



Old Town Triangle Association Board Meeting Minutes

Date & Time: Tuesday, December 11, 2012 7:00 P.M.
Location: 1763 N. North Park Avenue—OTTA North Room

The December 11, 2012 regular meeting of the OTTA Board of Directors was called to order by President Vi Daley, at 7:05 P.M. A Quorum was present.

Directors Present: Vi Daley, Jeff Smith, Karen Pfendler, Claire Leaman, David Pfendler, Rick Hyer, John Knoche, Lance Hornaday, Robert Gibbs

Directors Absent: Kim Hitchcock, Alan Lougee

Others Present: Leslie Wolfe, Phil Graff

1: Approval of Minutes: Secretary Karen Pfendler moved to approve the 11-12-12 Board minutes as redacted from her notes, a complete audio file of the meeting, and Board member corrections—Director Lance Hornaday 2nded--- approved.

2: Treasurer’s Report: Treasurer Leaman distributed a *Profit & Loss Budget Performance* spreadsheet for November, 2012 and asked A & O Director Leslie Wolfe to go over the specific details of the spreadsheet. She identified the specific items included in each sub category leading to the entries seen on the spreadsheet: **Income: \$7,537.96; Expenses: \$24,190.09; Net Income: -\$16,652.13.** The *Year-to-Date Totals* through November, 2012 are: **Total Income: \$33,335.76; Total Expenses: \$75,609.40; Total Net Income: -\$42,273.64.**

Treasurer Leaman also reported that the fiscal audit has been completed as has the IRS Tax Return. Both are due by Saturday, December 15, 2012 which we are on track to be able to submit. A & O Director L. Wolfe reported that the Boy Scouts have opened their own checking account & will be responsible for taking care of their own expenses through this account.

	<u>Nov 12</u>	<u>Aug - Nov 12</u>	<u>Annual Budget</u>
Ordinary Income/Expense			
Income			
001 · Association Revenue	1,500.94	3,255.62	9,400.00
019 · Program Revenue	756.94	23,679.62	60,300.00
250 · Fund Raising Events	0.00	580.00	37,125.00
330 · Art Fair Revenues (Art Fair Master Account)	<u>5,280.08</u>	<u>5,820.52</u>	<u>364,922.00</u>
Total Income	<u>7,537.96</u>	<u>33,335.76</u>	<u>471,747.00</u>
Gross Profit	7,537.96	33,335.76	471,747.00

Expense			
060 · Association Expenses	6,048.28	32,689.49	91,250.00
050 · Occupancy Expenses	1,797.52	7,028.88	43,800.00
040 · Program Expenses	9,246.19	19,901.50	77,450.00
230 · Neighborhood Improvements	3,223.66	6,543.43	50,850.00
270 · Fund Raising Event Expenses	0.00	2,398.00	24,325.00
300 · Art Fair Expenses	1,018.00	1,548.10	117,950.00
090 · Contributions Expenses (Grants given)	<u>2,856.44</u>	<u>5,500.00</u>	<u>82,000.00</u>
Total Expense	<u>24,190.09</u>	<u>75,609.40</u>	<u>487,625.00</u>
Net Ordinary Income	<u>-16,652.13</u>	<u>-42,273.64</u>	<u>-15,878.00</u>
Net Income	<u><u>-16,652.13</u></u>	<u><u>-42,273.64</u></u>	<u><u>-15,878.00</u></u>

3: Committee Reports:

- **Art Fair:** Chair John Knoche reported that they are very close to a final agreement with Stefani's. We were asking for a \$45,000 buy in from them which they have tentatively agreed to. The areas covered under the 3 year contract, which Chairman Knoche will ask the Board to approve, include: consistent management of all the food and beverage concessions; consistent pricing of the food thru-out the fair; consistent signage being displayed thru-out the fair; filling in with better quality food if the need arises to place a concession within the fair to fill an empty space; the sale of specialty beverages will still be in play, but there will be a consistent price for, i.e., the price of a 12 oz. bottle of water thru-out the fair. We will still be involved with Menomonee Club with some of our neighbor concessions such as Adobo Grill or Stanley's but we'll be collecting the money and turning it over to Stefani's. In order to get better food, we are reducing the fees from \$1,750 to \$1,200. Carol's Corn Crib is no longer included in the food vendor group.

