

## July CDAG Board Meeting Minutes – 2011

Central Delaware Advocacy Group (CDAG) – July 14, 2011  
Coral Street Arts House, 6:00 PM – Recorded Attendance Attached

### I. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Minutes of CDAG Board meeting of June 9, 2011, approved

### II. Welcome and Opening Statement – Sandy Saltzman of NKCDC

Sandy welcomed all to the Coral Street Arts House, a beautiful low-income housing project occupied by individuals and families involved in the arts. The project was conceived and executed by NKCDC and stands as an excellent example of pivotal development spawning adjacent positive investment and development. At Sandy's request, all in attendance introduced themselves.

### III. Committee Reports

#### 1. Communication & Outreach – Steve Weixler for Rene Goodwin

Steve delivered the Communications report on behalf of Rene Goodwin.

Steve reported that Rene is about to begin work on the CDAG brochure, and Rene is asking for about four volunteers to participate in an ad hoc brochure committee. Rene would like to start this work later this month.

Steve reported that he and Rene are collaborating on a CDAG presentation program intended for use in presentations and communications with civic organizations, and other groups, relative to the master plan and zoning matters concerning the Central Delaware.

Steve reported that Rene is promoting the notion of CDAG organizing a social event, on the river, perhaps on the Philadelphia Belle or the Spirit of Philadelphia, to provide an opportunity for CDAG Board members and their spouses, partners, mates, to enjoy our riverfront and the fruits of our labor, as well as enjoy one another. Rene requests the assistance of a small ad hoc committee to help put together a program for this proposed event. Honey Pertnoy volunteered to help organize such an event.

Steve reported that Rene is looking for a CDAG Board member to take responsibility for reporting the activities of CDAG to each of the two friends-of groups that have formed around the Washington Avenue Green and the Race Street Pier, and to explore opportunities to collaborate with both groups, in the future. Dianne Mayer volunteered to fill this role.

This concluded Steve's delivery of Rene's Communication & Outreach report.

Steve then added that we need to form a small working group to prepare the next edition of the Progress Report. The committee would be expected to prepare the 2011 draft Report, to be brought before the Board for comment, followed by appropriate refinements and preparation for distribution. Steve speculated that the time requirement would be about one hour per month, leading up to an intended release of the Report in early November.

## **2. Membership Committee – Laura Lanza**

### **CDAG Membership Committee Report - July 2011**

Prepared by Committee Chair, Laura Lanza

Circulated via email 7/12/11

Posted below with Board actions of July 14<sup>th</sup> CDAG Board meeting inserted

The Membership Committee conducted its work via email and phone this past month, progress is reported below. The secretary will give an update on board member attendance at the meeting, as usual.

### **CDAG Board Application**

The Membership Committee vetted the application by Olde Richmond Civic Association and sent for board review in advance of July 14<sup>th</sup> oral presentation by ORCA representative, Phillip Stoltzfus, at the CDAG Board meeting to be held at Coral Street Arts House, 19125, 6-7:30 PM.

The board will vote on ORCA's application to the CDAG board of directors at the August 11<sup>th</sup>, Board meeting, at Society Hill Towers Community Room (an AM meeting).

### **CDAG Advisory Committee Update**

We are thrilled that Harris Steinberg just confirmed that Penn Praxis is pleased to accept CDAG's request to chair the Advisory Committee!

Thanks to Patrick Starr, PEC, and their skilled intern, Maggie, the approved and printed invite will be mailed to the approved list of groups immediately after they have been signed by CDAG Chair this week (or by digital signature). Thanks also to Joe Schiavo & Matt Ruben for updating the invitee list and contact information.

### **CDAG General Membership Update**

The name of general membership category will be (finally) be finalized at July's Board meeting. Please see end of report for details (and online votes) from online discussion on the name of the general membership group\*\*. In summary: Online 13 board member organizations: 5 voted for "Friends of CDAG", 7 voted for the "Friends of the Central Delaware (Riverfront/Waterfront)", and 1 abstained. Only 4 of CDAG's voting board member organizations did not participate.

(Once the decision is made we can proceed with outreach follow-up, and tasks raised in past reports, such as membership bylaws, membership web page and other materials. Excellent discussion and points made.)

### **Summary of name of general membership online discussion / votes**

#### **"Friends of CDAG" (5)**

Queen Village Neighbors Association -Richard Wolk  
Neighbors Allied for the Best Riverfront -Mary Stumpf  
Old Swedes Court Homeowners Association -Honey Pertnoy  
Whitman Council -Rich Lazar  
Society Hill Towers Homeowners Association -Marsha Bacal

#### **"Friends of the Central Delaware (Riverfront)" (7)**

Northern Liberties Neighbors Association -Matt Ruben  
Fishtown Neighbors Association -Micah Hanson  
Old City Civic Association -Joe Schiavo

River's Edge Community Association -John Scorsone  
Society Hill Civic Association -Steve Weixler  
Port Richmond on Patrol & Civic Association- Laura Lanza  
Pennsylvania Environmental Council -Patrick Starr

Abstained:  
Pennsylvania Horticultural Society Tammy Leigh DeMent

Did not vote online:  
New Kensington Community Development Corporation  
Penn Future  
Pennsport Civic Association  
South Street Head House District

Non-voting board orgs:  
Dickinson Narrows  
Franklin Bridge North  
Delaware River City Corporation

**7/14 Action: The Board voted to proceed with the CDAG General Membership title: Friends of the Central Delaware Riverfront**

Thanks to Jim Moss for, once again, functioning as our vote meister.

