

Board of Directors Meeting Notes March 23, 2023

Board Member Attendees: Carolyn Bentley, Fred Calatrello, Dan Cotter, Jaime Declet, Johnathan Greever, John Jackson, Kate O'Neil, Seronica Powell, Jenny Rodriguez, Deborah Smith, Rich Sosenko, Tom Tosuksri, Cory Riordan (Executive Director) and Ex-Officios Shannon Copfer Brace and Clair Elliott

- 1. Meeting Called to Order (6:42 p.m.)
- 2. Approve February minutes:
  - a. Jaime Declet motioned to approve the February meeting notes, Fred Calatrello seconded, all approved
- 3. Action Item: Arrangements for Annual Meeting
  - a. Johnathan Greever distributed a checklist for planning the annual meeting to be held at the Scranton Bible Church. Early voting will be allowed 2 weeks before the event at a drop box outside the Tremont West office. The meeting will happen in person with Corner 11 catering again. They will do boxed meals like last year. The agenda will be similar to last year. The board may decide to add committee reports which would include a recap of last years accomplishments.
  - b. Membership applications (in order to qualify as voting members of Tremont West) are due April 1, and candidacy applications are due April 7th. Deborah Smith voiced concerns about making sure it's a fair election and asked the organization work to make sure there's a procedure in place for keeping track of votes. It was emphasized that one of our jobs as board members is to encourage people to become members by April 1 and to complete applications for board positions by April 7th.
  - c. Dan Cotter motioned to approve the planning checklist, Jaime seconded, all approved.
- 4. Discussion Item: Special Improvement District
  - a. Cory Riordan presented Tremont West's plan for a Special Improvement District. This would add to the tax bill of businesses within the district and those funds would be spent within the district on ways to enhance visitors'

- and residents' experience such as trash collection, snow removal and an ambassador program that may include limited security services.
- b. The district would cover: Professor Ave. from W10th to Jefferson Ave. and Jefferson from Professor to W7th St. This map was just approved. Next steps are a public meeting and individual meetings with business owners within the district to get their approval of the plan. In order to be approved, the program would need to have 60% geographic frontage participation within the district. The community meeting will be scheduled to happen sometime in May. The Tremont district's final budget would be small compared to Ohio City's district which has a budget of roughly \$600,000 a year.

## 5. Action Item: Executive Session

a. Board members went into executive session to discuss pending legal issues including the CED-HFFI Grant (Constantino's) and the JSAW3 Cognovit.

## 6. Executive Director's Report

- a. Cory asked board members to review the information in this months meeting packet for his report.
- b. The safety patrol budget was approved and coverage is scheduled to begin April 1st. Patrols will be circulating about 14 hours a week.
- 7. Committee Reports: Due to exceptionally lengthy discussions about items earlier on the agenda, committee reports were put on hold until the April meeting.

## 8. New Business:

- a. Members of the Tremont community have expressed concern about no longer receiving a printed monthly newsletter. Committee members agreed this should be on the agenda for the April meeting.
- b. Shannon Copfer Brace said that Duck Island is working on revising their short and long term goals and values for the neighborhood through questionnaires and community meetings. She will keep the committee updated on the status of that project.
- c. Tom Tosuksri asked members interested in running for board seats to keep watch for instructions from him to be distributed via email soon.
- 9. Old Business: No old business was presented.
- 10. The Meeting was Adjourned (7:53 p.m.) Jaime motioned to adjourn, Deborah seconded, all approved.