

## MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING TUESDAY March 9, 2021, 6 pm Via Zoom

- 1. The meeting was called to order by the President, Maggie Mund, at 6:06 pm.
- 2. The following directors were present via Zoom: Maggie Mund, Rick Gross, Jeff Braff, Pip Campbell, Elena Cappella, Michele Ettinger, Matt Fontana, Richard Frey, Chuck Goodwin, Barbara Halpern, Steve Huntington, Amy Jared, Susan Kahn, Doug Mellor, Lauren O'Donnell, Nathaniel Parks, Charles Robin, Nan Robinson, David Rose, Matt Schreck, Richard Speizman, Robin Sweet, Richard Vaughn, Ben Weinraub, Dawn Willis 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:** 

- Dina Childs
- Hayley Schneider
- Bill West
- 3. Board members not present: Tina Breslow, Kate Federico, and Harvey Ostroff, were all excused.
- 4. A motion "To approve the minutes of the meeting of February 9, 2021", was Made, Seconded and Passed.
- 5. In addition to the advice shared on the Operations Report, Travis shared that he had been provided a list of 200 new homeowners, to re-energize the introductory 6-month free membership program. Also, the question has been raised about whether a Spring Appeal should occur now, given the Auction for the Villas fundraiser is about to launch and the Fall/Winter drive only recently concluded. It was determined they likely impact different pools of people and both efforts are worthy of proceeding.
  - In addition to the written Operations report, Travis Oliver wished to add that he had received a notice about the 2100 block of Pine, that hadn't received the cleaning. He also noted that the mail continues to be extremely slow and this is impacting the Winter appeal checks and some membership renewals. Lastly, he will be taking Tuesday off for the Presidents Day holiday.
- 6. Maggie began the President's Report advising no word back yet from John Fetterman, (PA Lieutenant Governor now running for Senate) on the request to speak at the Annual Meeting and a request is now also in the works with Josh Shapiro (PA Attorney General). Maggie then briefly

## **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

discussed CCRA's support of Airbnb Bill #21008100, that provides an exception for owner occupied residences from obtaining a license.

Given the postponement of the planning Retreat this past year, a Visioning Session on the Future of CCRA has been scheduled for this meeting and the Board members were divided into five separate zoom meeting rooms for twenty-minute discussions of the following three questions:

- What issues should we champion?
- How should we give back to the community?
- Should we make a multi-year commitment of funds to a larger project?

Following the zoom meetings, the group leaders summarized the findings and the Executive Committee will prioritize various opportunities identified for further Board discussion.

- 7. Matt Schreck provided the Finance update, advising that with the recent activity from both sponsorships and membership, the organization continues to be in good shape. In addition, a PPP loan for \$9-9.5k has been submitted.
- 8. Rick Gross advised that the Remapping Committee has engaged with the Building Industry Association to discuss ideas and recommendations for working together for optimal outcomes. Negotiations are ongoing and initial discussions appear promising for working together collaboratively in the best interest of the neighborhood and to build goodwill.
- 9. The Development Committee reported that the Auction fundraiser for the three vacation sites in Italy, Scotland and Spain is set to go "live" in April. This fundraiser will not be limited to CCRA members.
- 10. Michele Ettinger of the Membership Committee announced that one of the key Business supporters of CCRA, DiBrunos, has recommitted their support! Also, the next building focus for the Hi Rise Membership initiative is the Savoy, where a minimum of 50 members are being sought.
- 11. Barbara Halpern reported for the Communications Committee that a zoom presentation is scheduled for 3/16, entitled "I'm vaccinated, what now?", hosted by Jonathan Lovitz and sponsored by Thomas Jefferson University. No pre-registration is required. The effort to re-name the Enewsletter has produced 5 potential choices. Please let Barbara know which options are not preferred. Regarding social media postings, a suggestion was made to expand CCRA's outreach to the Next Door ap. Michele E. will investigate.
- 12. There is no updated report on the Hi Rise Homeless initiative although a meeting is scheduled for tomorrow to discuss the future of the mini-station at 15<sup>th</sup> & Locust. A meeting with Carlos Vega (who is planning to challenge Larry Krasner for Philadelphia DA) is coming up and if there are any specific questions to be raised, let Matt Fontana or Steve Huntington know.
- 13. Bill West provided the Streets Committee report beginning with CCRA's support of the new proposed bus lanes on Market and JFK along with the 2-lane bike lanes on the south side of

Market street. They are reviewing proposals for the future of MLK drive and continue the education about the current situation on how trash is managed/handled on the streets.

- 14. As noted in this month's PDAC report, officers are being retrained on homeless outreach with the goal being to link 30% to services and/or housing. Also, the increased police presence recently is a direct result of the CCRA outreach.
- 15. It is anticipated there will be some homework prior to the April meeting in anticipation of the vote on the Bylaw changes. A report is being prepared now that will summarize the old and new language, along with an explanation of the changes. Chuck Goodwin volunteered to format the Bylaw Amendments.
- 16. With respect to the 2300 Market Street CBA, please let Maggie know if there are any remaining issues. The understanding is that a commitment has been made to work with the Streets department to change the traffic direction of that block of Ranstead or make it two-way to address this previously raised concern.

## 17. New Business:

- a. John Frank wished to raise the issue of loud music being played on Rittenhouse Square recently. This is likely to continue as the weather improves unless something is done.
- b. Volunteers are being sought for the Liquor Control Committee. Candidates must have a legal background.
- 18. The meeting adjourned at 8:08pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Nan Robinson, Secretary