#### **Finalizing membership outreach / email announcement system**

Goal: Email invite to join the Friends group will be sent out August. Who: People who have signed up at events, expressed interest in riverfront development and / or CDAG, will be invited to become general members. (The committee identified that contact information ought to be captured in a format that can be utilized for membership outreach, as well as other organizational purposes, such as mapping, fundraising etc.)

- Marsha Bacal produced a draft email, which will be updated very shortly.
- Joe Schiavo tested google groups for managing and transferring contact data, working with Matt Ruben.

#### **Next Action: Are you willing?**

CDAG needs you. Please volunteer two hours of your time.

The Membership C

requesting one or two new board members to join us and to help with discrete outreach tasks. Specifically, data entry of contacts need to be entered into Excell format and perhaps helping with entry / correction in the "Friends" google group system. There will other fun membership stuff to work on in 2011 as well.

#### **CDAG Board Members Contact Form**

Only the following board member orgs have submitted a complete contact form: Old Swedes, Society Hill Towers, PROPAC, SHCA, OCCA. If we missed you, please resend your form. Otherwise, kindly send the form this week, or request a new file.

#### **Events**

We all realize that events and outreach at events inspire interest in CDAG membership. Some old and new business in this regard:

Old business: Shall CDAG shall be the main sponsor for a follow up I-95 Archeological event to be held in fall 2011 coinciding with the I-95 work along the riverfront? It is expected that other partners will be invited to be financially support it as well, as last year.

**7/14 Action:** The Board voted to sponsor the proposed follow-up event.

FYI: In the bylaw drafts for both General Membership and the Advisory Committee there shall be annual meetings. The membership committee suggested that perhaps the annual meeting might held in conjunction with the release of the "Progress Report" release event - which will be discussed at this and upcoming board meetings.

A refreshing idea that came up recently is the notion of a boat ride along the Central Delaware specifically for our dedicated Board Members and guests. Mary Stumpf is organizing such excursions for the Washington Avenue Green park group and has offered to provide more details. To be discussed!

**Next Membership Committee meeting: Between July 15- August 10 a membership meeting** will be scheduled to finalize email outreach, follow up tasks (such as annual member meeting, bylaws and membership webpage to be coordinated with Margaret Kalalian), and consider membership outreach at events (Progress Report forum and CDAG sponsored Archeological event - to be discussed). Please consider joining the committee.

### **3. Membership Attendance Report – Joe Schiavo**

Joe reported that as of our meeting of June 9th, there were two second-missed-meetings notifications required: Whitman Council and Pennsylvania Environmental Council.

Otherwise, Board attendance has been good and we have met our quorum requirements at each CDAG Board meeting.

### **4. Finance & Development - Treasurer's Report - Dave Hammond**

There was no change from the previous report submitted:

Opening Balance		\$5,633.38
Invoices Paid:		- 2,074.09
2/24/11 Montgomery McCracken	\$2,009.09	
2/24/11 SMPS Event Registration	\$ 65.00	
Outstanding Liabilities		0.00
Ending Balance		\$3,559.29

## **II. Olde Richmond Civic Association (ORCA) Application Presentation – Phil Stolfus**

Phil Stolfus, ORCA Vice President, joined by Travis Hanmer, ORCA Secretary, and Sharon Morgan, ORCA Treasurer, introduced the CDAG Board to the ORCA organization, its history and background, its membership composition and count, and its involvement and role in the community.

ORCA's specific functions include, but are not limited to: zoning, development advocacy, neighborhood beautification, and community liaison with local Police. ORCA's primary mission was summarized as focused on community quality-of-life issues.

Phil's presentation included a rationale for ORCA's appropriateness as a CDAG constituent organization, pointing out the parallels between CDAG's mission and ORCA's mission and the shared support of the principles of the Civic Vision for the Central Delaware.

The Board thanked the ORCA representatives for their thoughtful and comprehensive presentation. As required by our membership protocol, the Board will vote its disposition on ORCA's CDAG Board membership application at our next regularly-scheduled meeting of August 11<sup>th</sup>.

