



Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, July 26, 2017
Meeting Begin: 7:11 PM
Meeting End: 9:00 PM

Board Members Present: Kevin Brown (Chair), Murray Spencer, Evy Cruz, Marisa Waxman, Jenn Leupold, Sarah Kolansky, Chris Durham, Jon Adler, Christopher Stromberg

Board Members Absent: Jim Hartnett, David Zega (Vice Chair), Evan Finkelstein, Carl Jones, Matt Monroe

Others Present: Nicole Koedyker (SOSNA Programs Manager)

Call to Order / Welcome

Mr. Brown called the meeting to order. Ms. Waxman announced that she will not be running for a second Board term (though will still be involved with COPS and the Soup Group). The Board thanked her for her service and leadership over the past three years. Mr. Brown presented gift cards purchased by Board members to Mr. Adler and Mr. Durham to commemorate the recent births of their children.

Approval of June 2017 Board Minutes

Mr. Spencer moved to approve the June 2017 Board Minutes. Ms. Waxman seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously after a few corrections were applied. The archived minutes are now up-to-date.

Programs Manager Report

Ms. Koedyker presented the report as submitted in the packet. She emphasized the need to sit down with each committee to discuss goals for 2018. There will be an event to bring all the committees together in early fall to promote networking and collaboration. Mr. Adler suggested that we heavily advertise the election at this event, as committee members are ideal candidates for the Board.

Treasurer Report

Mr. Adler presented the report as submitted in the packet. Half of the money spent in the last month was for the MARC Pop-Up pool, which turned out to be a successful project. We will file for another extension of our taxes. Mr. Brown is pleased that we have been spending money on practical items to run events more smoothly. Along that same vein, we are looking into buying a PA system.

Initiative Reports & Allocations

COPS



Ms. Waxman chose to highlight the annual school supply drive that will begin next month. She is considering using an Amazon Wish List to guide purchases instead of relying solely on dropoffs. Ms. Leupold said that ReMAX would like to volunteer to be a dropoff site.

Economic Development

Mr. Brown asked the Board for ideas for Business Spotlights, which should be sent to Nolan Tully by 8/4. The next SOSNA Dines Out will be at Kei Sushi on August 8th.

Clean & Green

Ms. Kolansky mentioned a new recycling program with TerraCycle for recycling used Brita water filters. Mr. Brown asked Ms. Koedyker for an update on the street cleaning pilot program. She said she has asked Zamir to record all the streets he cleans every day on a piece of paper. At the end of the summer, he will go back to school and will be replaced by someone else. Marcus Ferreira from SSWBA reports that South Street seems to be noticeably cleaner, even though that isn't on the list of streets to be cleaned. Perhaps the program has encouraged others to keep the neighborhood clean? SSWBA has pledged to support the program in the future. Ms. Kolansky thinks we should move the street cleaning program over to the MARC pool, since the additional foot traffic has brought a bit more trash. She recently learned from a Clean & Green committee member that some neighbors pay Ready Willing & Able to do private street cleaning on some streets east of Marian Anderson. Ms. Koedyker said that other members of the community have expressed interest in that particular private program. Ms. Waxman suggested that we could create a Kickstarter page if we want to expand the program to cover the whole neighborhood in the future. Ms. Kolansky responded that we should use whatever funds we receive to clean as much of the neighborhood as we can afford. Ms. Waxman brought up the possibility of using matching funds from sponsoring businesses and/or SOSNA.

Carpenter Green

Ms. Kolansky reported that we have completed the DCED grant, and that we are now just waiting on funding from the state. The Philadelphia Redevelopment Authority (current owners of the Carpenter Green parcel) can help bridge the gap if we need funds to come in sooner. Mr. Stromberg noted that the MARC Pop Up pool's success with Go Fund Me sets a strong example for SOSNA to use crowdsourced funding for street cleaning as well as Carpenter Green. Ms. Kolansky replied that we wouldn't be able to set a deadline on such as page when we don't yet have the state money in hand. Mr. Brown was previously hesitant to ask the community for money when we expect Lyft to make a sizable donation. It is unlikely that Lyft will give as much as originally proposed (if at all) since city parks are unable to give away naming rights. If Lyft is out of the picture, Mr. Brown is now comfortable with asking the community for money. Ms. Koedyker will make a fundraising request at the end of the next newsletter. Mr. Stromberg wants to approach the Alterra Property Group, who has already funded the Stanton playground renovations, to give somewhere between \$5000 and \$25000 toward finishing the park.

Ms. Leupold said that Los Camaradas applied for 52 weeks of outdoor permits this year, and is interested in hosting a pop up restaurant at Carpenter Green every weekend for the end of



summer/early fall season. They would donate part of the proceeds to the park. Mr. Adler was concerned that the land most likely not zoned properly for that use, and that the community would oppose it. He thinks we should have an informational meeting with the community before we support this as an organization. Ms. Leupold pointed out that SOSNA would need to provide restrooms. The owners of Los Camaradas are willing to be flexible on times to minimize the impact on the community. They weren't able to host events in Julian Abele because they didn't submit their application for the summer schedule on time. Ms. Cruz said we should wait to give the community more information before giving the green light. Mr. Spencer and Ms. Kolansky responded that it would be too late by then. Mr. Adler said that their outdoor permit expires in the calendar year it was received. Mr. Brown asked to continue this discussion over email before coming to a decision on the project. Mr. Stromberg said we should float this to the community as an idea instead of a concrete decision. We would need to emphasize that the park will be properly maintained throughout the season.

