



Board of Directors Meeting Notes  
July 21, 2022

Board Member Attendees: Seronica Powell, Kate O'Neil, Johnathan Greever, Jenny Rodriguez, Fred Calatrello, Dan Cotter, Darren Triplett, Carolyn Bentley, Grace French, Deborah Smith, Jaime Declet, Dan Imfeld, Rich Sosenko. Jason Petroff (ex-officio) via Zoom.

1. Meeting Called to Order (6:33)

2. Approved June minutes:

Jonathan Greever motioned to approve, Jaime Declet seconded. All voted in favor. None opposed or abstained.

3. ACTION ITEM: Dates for Board Retreat:

Initial Board retreat scheduled for August 27, 2022. An email will be sent out to find out who is available that date. If necessary the retreat will be broken up into two parts on two separate dates- one for new member information and a second for the neighborhood tour and lunch.

4. ACTION ITEM: Appointment of Chair for Governance Committee and Vice Chairs for Economic Development and Safety:

It was determined that the official process is for recommendations to come from each committee chair and be approved by the Board of Directors.

Darren Triplett was nominated as co-chair of the Safety Committee. Jaime motioned, Fred Calatrello approved, all voted in favor. None opposed or abstained.

Ann Marie Riley was nominated as vice chair for the Economic Development Committee. Kate O'Neil motioned, Deborah Smith seconded. All voted in favor. None opposed or abstained.

5. ACTION ITEM: Filling Vacant Board Seat:

Seat was vacated by Seronica Powell when she became Board President. During the initial part of this conversation, Grace French resigned her board seat because she no longer lives or works in Tremont. So now the Board needs to fill 2 vacant board seats. The process is that the Board of Directors can nominate people they believe would be valuable to the Board or they can solicit applications from the neighborhood. A short list of potential candidates will be presented at the next Board meeting.

6. ACTION ITEM: Auditor Recommendation from Finance Committee:

The Finance Committee is recommending McManamon and Co. as the new auditors for this year and next year. The Board went into executive session to discuss the nomination. McManamon and Co. is the company our former auditor, Casey (last name?) recommended. We were paying her \$4k a year for the audit. The new company will honor that pricing for the next 2 years. Casey will be able to help hand our organization off to the new organization and answer questions. Jeff Firestone would be the partner who would be our main relationship. Casey will remain with the company as a consultant. They view this as a philanthropic part of their business which is part of the reason for the very below market rate they are giving us. Two years is a standard agreement length. Jaime motioned, Fred seconded. All approved. None opposed or abstained. The firm will produce an engagement letter for Seronica to sign. The Board then came out of executive session.

7. ACTION ITEM: Approve 2022-2023 Budget:

Dan Imfeld presented the 2022-2023 budget. No big projected changes from last year to this year because our biggest funders tend to be the same year to year. Biggest budget item is staffing and we are coming in a little low on that budget because we are filling two empty staff positions.

Cory Riordan talked about changing the Duck Island account to it's own fiscal account instead of it appearing in the Tremont West budget since it's becoming big enough to skew Tremont West's numbers.

Jaime motioned to approve the budget, Johnathan seconded. All voted in favor. None opposed or abstained.

8. Executive Director's Report:

Open staffing positions: Michelle Davis leaving after 19 years. Tremont West is now down 2 positions between that and the open housing position. Tremont West is hosting a happy hour for Michelle July 27th at Forest City Brewery.

Arts in August: Cory asked for Board members to volunteer to welcome and thank sponsors at the Arts in August events. He then passed around a signup sheet.

Constantinos: Cory received some further information on next steps to address the ongoing issue with Constantinos. He plans to have more information to present at our August meeting.

Taste of Tremont: Drop in the number of vendors and sponsors meant that this event did not cover its expenses going in to the event. Beer garden numbers often make up for this but not on a bad weather day like we had this year. Tremont West will end up having subsidized the event. Next year should be better with another year post Covid and hopefully better weather. Cory will have final numbers for the August board meeting. This event has reached a scale that the Board should probably talk about hiring an event management company that knows how to run bigger events.

#### 9. Committee Reports:

Finance Committee: Nothing beyond the above notes on next years budget and the new auditor. Dan called for an approval of the financials. Fred motioned. Jaime seconded. All voted in favor. None opposed or abstained.

#### Economic Development Committee:

University Inn: Project is in limbo.

Starkweather Ave: Committee supported project proposal.

Holmden Ave.: Owner purchased a multi-family home the city doesn't have listed as multi-family. The block club is concerned because the owner is renting multiple residential units in the building and the garage as a commercial space. He went to BZA without block club approval and BZA bounced it back to block club. (Who?) requested an inspection of property to understand what's happening in the garage.

W14th St.: The former funeral home/ residential property the owner would like to rent as commercial space was approved. This was leftover from the June Economic Development meeting.

Auburn Ave.: Illegal third unit will go through BZA in August. The third unit has no ingress or egress or separate electrical.

Safety Committee: The committee met last week to discuss the following items: College and Professor trees need trimmed, the city is working with a new vendor for the Clark and W14th and Clark and Scranton security cameras. Frank Giglio was convicted of attempted murder but is appealing.

Governance Committee: No meeting held until new chair is elected.

Celebrate Tremont Fundraiser Committee: Preliminary meeting will be scheduled to determine who will be on the committee.

8. New Business:

Scranton library now has a kiosk to allow people to attend their court hearings from the library instead of going downtown.

9. Old Business:

None

10. Meeting was Adjourned (7:45 p.m.):

Dan motioned, Jenny Rodriguez seconded. All voted in favor. None opposed or abstained.