We will now be managing the permits, contracts and money for returnees. The committee plans to sit down with Church of the Three Crosses and go over some ground rules for their concession. It might be possible to simply pay them a flat fee for the amount they usually net for their fund raiser and give the space over to Stefani's to use for their food concessions.

The AF Committee is still dealing with the issue of revenue/expense pass through. It has been determined that the gates will close at 6:00 PM. But there may be an event scheduled at 6:00 PM up at the Wisconsin Street area. The exact Footprint/Gates/Wells presence will be determined in January at the next important meeting. This year there will only be 250 artists, not 280. Application deadline for new artists is 12/15/12—"Invited" artists have a bit longer---must indicate consent by 12/15/12 but must pay by March 1, 2013. A very positive meeting was held with Commander Dunn of the 18th District. It was a good meeting---can't close Wells but any signage we want to put up will be okay. Currently there is a PR plan under development in conjunction with the Communications Committee.

- **By-Laws:** No Report

- **Capital Improvements:** Secretary Pfendler reported that several large projects had been completed (with enormous credit given to Don McDougal): installation of new hot water copper piping to lavatories, utility room, and the kitchen; new sink installed in kitchen; new urinals in the men's lavatory; new faucets for all 3 sinks in the front 2 lavatories; radiator valve replacements on all radiators in the north & south rooms. The costs of these upgrades, with the exception of the new kitchen sink, new urinals, and new faucets, were covered by the reserve funds in the Condo Association's budget. Once the invoices for the new items (brought in by Alan Lougee) are submitted, it will be reported to the board what exact costs to the Association were incurred.
- **Communications:** Newsletter continues to be updated and refined with great thanks to Diane Fitzgerald for her tireless work; Diane will make a short presentation at the Annual Members' Meeting to give members some insights into what goes into the production of our Association newsletter. One Board member commented that they found the newsletter print to be a bit small and hard to read. There has been a design update to some of the Emma's being sent out. Currently the committee is working on a plan to present to the Board regarding the redesign of our website. The goal is not to completely reinvent the wheel since we already have a lot of good content on the site. It was suggested that committees revisit their mission statements, etc., to make sure there is accuracy in what committee statements state, define, or reflect on our website.

The committee has an eye on setting up newsletter content as much in advance of the publish date as possible. President Daley asked Board members to think of names of Triangle residents who have been involved in the OTTA for a long time and who would be good candidates to feature as people to get to know in our newsletter as is already being done. The branding process, headed up by Steve Nichols, is still being refined.. The Art Fair publicity plan is almost complete. The goal is to make sure to include all of the 'free' sources/contacts available to us for publication of info about our fair. The calendar has been iced due to lack of resources and time to produce it. The Committee would like to create a 16 month calendar in the future. They need time to collect a year round variety of photos that don't just emanate from a single season.

- **Continuing Education:** Chair K. Pfendler reported that the Gallery Committee met in November and selected the 10 artists that will be exhibiting in 2013. This sub-committee of Continuing Education meets once a year to select the next round of exhibitors. There were 28 submissions—10 selected—7 would be individual exhibitions, 2 were group exhibitions, and 1 was a pair of artists who would share the display. Generally we put out a call for the next grouping of exhibiting artists in August and all submissions need to be in by the end of October.
- **Events/Gallery:** *Anything But Turkey* pot luck dinner was successful. There was not a large turnout, but the food was wonderful and the spirits were bright. If we give greater advance warning next year, we can probably garner larger attendance. We might want to do it a bit earlier than this year since it coincided with the actual Thanksgiving Holiday and an extended vacation weekend wherein many families traveled away from the area. Linda Sarli won first prize, Kim Penning & Stefani Turken tied for second place.
- **Grants:** No report
- **HD/PZ:** Chair Hornaday reported there were no meetings in October or November. On December 18, 2012, there will be 2 submissions/presentations made.

- **Membership:** Chair K. Pfendler reports membership has concluded its tallies for 2012---51 new members---will work with Neighbor Relations to come up with some welcome packets for new joiners. The **iBOT** program has 347 members carrying the **iBOT** card....each new member gets a welcome letter with an **iBOT** key card and an OTTA window decal. Total membership now exceeds 700!
- **Neighborhood Improvements:** Chair Smith reported that thanks to the efforts of Corinne Svoboda we acquired over 3000 Chicago red bricks from Moody's church. We spent \$1500 to transport them to their storage space. The owner of 'A New Leaf' is allowing us to store them in her garage. These bricks will be used in our brick replacement program. We need to check out our tax exempt liability on selling these bricks to the program participants. Most of our committee feels there is no conflict here.

