

Central Delaware Advocacy Group (CDAG) Board Minutes
May 12, 2016, 6:00 PM
Society Hill Towers Community Room - Recorded Attendance Attached

I. Call to Order and Approval of Minutes

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:08 p.m. A quorum was present.

Minutes from the April 14, 2016 Board meetings were approved as submitted.

II. Officer Reports

1. Chair's Report – Matt Ruben

626 – 630 N. Delaware Avenue (SW corner Fairmount and Delaware Ave) had been sold to the DeSimone Auto Group. They indicated that they would like to build a mini automobile showroom with apartments on two upper floors. They indicated that there would be no surface parking lot for the cars to be sold. The edifice was never built and they now are using the property as a service lot. This is non-accessory and therefore is not only illegal but also against the Overlay specifications. Councilman Mark Squilla was contacted and he notified Licenses and Inspections. L & I cited DeSimone and the site is now near the end of the a 30-day stop and cease notice and will have 10 days to cease operations. The options for DeSimone is to either stop using the site as a service lot or to ask for a variance.

2. Vice Chair's Report – Joe Schiavo

K4 plan for the Sheet Metal Workers site: Joe drafted and will send a letter to Councilman Squilla addressing the CDAG concerns expressed at our last meeting. This is not a by-right project.

3. Treasurer's Report – Jim Moss

CDAG's current account balance is \$3991.00 There was a review of those organizations who have not contributed and a request for confirmation of the accuracy of the list.

4. Secretary – Nina Zimmer

We have a quorum of 9 members.

III. I-95 Reconstruction: Presentation and Q&A

The PennDOT Consultant team, Elaine Elbich, Chuck Davies, Marion Hull and Kyle Oszeyczik, presented an update on the status of this project. I95, from state line to state line will be/is undergoing major repairs. The project started in 2000 and is halfway completed.

There is an urgent need to address the Cottman Avenue to Vine Street infrastructure. A planning study only (not for design or engineering) for the next project, Race/Vine Street to the Broad Street interchange must be done to establish purpose and need - how will the project fit into the future, into our historical areas, roads, bridges, environment - including alternatives for interchanges and access to all points and trails. This will include the Penns Landing/Southport areas which will undergo construction in the next 10 - 15 years. The plan would fit into a multi-modal system addressing access, freight, safety, events and traditional traffic. The focus areas are Center City (Race to Tasker with interchange ramps), the waterfront, Columbus Boulevard, Walt Whitman interchange and the Navy Yard/stadiums.

The Girard Avenue design impacts sector B. Early in the project, there will be a study on the Chestnut Street cap. For Penns Landing, the design team will address the constraints of being next to a highway, and reducing barriers for access. In addition, there had been a surface light rail system proposed in the

Master Plan that will be addressed by the DVPC. In the Race/Vine to Washington Avenue area ramps may be reconfigured for increased local connectivity and express lanes.

This project will coordinate with the DRWC study and will address longevity for at least 75 years. Environmental studies will be done and meetings will be held with the Planning Commission and the Water Department. There are questions related to the potential use of highway dollars for related spaces and the relationship to the Broad Street line.

The team will be meeting with additional organizations to ask for input on these project plans.

Pennsylvania Horticultural Society Proposed Park: 6th Street North of Race

Tammi Leigh DeMent stated that PHS is leading a project near Franklin Park. About 3 years ago, there were several studies related to the area leading from the end of the Ben Franklin Parkway to the Vine Connector to the Ben Franklin Bridge. Discussions were held about the plaza area with a plan for more green space and the extension of Franklin Square. This included reducing traffic around the plaza and down 6th Street. The suggestion is to revise the traffic flow by creating lanes with a direct route to the Ben Franklin bridge, improve pedestrian access and add special lighting. The concept is to make an urban promenade track around the area with plantings/ramps and ADA access with a social deck. It is hoped to be accomplished within the next 10 years.

IV. Old Business

1. **Two-way Traffic on Spruce Street to Delaware Avenue:** A concern had been expressed that cars are backed up on Front Street and Spruce Street due to a loss of one lane of traffic for turning right on red onto Delaware Avenue. Lorna Katz Lawson reported that there is an ongoing discussion related to having parking only on one side of the street. Additionally, there are discussions re making Dock Street (38th Parallel Way), two ways. Concerns about crosswalks and stop signs should be addressed. The DRWC and Councilman Squilla were notified.
2. A new rendering of the proposal for the Sheet Metal Workers Building site was submitted. CDAG will continue to monitor the project. CDAG re-affirmed that the Master Plan and Central Delaware Overlay, limits height to 244 feet and, at 390 feet, this is not a by-right project.

V. New Business: There was no new business.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:55 pm.

Next regularly scheduled CDAG Board meeting is June 9, 2016

Society Hill Towers Community Room at 6:00 PM

See attendance sheet attached

CDAG Board Member Attendance Record: May 12, 2016

CDAG Board Member Organizations (N/V = non-voting Board Members)	Representatives Primary & Alternate	Pleas e Initial	Quorum Count
Abbotts Square Homeowners Assoc.	Sean Sullivan (P)		NV
Delaware River City Corp.	Tom Branigan (P)		NV
1 Dickinson Square West.	Samantha Safara (2A)		
Dickinson Square West	Jane Winkel (1A)		
2 Fishtown Neighbors Assoc.	Matt Karp (P)		
Fishtown Neighbors Assoc.	Arthur Meckler (1A)		
Fishtown Neighbors Assoc.	Kevin O'Neill (2A)		
Franklin Bridge Neighbors Assoc.	Gary Vernick (P)		N/V
Franklin Bridge Neighbors Assoc.	Ricky Camitta (A)		N/V
3 Neighbors Allied Best Riverfront	Dianne Mayer (P)	DM	
Neighbors Allied Best Riverfront	Kathy De Angelis (1A)		
Neighbors Allied Best Riverfront	Mary Stumpf (2A)		
4 New Kensington Development Corp.	Sandy Salzman (P)		
New Kensington Development Corp.	Andrew Goodman (1A)	AG	
5 Northern Liberties Neighbors Assoc.	Matt Ruben (P)	MR	
6 Old Swedes Court Homeowners	Paul Nutaitis (P)	PN	
Old Swedes Court Homeowners Assoc.	Robert Bevilacqua (A)	RB	
7 Olde Richmond Civic Association	Phil Stolzfus (P)		

	Olde Richmond Civic Association	Julio Nieves (A2)		
	Olde Richmond Civic Association	Tom Potts (A1)		
	Pennsport Civic Association	Tom Otto (P)		NV
	Pennsport Civic Association	Jim Moylan (A1)		NV
	Pennsport Civic Association	Rene Goodwin (A2)		
	Penn Future	(P)		NV
	Penn Future	Christine Knapp (A)		NV
8	Pennsylvania Environmental Council	Patrick Starr (P)		
	Pennsylvania Environmental Council	Tony Spagnoli (A)		
9	Pennsylvania Horticultural Society	Tammy Leigh DeMent (P)	TD	
	Pennsylvania Horticultural Society	Alise Unver (A)		
	Port Richmond on Patrol & Civic Asso	Laura Lanza (P)		NV
	Port Richmond on Patrol & Civic Asso	Jeremy LaCompte (A)		NV
10	Queen Village Neighbors Association	Richard Wolk (P)	RW	
	Queen Village Neighbors Association	Lauren E. Leonard (A)		
11	River's Edge Community Association	John Scorsone (P)		
	River's Edge Community Association	Rich Stange (A)	RS	
12	Society Hill Civic Association	Jim Moss (P)	JM	
	Society Hill Civic Association	Lorna Katz-Lawson (1A)	LKL	
13	Society Hill Towers Homeowners Assoc	Marsha Bacal (P)	MB	

	Society Hill Towers Homeowners Assoc	Herman Baron (A)		
	South St. Head House Business Dist.	Krystal Souvanlasy (A)		NV
	South St. Head House Business Dist.	Mike Harris (P)		NV
14	Waterfront Square Condo Association	Nina Zimmer (P)	NZ	
	Waterfront Square Condo Association	Mike Futryk (1A)	MF	
	Waterfront Square Condo Association	Fred Santilli (2A)	FS	
15	Whitman Council	Rich Lazer (P)		
	Whitman Council	Mark Kaczynski (A)		

Joe Schiavo Vice Chair *Ex- Officio voting member

JS

(8 voting Board members required for a meeting quorum) - 9 present

Guests and friends of CDAG:

Name Organization

Irene McNeil Dockside Residences

Thaddeus L. Fialkowski

Frank Crean Washington Avenue Green (Pennsport)

Susan McAninley Washington Avenue Green (Pennsport)

Marsha Moss Society Hill Towers

Elaine Elbich PennDot 6-0

Chuck Danes PennDot 6-0

Marian Hull Aecom

Kyle Oszeyczik Aecom