

Center City Residents' Association

1616 Walnut St., Suite 810, Philadelphia, PA 19103-5308 (215) 546-6719 Fax: (215) 546-5110 centercity@centercityresidents.org

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Directors May 11, 2004

Attending: Coffey, Mattern, Mandel, McNamara, Seltzer, Goldstein, Reilly, Kung, Baker, Barnes, Donahue, Gutman, Klenk, Lee, Levi, Levy, Marx, Miller, Murphy, O'Brien, Phillips, Saltz, Schneider, Wroblewski, Krakower (counsel,) Berson, Brodie, Weinberg, Levin (Administrator)

Absent: Butler

Excused: Easton, Kumar

APPROVAL OF MARCH AND APRIL MINUTES

Motion to Approve: Jonathan Goldstein, second by Lenora Berson

Action: Supported unanimously

KATE'S PLACE PRESENTATION

Informative presentation by representatives of KP, a project of Sister Mary Scullion's Project Home, regarding progress of initiative to effect the 20th & Sansom low rent housing. Target occupants will be women, but cannot refuse men because of antidiscrimination legislation. There will also be 1700 sq. feet of retail space. Housing units will have a separate entrance. There will be meeting rooms in basement and they would be delighted to have CCRA as a tenant, if possible to work it out.

Hopefully the initiative will be complete by September and will operate essentially to reduce number of "homeless". Building will contain 144 furnished single room units, with microwaves, ranging from 150 to 250 square feet. One hundred of the units will be rent subsidized, the balance will be market rate rentals for tenants whose incomes are between \$17,000 and \$28,000, annually. Speakers wish to emphasize that this is not a social service.

JEFFERSON PARKING GARAGE

Issue: Should CCRA join in appealing verdict in view of many groups who at a prior time strongly supported the initiative to oppose have withdrawn their support...e.g. SHCA, SCRUB, DAG.

Motion: TJ Reilly, seconded by George Barnes: CCRA will not appeal the granting of the variances by the Zoning Board of Adjustment, in view of the lack of support for an appeal by others.

Action: Supported unanimously

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

Jean Wroblewski informed Board of the highly qualified newly elected members and presented abbreviated biographies.

New board member orientation will be hosted by Sam Weinberg on 5/24/04.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION AWARD

Awarded to Dick Tyler for lifetime service as Head of Staff of the Philadelphia Historic Preservation Commission and to underscore CCRA's support of the City's historic certification program and opposition to Councilwoman Jannie Blackwell's bill that would change the system, move the certification process in City Council and exclude approximately 40% of the geographic area of the City from historic certification, without regard to the historic significance of any buildings excluded.

COMMUNITY SUPPER

Very successful, 119 people attended. Congrats to co-chairs Juhwon Lee and Beth Miller for job well done.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Hearty thanks extended to Peter Klenk and Heather Asher for continuing work.

Stickers for photo ID cards are completed; to be sent to members when member discount program is ready to begin.

Ambassador program will be tried out on a sample block.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Extensive report by Lenora Berson on current legislative matters.

Motion: Jonathan Goldstein, seconded by Jean Wroblewski: President of CCRA write letter to Mayor and all Council persons opposing bills that would change City Charter to provide for popular election of City Council president.

[CCRA supports effective global infrastructure] I DON'T HAVE A CLUE AS TO WHAT THIS IS ABOUT

Action: Supported with one abstention by Pat Mattern.

Motion: Fran Levi seconded by TJ Reilly. Letter to be drafted, then signed by CCRA President and sent to Mayor and Council opposing bill providing compensation for Board of Ethics members.

Action: Unanimously supported

TAX REFORM COMMITTEE

Fred Murphy reported on his plan to testify tomorrow at hearing. The report was extensive with a good deal of discussion following.

TREASURER'S REPORT

No change from last month's optimistic report.

Motion from budget committee for acceptance of report.

Action: Supported unanimously

ZONING COMMITTEE

The committee continues to work at breakneck pace. (See report distributed at meeting).

CLEAN STREETS COMMITTEE

Motion: by Martin McNamara, seconded by Adam Schneider to purchase list of legal dumpsters listed on Web for cost of \$50.00 for one year.

Action: Supported Unanimously

JUNE 8, 2004 BOARD MEETING

Will be final regularly scheduled Board meeting of the 2003-2004 fiscal year. Departing, Continuing and newly elected Board Members are invited to attend.

The newly elected Board Members are not eligible to vote as Board Members until July 1, when their terms of office officially begin.

The next Board meeting after June8 will be in September.

Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Vivian Seltzer
Secretary