

**Ohio City Incorporated  
Regular Board Meeting  
Meeting Minutes  
August 20, 2019**

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**Attendance**

Board - Schmitt, Benjamin, Doyle, Frondorf, Gill, Greer, Knittel, Malone, Nosse, Qin, Rocha, Scheve, Smith, Trares, Trivisonno

Absent – Owens, Wimbiscus

Staff – Emser, McNair, Miller, Raber, Shaw, Trimble

Meeting began at 6:02 PM

**Meeting Minutes – Brendan Doyle**

April and June meeting minutes to be presented at next Board meeting.

**Committee Reports – presented by Committee Chairs**

**Economic Development – Andy Trares**

The Committee has been working on street festival enhancements and a work plan for that day. Andy presented the 2019 OCI Economic Development Chart.

Ashley Shaw presented the final version of the Ohio City Retail Plan which helps develop work plans for our existing businesses and sets priorities for what we want in the neighborhood going forward, like providing affordable groceries, etc. It was noted that there are a lot of very specific suggestions in the Plan and Tom McNair stated that OCI would work with neighborhood partners and developers to determine who can implement what portions of the Plan and that there is a lot of good information in the Plan.

**Finance Committee –Maria Nosse**

Two meetings were held and they were both about the budget. Deficit is approximately \$59,600 although they thought it would be closer to \$80,000. Tom McNair stated that this was strategic. Maria reviewed the various sources of revenue for OCI and the specific amounts for each revenue source. There was also a discussion of expenses, including health insurance, strategic planning, professional fees, youth and family programming, etc. After discussion, the issue of budget approval was brought to a vote under Resolution 2019-0820-01. GiGi Benjamin moved that the Resolution be passed and Kathleen Knittel seconded. The budget passed unanimously.

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

The Committee held a conference call regarding what the Committee wants to achieve in the future with a goal of trying to be more defined in purpose. The Committee is looking to bring in new perspectives from the neighborhood and looks forward to sharing updates with the Board.

### **Safety – Helen Smith**

A study out of San Francisco shows that safety cameras can be very effective in deterring and solving property crimes. We saw this recently with the car break-ins. At one point, one-third of all police reports for Ohio City came from reports of car break-ins.

Committee is continuing to work on a readiness plan for the neighborhood to be prepared if there is a major situation like we saw on Monroe Avenue. The Committee will have updates in the weeks to come.

### **Advancement Committee – Chris Schmidt**

No updates at this time.

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

No updates at this time.

### **Real Estate & Land Use – Alex Frondorf (for Joel Wimbiscus)**

In order to manage Fairview Gardens, a bank account needs to be opened. Keith from Tremont West will manage the property. Resolution 2019-0820-02 to open up a bank account to manage Fairview Gardens came before the Board. Kathleen Knittel moved that it be approved and the motion was seconded by Roger Scheve. The Resolution passed unanimously.

Resolution 2019-0820-03 came before the Board authorizing certain members of the Executive Committee to move forward with discussions with Tremont Near West Development regarding a Land Trust. After discussion, Helen Smith moved that the Resolution be passed and Priscilla Rocha seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Executive Director Report - Tom McNair**

\$12 million was awarded for Irishtown Bend which is very exciting. The Market Avenue street closing had hurdles but we were able to work through our issues with Cleveland Police and Cleveland Fire. The Volunteer Appreciation Kickoff is August 27<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 to 7:30 PM at Fairview Park. The Street Festival is being held on September 29<sup>th</sup> and we still need volunteers. A brief discussion was had regarding logistics and how the festival can be improved.

**Executive Session** - the Board went into Executive Session at 7:40 PM.

The Board came out of Executive Session and the meeting adjourned at 7:54 PM.