



**Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, November 29, 2017**

Meeting Begin: 7:06 PM

Meeting End: 9:22 PM

Board Members Present: Kevin Brown, Evy Cruz, Lauren Summers, Ann Watts, Fred Ritter, Evan Finkelstein, David Zega, Nolan Tully, Chris Durham, Murray Spencer, Sarah Kolansky, Christopher Stromberg

Board Members Absent: Matt Monroe, Jim Hartnett

Others Present: Nicole Koedyker (SOSNA Programs Manager)

Call to Order / Welcome

Mr. Brown started the meeting, which will be the last of 2017. The board went around to highlight local businesses recently frequented. Businesses include Workshop Underground, Starbucks, Café Ynez x2 (Uncle Flowers ain't got nothing on them), Momo's Treehouse, C&R, Founding Fathers x2, Bistro Southeast, Jet, Cambridge (it's kid friendly!), Fitzwater Bagels, Sidecar, Magpie, Baby Wordplay (also kid friendly!), Via Bicycle, Indian Restaurant, and Aspen Grove.

Approval of October 2017 Minutes

Ms. Watts motioned to approve the minutes, Ms. Kolansky seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Programs Manager Report

Ms. Koedyker has spent a good amount of the month working on turkey signups and the Giving Tuesday campaign. As of now, there are signups for 390 turkeys and 20 tofurkeys (first year of tofurkeys!). As the organization is expected to receive 500 birds, the board will need to determine what to do with the extra. Upcoming events include the Turkey Day Giveaway, at which the aforementioned birds will be given out. Additionally, there is Crosstown Coalition meeting on Dec 11 and a SOSNA Dines Out event at Yeeroh on Dec 12. Mr. Brown does not understand the concept of tofurkeys, but not to worry—Mr. Durham set him straight.

Treasurer Report

Ms. Kolansky confirmed that SOSNA's taxes were officially filed. With grant money included, this month yields a positive of \$1069.77. A top priority moving forward is to create a budget so the board can track spending more easily. This will also enable the board to allocate specific funds to each committee. The goal is for the budget to be implemented starting January.



In addition, Ms. Kolanksy would like to start providing breakdowns of allocations and received donations to-date so the board can better track the organization's financials throughout the year, which will enable the board to better plan for the future.

Initiative Updates & Allocations

Wins & Successes:

COPS

Ms. Koedyker shared that the recent happy hour was a success and that the soup group has grown significantly from last year. The board agreed that the usage of door hangers has proved effective. Additionally, SOSNA will be hosting a kid winter coat drive very soon.

Economic Development

Mr. Tully brought up the Dines Out event coming up on Dec 12.

Clean & Green

Ms. Kolansky discussed the success of the Fall Cleanup on Nov 11 and gave a shout out to Ms. Summers for all her help. Approximately 250 bags were handed out, most of which came back full. Ms. Kolansky also recommended that the committee plan a Dec Cleanup event to keep up with the number of leaves still falling.

Carpenter Green

Skipped for a more in-depth discussion in the OKR section of the agenda.

Safety

Ms. Cruz provided an update on a potential Feet First Philly (sponsored by the Clean Air Council) partnership, which would help identify walkability scores for the blocks in the neighborhood. She also alerted the board that there have been 400+ responses for the lighting program; overall, a strong turnout.

Mr. Brown has an upcoming call, which will hopefully make headway on the physical installations (as laid out by the committee's walkability plan) around Chester Arthur.

Mr. Zega discussed a meeting with the Church of the Apostle about gun violence. Overall, it was very productive, and the result from it is a new security camera on 22nd and Fitzwater. Mr. Brown added that the meeting opened the door to build stronger partnerships with the faith-based organizations in the neighborhood.



Zoning

Mr. Murray expressed his pleasure with how smoothly the last zoning meeting went and how the submitted plans caused much less confusion. Next meeting plans are already reviewed as well; things are looking up and the already strong process in place is starting to show signs of improvement.

Triangles

Ms. Koedyker alerted the board that the pedestrian plaza permit for the South Street triangle has passed, which means it will remain as a pedestrian space for another 3 years.

Ongoing Projects/Roadblocks:

COPS

An unnamed board member has been disappointed with the volume of soup in his/her group but otherwise, there is nothing else to report.

Economic Development

Mr. Tully brought up the recent flash mob incident and the impact it had on Lazaros and M Concept. It's his aim to coordinate an event to support the affected businesses and bring a resurgence of foot traffic to the businesses on South Street. He also shed light on a meeting he had with Myra Brown from NWON, which helps younger local constituents with criminal records clean up their act and find work with local businesses. Along with Rep. Harris's help, the hope is to expunge criminal records and introduce a new wave of young citizens into the local workforce.

