt suggested sending a letter to the entire community to let them know about OCI's role in this acquisition and that this is an example of the "strategic plan in action."

An update was provided on the project at West 41st and Lorain Avenue. The developers are going to the Landmarks Commission on February 8th. Staff reported that some recent changes should help to placate the concerns of some of the neighbors.

Safety – Helen Smith

Between Giving Tuesday and the Guardian program, \$24,000 has been raised for the safety camera program.

A safety committee meeting was held in Tremont where more than fifty (50) people attended to discuss safety issues in the Ohio City/Tremont service area.

The next Safety Committee meeting will be held on February 9th.

Advancement

Chris Schmitt will be temporarily taking over this Committee and a meeting will be held soon.

Engagement Committee – John Gill (substituting for Helen Qin)

Three meetings have been held and staff has requested that more data be gathered regarding members of the community. The Committee has developed a mission statement and continues to discuss a welcome packet for new residents.

Executive Director Report – Tom McNair

Staff is now at full capacity for the first time in a long time. Carrie Miller also applied for a VISTA position and received it and we should get that position in the next few months.

A Saint Ignatius Community Workshop has been proposed for February 28th to discuss the new developments on the high school's campus. It is being organized by the Urban Design Collaborative at Kent State University and John Gill deserves much of the credit for helping put together this event.

The Ohio City Improvement Corporation Annual Meeting is being held on February 21st from 5:30 PM to 7 PM at market garden Brewery. All are invited to attend.

Community Safety Organizer Chad Biggers gave a presentation on the work that he is doing to study the crime patterns in the Ohio City neighborhood, as well as to discuss all of the good work that he is doing on behalf of Ohio City and Tremont.

Resolution 2018-0207-01 authorizing the Executive Director of OCI to apply for funding from the Year 44 Community Development Block Grant program came up for a vote. Helen Smith moved that it be approved and Kathleen Knittel seconded the motion. The resolution was passed unanimously.

Resolution 2018-0207-02 authorizing OCI to enter into grant agreements with the City of Cleveland Department of Economic Development for Steelyard Commons TIP grant funding for Ryba Dentistry came up for a vote. Helen Smith moved that it be approved and Kathleen Knittel seconded the motion. The resolution was passed with only Al Mancuso abstaining.

Resolution 2018-0207-03 authorizing OCI to enter into grant agreements with the City of Cleveland Department of Economic Development for a Neighborhood Development grant for SNIP, LLC, an internet service company, came up for a vote. Roger Scheve moved that it be approved and Helen Smith seconded the motion. The resolution passed unanimously.

Board Member Al Mancuso announced the sad news that he would not be running for reelection to another Board spot this May. Over his objections, it was decided that the Board would do something special for him at the next Board meeting to celebrate his important contributions to OCI and the community as a whole.

Executive Session

The Board went into Executive Session.

Adjournment

The Board came out of Executive Session and adjourned the meeting at 8:09 PM.