### **III. Discussion of the Entertainment / Music Venue Proposed for Richmond Street – Steve Weixler**

The particulars of this development proposal were briefly discussed, but it was the process by which this development has been forwarded that is at issue and it serves as an example of a non-transparent, non-public, politically-driven process that undermines the principles of both the Civic Vision and Master Plan, and disenfranchises the vested public of the district.

This development proposal was facilitated by an ordinance sponsored by Councilman DiCicco, rather than the proposal going through the zoning variance process, via the ZBA, which affords the public an appeal process through the courts system.

Also included in our discussion of this topic was consideration of CDAG's role in the process of such development proposals and the appropriate guidelines to inform our process and collaboration with the host community, going forward.

### **IV. Discussion of the Blatstein Building-Wrap Proposal – Steve Weixler**

The proposed building wrap, non-accessory signage, is prohibited use under Zoning Code Section 14-1638, the Central Delaware Riverfront Zoning Overlay. However, the zoning refusal issued by L&I in response to the application did not include reference to 14-1638. This was clearly an oversight on the part of L&I.

Jim Moylan and Tom Otto, both of Pennsport Civic Association, provided background on the subject property, the proposal by the building owner, Bart Blatstein, and Pennsport's expressed position offering no objection to this proposal.

After much discussion it was concluded that CDAG has an obligation to defend the protective regulations of 14-1638, including the prohibition on non-accessory signage, and thus, CDAG will draft a statement of position, and defend our standing before the ZBA relative to this issue. Also, CDAG will make every effort to participate in any future negotiations relative to this proposal.

### **Closing and Next Meeting**

Motion to adjourn. Adjourned: 7:48 PM

**Next regularly-scheduled CDAG Board meeting is scheduled for August 11, 2011, 8:00 AM,**

**at the Society Hill Towers Community Room**

**CDAG Board Member Organizations Roll Call:**

	CDAG Board Member Organizations (N/V = non-voting Board Members)	Representatives Primary & Alternate	Present (X)	Quorum Count
N/V	Dickenson Narrows Civic Assoc.	Kirk Brown (P)	N/V	N/V
1	Fishtown Neighbors Assoc.	Micah Hanson (P)		
	Fishtown Neighbors Assoc.	Matt Karp (A)	X	1
N/V	Franklin Bridge Neighbors North	Dick Tucker (P)	N/V	N/V
2	Neighbors Allied Best Waterfront	Mary Stumpf (P)		
	Neighbors Allied Best Waterfront	Dianne Mayer (A)	X	2
3	New Kensington Development Corp.	Sandy Saltzman (P)	X	3
	New Kensington Development Corp.	Tom Potts (A)	X	-
4	Northern Liberties Neighbors Assoc	Matt Ruben (P)		
	Northern Liberties Neighbors Assoc	Ira Upin	X	4
5	Old City Civic Association	Joe Schiavo (P)	X	5
	Old City Civic Association	Marcus Saitschenko (A)		
6	Court At Old Swedes Homeowners Assoc.	Honey Pertnoy (P)	X	6
	Court At Old Swedes Homeowners Assoc.	Deep Parmat (A)		
7	Pennsport Civic Association	Tom Otto (P)	X	7
	Pennsport Civic Association	Jim Moylan	X	-
8	Port Richmond On Patrol & Civic Assoc.	Laura Lanza (P)	X	8
	Port Richmond On Patrol & Civic Assoc.	Jeremy LeCompte (A)		
9	Queen Village Neighbors Association	Jeff Rush (P)	X	9
	Queen Village Neighbors Association	Richard Wolk (A)		
10	River's Edge Community Association	John Scorsone (P)	X	10
	River's Edge Community Association	Rich Stange (A)		
11	Society Hill Civic Association	Steven Weixler (P)	X	11
	Society Hill Civic Association	Rosanne Loesch (A)		
12	Society Hill Towers Homeowners Assoc.	Marsha Bacal (P)	X	12
	Society Hill Towers Homeowners Assoc.	Jim Moss (A)	X	-
13	Whitman Council	Rich Lazar (P)		
	Whitman Council	(A)		
N/V	Delaware River City Corp.	Paul Lonie (P)	N/V	N/V
14	Penn Future	Bryan Collins (P)	X	13
	Penn Future	Christine Knapp (A)		
15	Pennsylvania Horticultural Society	Amanda Benner (P)		
	Pennsylvania Horticultural Society	Tammy Leigh DeMent (A)		
16	Pennsylvania Environmental Council	Patrick Starr (P)	X	14
	Pennsylvania Environmental Council	Jessica Anderson (A)		
17	South St. Head House Business District	Dave Hammond (P)	X	15

(\* 9 voting Board members required for a meeting quorum)

**Friends and Guests of CDAG Present:**

Phil Stoltzfus, Olde Richmond Civic Association

Travis Hanmer, Olde Richmond Civic Association  
Sharon Morgon, Olde Richmond Civic Association  
Jeff Hornstein  
Debbie King  
Margaret Kalalian  
Mike (last name unknown)