

**Old Town Triangle Association
Monthly Meeting of the Board of Directors
May 11, 2010
1763 N. North Park Avenue**

MINUTES OF THE MEETING (AMENDED)

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Fern Bomchill Davis, President

Attendance

Present

Directors: Sue Apey, Chris Beer Fern Bomchill Davis, Debbie Day, Phil Graff, Alice Huff, John Knoche, Jeff Pines, Jacqui Thams, Dirk Vos

Administrators: Shirley Baugher, Leslie Wolfe

Long Range Planning Committee Members: Ed Freidheim, Hollis Hanover, Beth Halat, Dirk Vos, John Knoche, Emily Rose (Chair)

Approval of Minutes: The Minutes were unanimously approved as submitted.

Treasurer's Report

John Knoche, Treasurer

John reported that as of April 30, 2010, OTTA expenses and revenues were normal. In response to a question regarding the Triangle's expenses, he gave a brief explanation of each, including on what basis art instructors were paid.

Committee Reports

Art Fair *Chris Beer, General Chair.*

- Chris reported that the art fair posters were in and that Board member could take what they wanted.
- She said that the fair ads were up on CTA buses and were attracting attention
- First Sight Party invitations have been mailed and responses have been good. A Pay Pal option for response is available online.
- Volunteers are still needed. Applicants may apply through OTAF.org
- A weekly e-mail campaign announcing First Sight tickets has been instituted
- Participating artists' images are up online
- Whole Foods is once again sponsoring an Art Fair promo party at their Huron Street location on Tuesday June 8 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Neighborhood Improvements

Dirk Vos, Chairman

Dirk reported on the following with respect to Neighborhood Improvements:

- Clean-up Day was very successful, although the number of neighbors participating was down somewhat from last year.
- The Department of Transportation has cleaned up the pocket parks and planters have been filled.

- Three new participants have signed up for the brick program.
- The NI Committee is planning to have a booth in the Art Fair to share its efforts and offerings with fairgoers.

HD/PZ *Jeff Pines, Chairman*

- Jeff noted that the property at North Park and Willow is designated “contributing” by the City, and that, although the National Registry lists the property as being on Willow, the City shows the address as 1739 N. North Park. He mentioned that Director Sue Apey and her husband have purchased the property and will submit their rehab plans to the Committee at their next meeting.
- A presentation was made to the **Committee** on new construction taking place at 1901 N. Lincoln Park West—the former Whitehall Nursing facility.
- Guidelines for the addition of dormers to neighborhood properties have been modified by the Landmarks Commission and incorporate recommendations made by the HD/PZ Committee.

Membership *Chris Beer and Shirley Baugher, Co-Chairs*

- Shirley’s presentations at LaSalle School on the history and architecture of the neighborhood were enthusiastically received by students and teachers alike. Principal Elizabeth Heurtefeu, and parents Paige Ben Dashan and Kathy Telingator came to the Triangle with a letter of appreciation both for the presentations and the generous gift of the Triangle which enabled them to implement the program.
- The Sounds of Music, presented at the Midwest Buddhist Temple and featuring the choirs of four local schools, was a huge success and attracted some 250 parents and neighbors. The accommodations in the Temple’s social hall were excellent and would work well for future dramatic presentations.
- Shirley has been invited by the Chicago Department of Tourism to make a presentation about the Old Town neighborhood at the Cultural Center on June 22. The program will be conducted as an interview with Tribune reported Mark Bazer. The City will issue press releases and online information publicizing the event.

43rd Ward *Debbie Day*

The mosaic under the Fullerton Avenue Bridge is progressing and promises to be a beautiful addition to the City’s art scene.

Contributions *Alice Huff, Sue Apey, Co-Chairs*

Checks for \$10,000 each have been sent to LaSalle Language Academy, Lincoln Elementary School, and Lincoln Park High School. Information regarding scholarship nominees should be forthcoming from Lincoln Park High School soon. These checks, in the amount of \$2,500 each have not yet been cut. At this point, all funds available through Contributions have been **allocated**.

Gallery

Jacqui Thams, Leslie Wolfe, Co-Chairs

- Leslie noted that the current show is the work of seven local printmakers and has been very successful. A number of pieces have been sold. The next show will be the annual Student/Faculty exhibition and will be up for the month of June.
- Jacqui suggested that new Gallery Committee members might be added with the requirement that all members attend at least one opening. These might be assigned once the Committee is in place.

Long Range Planning Committee *Emily Rose, Chair with Hollis Hanover, Ed Freidheim, Beth Halat, Dirk Vos, and John Knoche.*

The group made recommendations for reorganization of the present committee structure, with an explanation of where we are now and thoughts for moving forward. The following are a few of their suggestions:

- The Mission Statement should reflect how the organization serves the community, the objectives of the OTTA, and outcomes of those objectives.
- There would be little change in the functioning of the Art Fair Committee, the HD/PZ and Neighborhood Improvement Committees.
- The Membership Committee would have two components: one focusing on increasing the numbers of the Association, and data gathering and entry; the other on neighborhood activities involving social interaction and special events.
- There were many suggestions regarding the communications component of Triangle activities that involved possible changes in newsletter distribution and increased online information dissemination.
- Some changes were proposed for distribution of monies through the Contributions Committee.
- A number of new committees were proposed and discussed.

All recommendations were offered to the OTTA Board for review and feedback. This feedback will be discussed at the July Board meeting. After studying the feedback offered by Directors, the LRPC will come up with a revised document and make a final presentation to the Board.

The general meeting was concluded at 9:00 p.m., at which time the Board went into executive session.