



**ANNUAL MEETING  
May 27, 2021**

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE SLATE OF OFFICER AND DIRECTOR CANDIDATES**

**OFFICERS – Two-year term: July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2023.**

PRESIDENT	RICK GROSS
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT	RICK SPEIZMAN
VICE PRESIDENT	MICHELE ETTINGER
VICE PRESIDENT	BARBARA HALPERN
VICE PRESIDENT	CHARLES ROBIN
VICE PRESIDENT	DAVID ROSE
SECRETARY	SUSAN KAHN
TREASURER	RICK SPEIZMAN
ASST. SECRETARY	NATHANIEL PARKS
ASST. TREASURER	MATT FONTANA

**DIRECTORS – Three-year term: July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2024.**

DIRECTOR	JUDITH AXLER
DIRECTOR	JIM DUFFIN
DIRECTOR	JARED GLUSKIN
DIRECTOR	LARRY GOLDBERG
DIRECTOR	RYAN MULHOLLAND
DIRECTOR	NAN ROBINSON
DIRECTOR	RICHARD VAUGHN

**DIRECTORS – Two-year term: July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2023**

DIRECTOR	ELENA CAPPELLA
DIRECTOR	WAYNE MACFADDEN

DIRECTOR

IRENA WIGHT

**DIRECTORS – One-year term: July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022**

DIRECTOR

GIL FEINBERG

DIRECTOR

BILL GOLDSTEIN

DIRECTOR

RICHARD HUFFMAN

DIRECTOR

DOUGLAS MELLOR

DIRECTOR

LAUREN O'DONNELL

**The following members of CCRA have been nominated by the Nominating Committee to serve as OFFICERS 2-year terms (07/01/2021- 06/30/2023):**



**Rick Gross: President** (incumbent Executive Vice Pres.) - Rick and his wife, Roberta, moved to Rittenhouse Square ten years ago, enchanted by the neighborhood and the city. Rick is Senior Manager of his company, BW Realty Advisors LLC, which finances large public/private projects throughout the country; Rick chaired the Stakeholder groups for both *The Harper* (Pearl Property's project on 19th and Chestnut) and *The Laurel* (Southern Land's project on Walnut Street at Rittenhouse Square) and has been active in developing and negotiating Community Benefits Agreements with the developers of all other major projects proposed for Center City West over the past several years. Roberta is active in the local arts community. Rick won a Tony in 2013 for co-producing the revival of *Who's Afraid of Virginia*

*Wolf?* on Broadway. Rick hopes to contribute, as President of CCRA, towards the reopening of Center City and the restoration of the vibrant community we so much enjoyed before the pandemic.

**Rick Speizman: Exec. Vice President and Treasurer** (incumbent Ass't Treas.) - After 35+ years away from "home," Rick returned to Philadelphia in 2019. His wife, Faith Horowitz, was kind enough to join him. This move was enabled by Rick's retirement as a partner at a "Big Four" accounting and consulting firm, based in its Washington, D.C. office, and the sale of Faith's engineering firm. At his firm, Rick had national responsibility for the practice that provided tax services to nonprofit clients. Rick was well prepared for his return to Philadelphia, having remained an avid fan of the city's sports teams and keeping well informed of developments in the area. While Rick is particularly fascinated by the built environment, he is interested in all things Philadelphia. He looks forward to contributing to CCRA and helping to make Center City a better place to live and work for all.



**Michele Ettinger: Vice President** - Michele, a retired Dental Hygienist and her husband Joel moved to Rittenhouse Square almost 3 years ago. Within a few months of joining CCRA, she joined the Board and assumed the role of Membership Chair, orchestrating its exciting growth with a myriad of new initiatives and an emphasis on relationship building. Michele has been a prominent community leader for almost 3 decades; serving as President of Jewish Family and Children's Service of SNJ and as VP of The Jewish Federation of SNJ. Michele and Joel are the proud parents and grandparents of 3 little boys under the age of 5.

**Barbara Halpern: Vice President** (incumbent Vice Pres.) -

Barbara is a retired attorney and has lived in the Fidler Square area of Center City for 11 years. She has served as Membership Chair and is currently on the Executive Committee as V.P., Community Relations. As part of that role, she's also the chair of the Communications Committee, which publishes CCRA This Week and the Center City Quarterly.



**Charles Robin: Vice President** (incumbent Vice Pres.) - Charles has been a Center City Realtor since 1990. He currently manages a third-generation real estate company, Robin Apartments, that has been on the same corner – 20<sup>th</sup> & Chestnut St. – since 1937. Charles and his wife of 25 years, Miae, have two beautiful children who are attending Temple University. Charles has been an active member of CCRA since 1992, serving as Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. He is currently co-chairing the Remapping Taskforce and has previously served on Finance and House Tour committees, among others. Charles also served in the past as CCRA's Ninth Police District Advisory Council Representative.



**David Rose: Vice President** – David have served as PDAC rep, Streets Chair, and spearheaded the LED Street lights grant Taskforce. He has served on the Executive Committee, and CCRA's Liquor, Education, Garden, High Rise Membership, and Government Relations Committees. He ran the 19th St Congestion Taskforce, was a member of the remapping Committee. He also served on the Major Development Taskforce for: IPIC, 1901 Chestnut, The Harper, The Laurel, Harper 2, CVS, Freeman's, One Riverside, Morgan Lewis, Culinary Institute, and 1919 Market St. Facilitator of the Stakeholder Groups for Harper, Laurel, Harper 2, and CVS assemblages.

**Susan Kahn: Secretary** - Susan came to Philadelphia many years ago to attend Penn Law School. She practiced law and then taught high school history. Susan and her husband moved to Center City in 2010. She currently leads the Schuylkill River Park PHS Tree Tenders and serves as a board member of Need In Deed, the Friends of Schuylkill River Park, and CCRA.



**Nathaniel Parks: Ass't. Secretary** - Nathaniel Parks is an entrepreneur who, throughout his career, has focused on utilizing technology to help progressive candidates and organizations. He lives on Rodman Street with his wife Sallie, their daughter Celia, son Wes and dog Wrigley.



**Matthew Fontana: Ass't. Treasurer** - Matt Fontana is a labor and employment attorney with the law firm of Faegre Drinker Biddle and Reath. Matthew has lived in Center City West for nearly 10 years and has been a CCRA Board Member since 2016. As a CCRA Board Member, Matthew has focused his service on addressing quality-of-life issues impacting our community.

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**The following members of CCRA have been nominated by the Nominating Committee to serve 3-year DIRECTOR terms (07/01/2021 - 06/30/2024):**



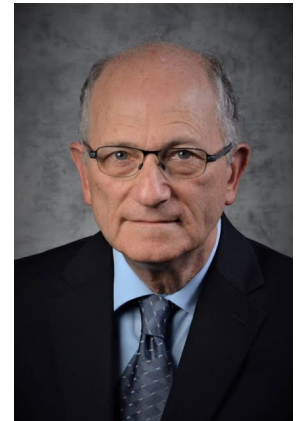
**Judith Axler** - Judith Axler has lived in Center City since 1987 and been a member of CCRA for much of that time. She's happy to have seen all the wonderful changes that have taken place in our neighborhood over the years and hopes to be able to help it to continue to flourish. She is a history buff and indulges this passion by serving as a volunteer park ranger at Independence National Historic Park. She also is a volunteer second grade-reading tutor at Greenfield Elementary School. She works in the affordable housing field.

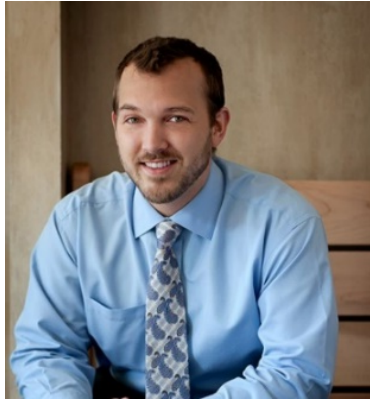
**Jim Duffin** - A Philadelphia native, Jim has been a resident of Rittenhouse Square neighborhood for 20 years. He enjoys the rich, diverse, and walkable life the neighborhood offers. He is an archivist at the University of Pennsylvania. With a deep interest in the rich history of Philadelphia and how it can inform the lives of residents today, Jim has served on a number of non-profit history related organizations in the greater Germantown and Mount Airy area. In recent years he has worked on numerous nominations to the Philadelphia Register of Historic Places and promoted citywide preservation efforts. Now Jim would like to bring his civic experiences to bear on the surrounding neighborhood via the CCRA. For Jim preservation is more than just pretty buildings, it's about looking to the future and thinking about ways to keep the best parts of our neighborhoods – people, buildings, institutions and business – and provide opportunities for new growth.



**Jared Gluskin** - Jared first moved to Philadelphia 10 years ago to attend Temple University and is currently the manager of Robin Apartments, Inc., working alongside CCRA VP Charles Robin. Living in the Rittenhouse Square area, Jared has come to love Center City and appreciate the work of the dedicated volunteers who have made this such a wonderful neighborhood. Jared is also a volunteer chapter advisor for the Jewish youth group, BBYO.

**Lawrence Goldberg** - Lawrence has been a Center City resident since 2005, and joined CCRA shortly after his arrival. Raised and educated in New York City, Larry appreciates the livable scale of Center City, with its restaurants, shops and cultural attractions, many of them within easy walking distance. Larry is a retired psychiatrist. Besides engaging in clinical practice, he has served as a hospital medical director, an administrator for health insurance plans, and as an overseas volunteer providing clinical training in low resource settings.





**Ryan Mulholland** - Ryan moved to Phila. 9 years ago to help his longtime friend, Greg Vernick, open and operate a neighborhood restaurant on Walnut Street, Vernick Food & Drink. After gaining popularity and acclaim within the community and across the region, the restaurant has expanded to four different concepts within the city of Philadelphia adding Vernick Fish and Vernick Coffee Bar into the Comcast Technology Center and adding Vernick Wine directly next to the original location. For the entirety of that 9 years, Ryan and his wife Danielle have resided in the Rittenhouse Square neighborhood and are proud to call this neighborhood and city home.

**Nan Robinson** (incumbent Director) - Serving as Secretary last term, Nan has been on the CCRA Board since 2019, participating on the Membership, Nomination and various other non-standing committees. A transplant to Philly from Seattle, Nan has lived in the Fidler and Graduate neighborhoods and wants to do her part to ensure this wonderful community continues to thrive for generations to come.



**Richard Vaughn** (incumbent Director) - Richard is a Delaware Valley native who spent his adult life living in North Jersey while working in the tech field as a telecom consultant before finishing his career at Rutgers University. He has recently circled back to the area to be near friends and family (read: grandchildren). He is also circling back to create a second career out of his first love, that being Journalism (print, online and broadcast). His hobbies include playing tennis, writing and performing standup comedy and regularly laying waste to the Sunday NYT crossword puzzle.

**The following members of CCRA have been nominated by the Nominating Committee to serve 2-year DIRECTOR terms (07/01/2021 - 06/30/2023):**



**Elena Cappella** (incumbent Director) - A resident of CCRA-land for over three decades, Elena is retired from law and from her work as a key executive for a national nonprofit organization dedicated to law reform. She loves city life and can't wait to return to in-person OLLI and Penn classes, and to once again visit area schools and hospitals with her therapy dog. She's been chairing CCRA's Bylaws committee for over a year now and previously served on the Streets Committee with special interest on pedestrian and bicyclist safety.

**Wayne Macfadden** - A New York City native, Wayne first moved to Center City in 1986. A Board-Certified Psychiatrist, Wayne has held a variety of clinical, academic and research roles. He has also worked for several large Pharmaceutical companies in Neuroscience Research and Development, in the US and overseas. Upon returning to Philadelphia, Wayne is committed to the betterment of the quality of life for residents in Center City Philadelphia. He is a Fellow of the Philadelphia College of Physicians and was recently elected to the Board of Directors at the Penn Center House.



**Irena Wight** - Irena has lived in Philadelphia for six years and is a Rittenhouse Square resident. Irena holds a dual master's degree in architecture and historic preservation from the Stuart Weitzman School of Design at the University of Pennsylvania and currently works for Atkin Olshin Schade Architects. Irena has joined CCRA because of her interest in the preservation of historic buildings in Center City and ensuring that the Center City neighborhood retains its cultural and pedestrian-friendly character. Irena is honored to have been nominated to the Board of Directors of the CCRA and is excited to be part of the CCRA's mission to encourage responsible development while preserving the neighborhood's historic heritage.

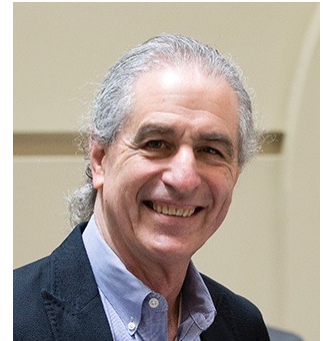


**The following members of CCRA have been nominated by the Nominating Committee to serve a 1-year DIRECTOR term (07/01/2021 - 06/30/2022):**



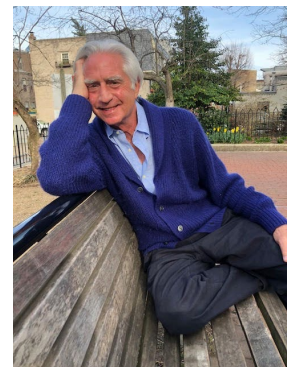
**Gilbert Feinberg** - Gil has studied, lived and worked in Center City since 1970 and now resides in the Rittenhouse Square area with his wife, Nadeen Van Tuyle. Gil is a sole practitioner attorney specializing in estate planning and settlement. Gil is current board member and past president of Gretna Music and now serves on the board of Singing City.

**Bill Goldstein** - Bill Goldstein is a life-long Philadelphia resident, having grown up in West Oak Lane, across the street from the original Ben & Irv's Delicatessen. He graduated from Central (215 class), Penn (College '64, Law 67) and will be married (to Joan) 55 years in May. Bill has lived full-time in the Murano since 2013.



**Richard Huffman** - Richard Huffman FAIA is a retired architect partner at Wallace Roberts and Todd. He and his wife, Susan have lived and raised a family for 50 years in Center City. His Other board assignments include CPDC, Friends Select School, AIA and Urban Land Institute.

**Douglas Mellor** (incumbent Director) - Former commercial and fine art photographer, former gallery director and teacher at the University of the Arts. I have renovated several houses, two in Philadelphia. One on Pine street in 2008 and one on Waverly street in 2018. We have a very unique city where we can live and work. I am interested in keeping the city livable and historically appealing.





**Lauren O'Donnell** (incumbent Director) - Lauren is a Philadelphia area native who has lived in the Rittenhouse neighborhood for the past ten years. She is a partner in the litigation department at Blank Rome LLP, concentrating her practice on products liability defense and white-collar criminal defense. Lauren is excited to be a part of CCRA's mission to continually improve Center City for residents and visitors alike.