



Board of Directors Meeting Notes
September 15, 2022

Board Member Attendees: Seronica Powell, Kate O'Neil, Tom Tosuksri, Jonathan Greever, Jenny Rodriguez, Fred Calatrello, Dan Cotter, John Jackson, Carolyn Bentley, Deborah Smith, Jaime Declet, Rich Sosenko, Jason Petroff (ex-officio) and Cory Riordan (Executive Director)

1. Meeting Called to Order (6:35 p.m.)
2. Approved August minutes:
 - a. Jason Petroff noted a correction to be made to the August minutes. Jonathan Greever motioned to approve the minutes. The vote passed with Jaime Declet abstaining.
3. Discussion/Action Item: Tremont West/ OCI Strategic Partnership
 - a. CNP has made it clear that Tremont West may expect to receive one additional year of funding but that after that they will not want to continue funding an organization this size. They would prefer to fund a combination of TWDC and OCI.
 - b. Funding is decreasing and has been for years. Tremont West would like to be ahead of the wave instead of behind it so it will be in the best position to be strategic and effective and the best support structure for the community.
 - c. This has been an ongoing discussion for the past 3-4 years but urgency to address the issue is growing. Cory Riordan presented organizational docs and the structure of both organizations and the Near West Partners.
 - d. Tremont West has witnessed challenges with shared employees and will need a more formal plan to share staff if both organizations choose to move in that direction.
 - e. The ultimate decision and vote to dissolve or merge will be with the TWDC membership rather than The Board.
 - f. Kerry McCormack supports the exploration of a merger.
 - g. A vote was proposed to let CNP know the board is open to doing a strategic plan to help both agencies plan their best way forward. CNP would provide the funding. The funds would be used to update both agencies strategic plans with extensive talk about overlap and the best way forward together. Fred

Calatrello motioned. Jason seconded. The vote passed unanimously.

4. Discussion/Action Item: Townhouse Code Letter

- a. About a week before this meeting a revised townhouse code letter was presented based on board feedback to the letter presented at the August meeting. Cory Riordan made some additional edits and is now presenting a revised letter for board review. Deborah Smith submitted some additional proposed edits. Discussion continued. Jason proposed adding some wording to Cory's version of the letter from the original letter referencing data from the AIA and The Lit article. A motion was made to accept Cory's version of the letter as amended during the meeting and with a final review via email. Board members would have 24 hours from receiving the email to approve or abstain. Deb made the motion, Jaime seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

5. Discussion Item: Celebrate Tremont

- a. Kate O'Neil presented her progress with the event.
 - i. The committee has received \$27k in sponsorships and advertising dollars so far.
 - ii. The theme of honoring the gardeners has proven to be very popular so far and has lead to some creative sponsorships like Sweet Peet who has agreed to an ongoing donation to the Tremont Gardeners.
 - iii. The goal is for the event to bring in more than \$52k in total funds including ticket sales, sponsorships, raffle tickets...
 - iv. Every member of the board is asked to take a volunteer position at the event. Kate or Cory will make a list of volunteer positions available soon via email.

6. Discussion/ Action Item: Duck Island Fund Developers Appointments

- a. The Duck Island Fund is interested in being active again which requires The Board to appoint two developers to serve on the board. The Executive Committee proposed those developers be Matt Berges and Sam McNulty based on their activity in the neighborhood and the fact that they live in the neighborhood. Jaime made the motion to approve those two appointees, Fred seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

7. Committee Reports:

- a. Safety Committee: The Safety Committee reported that Frank Giglio was sentenced to 11 years which was the required minimum sentence. It was noted that Tremont West had no input in the sentencing.

8. New Business:

- a. Jaime announced the Hispanic Heritage event at the library taking place

9.16.22

- b. Tremont West asked for help with the upcoming Arts and Cultural Festival.
9. Adjourn (8:15 p.m.)
- a. Jonathan motioned to adjourn, Jaime seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.