Mr. Brown expressed his interest in moving forward with the neighborhood welcome packet initiative as well, as it not only would provide a service to new neighbors but enable working partnerships to form between committees.

Clean & Green

Ms. Kolanksy brought up the growing number of complaints about big belly trash cans and was told that the Streets Department wants to do away with them. She had a meeting with Nick Esposito (Zero Waste Council) recently about an organic compost pilot program, which could help with improving neighborhood sustainability. She also brought up a leaf recycling plan already in place (though it's impact is limited as they only pick up at Broad and Christian). Finally, she expressed interest in planning the 4th annual X-mas tree



recycling program. Ms. Summers suggested it be hosted at the UBC garden as the resulting wood chips could be of benefit to them.

Carpenter Green

Skipped for a more in-depth discussion in the OKR section of the agenda.

Safety

Ms. Cruz expressed concern with the walkability plan as it has been stuck in limbo for some time. Hopefully, the meeting Mr. Brown has will get the ball rolling. Additionally, there is an upcoming PSA-1 meeting on Nov 30, which will likely be focused on recent crime and tips to avoid stolen packages.

Mr. Durham also brought up the possibility of revisiting the addition of protected bike lanes on South and Lombard to help avoid tragedies like the one recently in which a biker was struck and killed by a trash truck.

Zoning

Mr. Spencer had no challenges to report.

Triangles

Ms. Koedyker discussed a meeting she had with the Water Department to review storm water features that would be installed at the Bainbridge/Gray's Ferry triangle within 2-3 years. Next steps include getting letters of support from neighboring businesses. She also brought up interest from a constituent about installing "U" bike racks around the Triangles; hopefully these could be donated by the South Street West Business Association.

Mr. Brown reaffirmed his interest in finding new leadership for the committee so Ms. Koedyker can stay focused on everything else she does for the organization. He also mentioned that we mustn't forget to order the Triangles furniture as what currently is there is old and has seen better days. Additionally, he brought up the idea of rebranding the Triangles to create a stronger tie with SOSNA.

Priorities - OKRs

Mr. Brown provided an update on the yearly objectives formed at last year's retreat. Overall, we've completed 75% of the goals to-date, which is something to be proud of. However, we still need to continue pushing forward and should focus on reaching full completion. As far as year-end fundraising is going, we're on track to meet the organization's goal of receiving 100 gifts before year-end (\$2,000 currently received). Ms.



Watts brought up the idea of making signage for events, encouraging attendees to donate, as well as t-shirts and buttons as well. Ms. Koedyker brought up the idea of buying a Square dongle. Mr. Finkelstein brought up the strong social media and email presence. Mr. Stromberg came up with the idea of implementing “Follow Up Wednesday” to combat the overwhelming competition from other organizations on Giving Tuesday.

Mr. Brown and Mr. Zega have been working on planning the next board retreat, which will hopefully incorporate trust falls, extended singing sessions of “Kumbaya”, and other team-building activities. They request that if anyone from the board wishes to help with planning, they should reach out to them directly.

Update on the Chocolate Factory: Mr. Brown discussed the previous community meeting and how important it is that the 3rd meeting provide clarity to the constituents as far as what specific plans are for the property.

Update on Carpenter Green: Mr. Stromberg let the board know that 3 of the 4 bids are in, which are ranged in prices. Luckily, one is close to the cost estimate the organization received. If all goes well, ground breaking could occur as quickly as tomorrow (yay!). Mr. Brown provided an update on Lyft’s donation, which is contingent on adding an “Instagramable” installation. They would be willing to give \$25,000 up front and another \$20,000 if it happens to be a light installation.

Update on Affordable Housing Bill: The board discussed the implications of the bill but ultimately decided that until some of the details are demystified, the organization cannot take a stance one way or the other. However, the board unanimously agreed that it is against City Council pushing the bill through without much deliberation. Ms. Watts brought up the idea of gauging the neighborhood on its opinion of the Housing Trust Fund and the impact it has had on building preservation.

Allocations

Ms. Cruz made an allocation request for \$5,000.00 to pay for the continuation of the street cleaning program to run from January 2018 through March 2018, including a month-to-month prorated contract with ABM and additional marketing expenses. Mr. Zega seconded. Motion passes unanimously.

Mr. Spencer made an allocation request for \$250.00 to pay for a happy hour event to recruit new potential architectural review commitment (ARC) members. Location, date,



and time TBD but will be in December 2017. Mr. Ritter seconded. Motion passes unanimously.

New Business

Skipped for time.

Adjournment

Ms. Watts motioned to adjourn. Mr. Durham seconded. Motion passes unanimously.