Ms. Kolansky presented an allocation to pay an invoice for the mowing of Carpenter Green to our landscaping vendor. Landscaping maintenance is required of us as occupants of the property. Mr. Brown suggested that we approve this allocation but search for a new vendor moving forward. Ms. Cruz moved to allocate; Mr. Stromberg seconded. The motion was passed unanimously.

Ms. Koedyker presented an allocation for money for payment of tabling fee of \$150 to participate in Greenfest Philadelphia 2017. The goal is to 1) reach a new audience of neighbors that may attend the city-wide festival and 2) meet fellow vendors to develop new Clean and Green partnerships for SOSNA. Ms. Leupold moved to allocate; Mr Adler seconded. The motion was passed unanimously.

Ms. Koedyker presented an allocation for money up to \$300 for purchase of one PA system for use by the Grays Ferry Triangle and other SOSNA activities. Mr. Adler moved to allocate; Ms. Cruz seconded. The motion was passed unanimously.

Safety

Ms. Cruz reminded the Board of the annual Light Up the Night event happening at Julian Abele Park on August 1st. The Safety committee requested 2-3 Board volunteers/Committee Chairs to help manage a SOSNA table.

Ms. Cruz presented an allocation for money up to \$150 for promotional and fun event materials for the 7th Annual Light Up the Night event on August 1st. Ms. Leupold moved to allocate; Mr. Spencer seconded. The motion was passed unanimously.

Ms. Cruz presented an allocation for money up to \$150 for the purchase of replacement parts for flyer boxes to post around the neighborhood for promotional use by SOSNA and its committees. Mr. Durham moved to allocate; Mr. Spencer seconded. The motion was passed unanimously.

Zoning



Mr. Spencer expressed gratitude for Ms. Koedyker circulating information about upcoming projects in advance. Mr. Adler reported that BalletX (1923 Washington Ave) received a letter of support from SOSNA and was passed at the ZBA. U3 Advisors wants SOSNA to facilitate the community brainstorming session for the Chocolate Factory development (7/31). Ms. Waxman is concerned about SOSNA appearing to be responsible for the outcome of this project. Ms. Cruz anticipates that the meeting will be as pointless as the 2016 Chinatown redevelopment charrette. Mr. Stromberg isn't worried that SOSNA appear to be responsible for the project's design. He believes this will be an education opportunity to inform the community about the difference between an ordinance and a variance.

Triangles

The Board discussed planning an event next month to honor Brad Dakake, who is stepping down as chair of the Triangles Committee.

Monthly Priorities

Protected Bike Lanes - CCRA will not support protected bike lanes within their boundaries (Lombard/South). Councilman Johnson will also not support protected bike lanes. Mr. Brown said that everyone at the July 17th community meeting who was from the South of South neighborhood supported the bike lanes. He proposed that SOSNA write a letter of endorsement for a 6 month pilot program. Mr. Adler agreed that if the community has already expressed support for the project, it wouldn't be a bad idea to write an endorsement. SSWBA has not indicated any opposition to the protected bike lanes.

Ms. Cruz noted that the PSA 1 meeting is tomorrow (7/27), and will be dedicated to discussing the 7/15 shooting at Fitzwater and 22nd Street. She will inform the Board of the meeting's outcome, in case we need to plan our own follow-up meeting. Ms. Waxman would like to know if there is anyway SOSNA can be of assistance to the victims and their families.

New Business

Board Elections - Ms. Koedyker reviewed the list of Board members who are either up for reelection or have reached their term limit. She will create an e-questionnaire for candidates and the executive committee will screen the responses. Mr. Brown wants the Board to set a clear definition of SOSNA "membership" and inform the community before the election. Ms. Leupold suggested that we offer paper sign-up sheets on election night as we had done two years ago. Ms. Waxman said we should have a membership drive up until the election, and solicit the list serv subscribers to become members. Ms. Koedyker asked the Board for help with creating questions for the e-questionnaire. Ms. Cruz pointed her to past candidate Q&A forms that are archived on our website. Mr. Brown expressed interest in boosting attendance through some extra feature like the 50/50 raffle once proposed by former Board member Greg Lugones.



Mr. Brown will send an allocation request for new chairs for the Triangles via email.

Ms. Leupold mentioned that the second Saturday in October will be Blocktoberfest.

Mr. Stromberg said that tomorrow morning (7/27), the new daycare center at 16th and Christian will be hosting an open house.

Adjournment

Mr. Adler moved to adjourn. Ms. Leupold seconded. The motion was passed unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned.