

**Old Town Triangle Association  
Monthly Meeting of the Board of Directors,  
November 10, 2009, 7:00 p.m.  
1763 N. North Park Avenue**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING**

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Phil Graff, First Vice-President, chairing in the absence of President, Fern Bomchill Davis.

**Attendance**

**Present:** Chris Beer, Matt Beer, Martha Connolly, Debbie Day, Phil Graff, Alice Huff, Jeff Pines, Emily Rose, Michael Warnick; Administrators: Shirley Baugher, Leslie Wolfe

**Absent:** Fern Bomchill Davis, Dirk Vos

**Approval of Minutes**

There was one correction to the Minutes, on page two under OTTA Membership Survey, the last bulleted item states: *A range plan should be created....*The sentence should read *A long range plan should be created.* The Minutes were then approved as amended.

**Treasurer's Report** *Martha Connolly, Treasurer*

Martha informed Directors that the annual audit of Triangle finances had been completed and that everything was in order. The written report is forthcoming.

There was one budget modification. The figure for maintenance of the Clark/Wisconsin Park was listed as \$4,000. The correct figure is \$5,900. Since the change did not affect the bottom line number, a re-vote was not necessary.

The Profit and Loss report for the month of October was normal. There were no unusual expenses or income amounts.

**Membership** *Michael Warnick, Chairman*

Michael reported that the Triangle's annual Holiday Party will be held on Saturday, December 5 from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. The *Sounds of Sweetness*, under the direction of Jeff Weaver, will perform. Jeff will also lead the group in a sing-along of holiday favorites. There will be special activities for the children and the Triangle will provide refreshments. A special raffle will be held, and the lucky winner will receive a beautiful piece of 2-D fused glass art, a gift of December gallery artist Michelle Rial.

Once again, OTTA will be cooperating with the 18<sup>th</sup> District Police Department to conduct the Holiday Food Drive. Members are asked to bring canned and/or packaged non-perishable food items. CAPS Officers will be on hand to receive contributions and see that they are distributed to local food depositories. Last year, the Triangle contributed more than 50 bags of food to this very worthwhile program.

The 18<sup>th</sup> District also asks our help in supporting the *Warm Hands, Warm Hearts* program. Donations of new gloves, mittens, scarves, hats, and socks are requested for needy seniors in our area. The items can be delivered to the Triangle from November 1 to January 15. CAPS officers will collect and distribute them.

**Historic District/Planning & Zoning Committee** *Jeff Pines, Chairman*

The Landmarks Commission has solicited input from Triangle residents regarding a dormer policy for the neighborhood. For several years, requests for dormers have been made by owners rehabbing their properties. In the past, the rule has been that no changes visible from the street could be made to the facades of buildings in the Triangle. In almost all cases, a dormer is visible from the street; the one exception being a dormer placement on an addition that is lower than the original structure. It would seem that the Commission is rethinking this policy and is seeking community input prior to the December Permit Review hearing. A homeowner has requested a dormer addition in order to create a bedroom in a rear addition to the existing home. The owner is not presenting plans to the Historic District Committee. Landmarks staff will tour the neighborhood to look at houses with dormers and will use what they find to assist in making their decision, along with HD/PZ members' comments.

**Neighborhood Improvements** *Phil Graff*

Phil reported that the new garbage cans discussed in our previous meeting have been ordered and will be placed in the allocated spots before Thanksgiving.

He also mentioned that there has been a great deal of interest in the proposed brick program. About six neighbors have inquired about the program, and at least one has already begun installation.

**CAPS** *Shirley Baugher, Liaison*

The main issue before the CAPS Committee has been the squatter situation at 1739 N. North Park. The issue has now been resolved. The judge in Building Court issued an order to vacate to U. S. Bank which became effective November 5. The judge in Foreclosure Court issued a right of possession order to the attorney for U. S. Bank, effectively evicting the squatter. The house is now boarded up and is in the hands of a realtor to be sold.

**Gallery Committee** *Emily Rose, Leslie Wolfe, Co-Chairs*

Leslie called Directors' attention to the current gallery show, *land and sea*, an exhibition of water colors and pastels from students in the Old Town Art School. The formal opening, held on November 8, was attended by a very large crowd of friends and neighbors. Many of the works were sold.

Emily reported that jurors met to view submissions from artists wishing to exhibit in the gallery for the year 2010. Ten individuals/groups were selected to mount a one-month showing of their works.

The Board approved an application for financial aid submitted by an art student hoping to continue his class participation.

**43<sup>rd</sup> Ward**                      *Debbie Day*

Debbie urged Directors to speak as a group to the Alderman's office in order to maximize their influence and focus attention on their concerns.

She also stressed that the Board monitor progress on the LaSalle School expansion program to assure that they adhere to the plans presented at the last meeting, namely that the addition be used for educational purposes and that no portion of the playground be given over to outside parking.

**Nominating Committee**        *Emily Rose, Chairman*

Emily reported that the committee had met and nominated four persons to fill positions that would become vacant in 2010: Jacqui Thams and Sue Apey as Directors; John Knoche as Treasurer; and Chris Beer as Secretary. Anyone else wishing to be slated must submit a written petition to the Secretary signed by ten percent of the voting membership no later than December 10, 2009.

**Vice-President's Report**                      *Phil Graff*

Phil indicated that he was meeting with a group of people to discuss benefits of membership in the OTTA. He will report on their ideas at the next Board meeting.

**Long-Range Planning Committee**    *Emily Rose, Chairman*

Emily said that a group has been selected to serve on the Long-Range Planning Committee. She explained that two members of the group represent the Board and the others constitute a cross section of neighbors, some of whom have been involved in the Triangle; and others who have not.

**New Business**

It was agreed that web site information about the Triangle, other than ongoing activities, would be updated quarterly.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:45.