

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
TUESDAY April 13, 2021, 6 pm
Via Zoom**

1. The meeting was called to order by the President, Maggie Mund, at 6:07 pm.
2. The following directors were present via Zoom: Maggie Mund, Rick Gross, Tina Breslow, Jeff Braff, Pip Campbell, Elena Cappella, Michele Ettinger, Matt Fontana, Richard Frey, Chuck Goodwin, Steve Huntington, Susan Kahn, Doug Mellor, Nathaniel Parks, Charles Robin, Nan Robinson, Matt Schreck, Richard Speizman, Robin Sweet, Richard Vaughn, Ben Weinraub and Ben Zuckerman. Wade Albert participated as CCRA Legal Counsel, and Travis Oliver, CCRA Operations Manager joined as well. Participating as guests this month were:
CCRA Members:
 - Charlie Brill
 - Dina Childs
 - Larry Goldberg
 - Karl Miller
 - Craig Nowlins
 - Gina Shapiro
 - Bill West
3. Board members not present: Kate Federico, Amy Jared, Barbara Halpern, Lauren O'Donnell, Harvey Ostroff, David Rose and Dawn Willis were all absent, and Barbara, Lauren, Harvey, David and Dawn were each excused.
4. Regarding approval of the March 9, 2021 minutes, Elena Cappella noted that Chuck Goodwin had agreed to format the Bylaw Amendments. A motion "To approve the minutes of the meeting of March 9, 2021 with the addition regarding Chuck Goodwin", was Made, Seconded and Passed.
5. Matt Schreck gave the Treasurer's report, noting continued improvement in CCRA's financial position due to continued excellent fundraising and excellent expense management. A discussion about accounting for the PPP loans followed.
6. Rick Gross gave the Development Report noting that the auction site for the three European villas (Italy, Spain, Scotland) was now live. The on-line auction will start on April 15th and

Board of Directors

President: Margaret Mund

Executive Vice President: Richard Gross

Vice Presidents: Phillipa Campbell • Barbara Halpern • Charles Robin • Robin Sweet

Secretary: Nan Robinson • Assistant Secretary: Lauren O'Donnell

Treasurer: Matthew Schreck • Assistant Treasurer: Richard Speizman

continue for a month with the winners announced at the annual meeting. Rick thanked Travis and Tina Breslow for their help in getting this organized and operational. Members are encouraged to share the site with their friends and to visit it themselves.

Rick Speizman expressed thanks to taxpayers for the two PPP loans for which CCRA has now been able to successfully secure.

7. Elena Cappella then led the discussion on the changes to the current Bylaws that have been worked on over the past few months by the Bylaws Committee. Board members have had the opportunity to review the modifications being proposed in the information packet distributed via email on April 8, 2021. Related issues/questions have now all been addressed and the motion was Made, Seconded and Passed to recommend their adoption at next month's Annual Meeting of the membership, and to utilize the Resolution language as outlined on the Board Agenda.
8. Travis spoke about the Operations report, highlighting the 96% increase in website traffic over the past month, which is huge! The most visited sites are Merchant Partners, News Blog (recently updated) and Publications.
9. For the President's Report, Maggie advised that a request that Josh Shapiro be the speaker at the Annual Meeting is pending and a response is anticipated by 4/15. Hopefully it won't be needed but backup suggestions would be welcome, such as Police Commissioner Danielle Outlaw. On a related note, Maggie sent a letter to Commissioner Outlaw on April 9, offering CCRA's assistance and support as concerned community members in helping to maintain peace in the neighborhood when the Derrick Chauvin verdict is announced. The suggestion was also made to reach out to Paul Levy as the President of the Center City District.
10. On Membership, Michele Ettinger advised that the Savoy Building initiative is moving slowly right now but another follow up is scheduled to achieve the target goal. Membership growth this past month in a number of other categories has the team excited and the team is investigating to determine where the growth is coming from to hopefully continue in the same direction. Another recent Membership expansion idea involve contacting those applicants for the garden plots, advising them they can expand the timeframe for the plot from one to six years with CCRA membership.
11. With respect to the Communications Committee, the winning name for the CCRA Enews is "CCRA This Week __/__/____". The CCQuarterly has contained some terrific articles recently and with the 75th anniversary of CCRA is coming up next year, if anyone has relevant historical content, please share it with the committee. Also, it was noted that the work being done with Jen Mansfield and the professional advisors appears to be paying off.
12. The Center City Coalition reported this month that the ATV/motorcycle/dirt bike issue continues to frustrate police and community members alike. Raids and seizures of bikes continue and hearings seeking additional funding to increase patrols and presence at peak times and to install additional cameras are being scheduled.

A motion was made to support the Ready, Set, Philly initiative as follows: “CCRA should add its name to others in the Center City Coalition to a letter to the Director of Commerce asking him to act on his promise to have Mayor Kenney and Commissioner Outlaw engage in a PR initiative to support a restoration of the vitality of our shopping district.” The motion was Made, Seconded and Passed.

13. Jeff Braff reported on the Nominating Committee for the current Board of Director positions. The interviews are now concluded and final determinations are being made and will be advised to the candidates in advance of the Annual Meeting next month. It came to light in the past few days that Amy Jared, who was slated to move from a Director into the Assistant Secretary slot for the coming term, will be moving back to Tennessee and so further adjustments will be required.
14. Bill West of the Streets Committee then painted a picture of the bike lane running along 15-20th streets and Market and JFK. To help improve traffic flow and increase safety, a proposal has been made and endorsed by the Streets Committee, to create a permanent two-lane bike lane on the south side of Market Street between 20th and 23rd streets. A motion was Made that “CCRA supports the proposed two-way bicycle lane on the south side of Market Street, between 20th and 23rd Streets, pending further consultation with Office of Transportation, Infrastructure, and Sustainability as the need arises” and the motion was Seconded and Passed.
15. The PDAC report this month primarily highlights the ATV and Homeless issue status. The street racing continues and the police ask that citizens continue reporting to 911 and red light cameras are scheduled to be added to assist with this. The homeless encampment at 15th and Locust has been scheduled to be dispersed and police and neighbors are keeping eyes on other camps that are popping up in the area.

16. New Business:

Rick Gross spoke about a local band, Snacktime, that has been receiving numerous complaints after playing jazz in Rittenhouse Square. A citation was issued and the band appears to be obeying the rules but should noise regulations be violated going forward, citizens are being asked to call 311.

Following last month’s Visioning Session, three separate sub-committees will be formed from the Ad Hoc Vision Committee and the leaders will be as follows:

Susan Kahn/Rick Speizman – Environment
David Rose – Trash
Maggie Mund – Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

All new and existing Board members will be asked to join a sub-group but other CCRA members are encouraged to get involved as well.

17. An Executive Session of the Board was then held off the record.

18. The meeting adjourned at 8:15pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Nan Robinson, Secretary