

**Old Town Triangle Association
Monthly Meeting of the Board of Directors
April 13, 2010, 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, 1st Vice President.

Attendance

Present: Directors Sue Apey, Chris Beer, Phil Graff, Alice Huff, John Knoche, Jeff Pines, Dirk Vos; **Administrators** Shirley Baugher and Leslie Wolfe

Absent: Debbie Day, Fern Bomchill Davis, Jacqui Thams

Approval of Minutes

The Minutes were approved as submitted

Treasurer's Report John Knoche

John reported and Triangle expenses and revenues for the month of March were normal. There was a discussion on how monies for the Art Fair are received from ZAP, and Leslie explained that booth and application fees are received in one check. She keeps a breakdown of which artists paid in each category.

Committee Reports

Art Fair—Chris Beer, General Chair

- Chris reported that the “Friends of the Fair” campaign was very successful. To date, \$10,425 has been received. We will continue to collect contributions. Names of contributors received before the printed program is completed will be listed.
- She noted that the posters would be ready by the first week in May
- The Art Fair web site has been updated and new links entered, including those to sponsors, Friends of the Fair, and artists’ images
- She will set up Emma to send out Art Fair e-mails, and will enter a schedule of when the messages should be sent

Neighborhood Improvements—Dirk Vos, Chairman

The Neighborhood Improvements Committee has been busy with a number of projects, including:

- Spring Clean-up May 8—Chair of the event, Alex Shibicky, and his committee distributed flyers all over the neighborhood; and he involved many individuals and organizations in the activity.
- Dirk met with Alderman Vi Daley re: the little Eugenie Triangle Park. Since the Department of Transportation is about to undertake a major project on LaSalle

Drive, they might include the Triangle Park in that program. The work would include adding a shelter, working on the grounds, and replacing dead plantings with new ones.

- The Committee supervised repairing the fence around the children's playlot and trimming the trees around Ogden Park.
- Members were responsible for having the trees on Wisconsin edged and mulched. The Care of Trees donated the mulch.
- The brick program is progressing well, and has received positive response from many neighbors.
- The Committee is planning to hold a number of educational sessions at the Triangle about planting and gardening in the neighborhood.
- They have requested a Neighborhood Improvements booth at the Old Town Art Fair where members of the Committee could publicize their efforts and accomplishments.

Membership Chris Beer, Shirley Baugher, Co-Chairs

Shirley shared information about the upcoming Spring Concert to be held at the Midwest Buddhist Temple on Sunday, April 25. Participating will be choirs from Lincoln Park High School, Abraham Lincoln Elementary School, Franklin Fine Arts Center, and Walter Payton College Prep High School. There will be dramatic readings from Amy Ewaldt, Jeff Weaver, and Phil Wasik. The concert is free, and everyone is invited.

Chris reported that, beginning next year, there will be a nominal admission charge for non-members who attend Triangle Events. Members will be admitted free. If anyone opts to become a member in order to attend the event, they will also receive free admission.

HD/PZ Jeff Pines, Chair

Jeff reported that there has been a great deal of interest in the house on North Park and Willow, which has perhaps already been sold at auction. The status of the property (contributing, non-contributing) is not known, but Jeff will check.

A question was raised about the amount influence the neighborhood has when it comes to allowing new curb cuts. Jeff explained that several agencies weigh in on the decision—including the Landmarks Commission, which deals with the historical usage of the building; the Department of Transportation, which is concerned with the number of parking spaces that would be lost by allowing the curb cut; and the Alderman, who addresses zoning issues. The HD/PZ speaks to how the curb cut would relate to the Secretary of Interior's standards and the desirability of the curb cut from the neighbors' perspective. It should be noted, however, that the HD/PZ can only recommend how those standards should be applied and facilitate the decision of the other agencies.

Gallery Committee Leslie Wolfe, Co-Chair

Leslie pointed out works in the current show by Alexandra Lee. Lee was born in Hong Kong and is a graduate of the School of the Art Institute. She was named a "Chicago Artist to Watch" by the Chicago Artists Coalition (CAC) in 2008. CAC has given Lee studio space for six months to develop her work. Her Old Town Gallery show consisted of digital photos shot in Hong Kong.

Contributions Alice Huff, Sue Apey, Co-Chairs

Alice reported that a number of big requests have come in:

- Lincoln Park High School has requested \$11,500 to purchase much-needed band instruments. (Directors approved \$10,000.)
- Abraham Lincoln Elementary School requested \$10,000 for 12 IMAC desktop computers. (Directors approved this request.)
- Franklin Fine Arts Center requested \$1,500 for office equipment. (The request was approved.)
- Walter Payton College Prep requested \$1,000 for performance apparel. (No action taken.)
- The Lincoln Park Zoo requested funding for its Story Time program for the 2011 season. (No action taken.)

John Knoche recommended a number of changes in contributions procedures for 2011.

1. He suggested that the Board decide ahead of time the amount of money to be allocated and to whom.
2. He said that all requests should come in earlier in order for the Board to make earlier decisions.
3. He recommended that the Board make decisions based on when the proposals were submitted.
4. He suggested a reevaluation of where monies should be allocated.

There was discussion, but no vote was taken on these proposals.

New Business

It was recommended that the May 10 Board meeting be expanded to include a report from the Long Range Planning Committee, which has been meeting for several months. It was agreed that Fern would be contacted about the recommendation, and if it is approved, Emily Rose, who chairs the committee, should be present to make the report.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.