A tree was cut down on Sedgwick Street but immediately replaced by the city with a new Elm tree. We also learned that we have access to a benevolent tree hugger who has already been responsible for the planting of 9 new trees in the triangle.

The rat abatement program has been put on hold due to a city budget/funding problem. There was a final street cleaning done (not scheduled through the city) gratis our ward superintendent. Many residents took this opportunity to thoroughly clean the gutters along the curbs to prevent any winter clogging. Alan Lougee and David Pfendler spent several hours cleaning up LPW in anticipation of the street cleaner/sweeper. Many thanks to them for that effort.

The committee had a lengthy discussion about how dirty much of our triangle area has become. We plan on trying to come up with a program to motivate area property owners to take more of an initiative in helping to keep their areas clean. Observations from many committee members about the buildup of trash in the city trash cans were discussed. Renters are using personal trash cans from many of the private homes for the disposal of their garbage. Someone from the committee will talk with the Alderman's office about the trash buildup with questions about what we can do to diminish it. The trellis on Wisconsin & Clark will be put in place tomorrow (12/12/12).

- **Neighborhood Relations:** Director Hyer reported on a problem with security surrounding packages being delivered by UPS & USPS when leaving them outside on doorsteps. The UPS truck was being followed by a guy on a bicycle who promptly took a package once the UPS truck left it on the stoop. Chairman Hyer suggests we send out a short Emma informing residents of this situation. Once informed, members can decide how they wish to address the problem. Perhaps it's time to send out another reminder about the need to be ever vigilant regarding the safety & security of your home and possessions. Addresses on garages are extremely important. The next CAPS meeting will be Thursday, January 10, 2013 at the Triangle. All 4 beats (11, 12, 13, and 14) will be meeting together at our facility. St. Michaels will no longer host beat meetings.

Chairman Hyer informed the board of what's called the **Chicago Plan**: it allows you to register your security cameras with the CPD as an additional resource for the police. CPD also has a program, **Cleaner Path Project**, which allows one to report concerns anonymously.

- **Archivist:** Director D. Pfendler reports folks are enjoying his Archival displays. He indicates people are asking for more visual displays, so he is working on his next project.

4: Arts & Operations Director's Report: A & O Director Leslie reported that the current show consists of works by the students of Kathy Newman's pastel class. There was a common theme for this exhibition. This instructor is beginning to draw larger numbers of students.

5: Old Business: OTTA will be having a fund raiser event through "Homemade Pizza" on January 9, 2013. Emma's will be sent to members as reminders of this event.

6: New Business: For the Annual Members meeting, we will have a themed dinner---"Taste of the Triangle"---which is being organized by Sheri Kramer, member of the Events Committee, featuring some of our favorite neighborhood eateries. Our menu will consist of foods catered (not donated) by those local restaurants.

President Daley was approached by Allen Mellis (a self-designated Mayor of Lincoln Park) to discuss DePaul's University's desire to close down Kenmore Ave. within their campus area. Mellis is leading the charge against allowing this to happen and he requested that OTTA send a letter supporting his position against this closure. A lengthy discussion ensued. Traditionally, OTTA has been reticent to take a position on matters brought before the board from various entities on various topics unless there is a direct correlation to our organization. We declined to take a position on the proposed Lincoln School addition presentation. Instead, the board felt that, to be fair, we should invite the group opposed to the proposed Lincoln School addition to present to the board.

President Daley feels that there is much merit in local neighborhood organizations supporting requests made of them by other neighborhood groups/associations. The board felt we should let DePaul take care of their street closure issue, and OTTA would contact the group who oppose the plan Laurie Miller's group presented to the board in November in order to offer them an opportunity to present their position to us. The Board would then be better able to render an opinion/position on the Lincoln issue. President Daley will follow up with the Lincoln School project and try to connect up with the opposing group to set up a possible presentation. President Daley will also contact DePaul University regarding their proposed closure.

7: Announcements: A reminder was given regarding the change in date of the Annual Member's Meeting to January, 31, 2013.

8: Adjournment: Secretary K. Pfendler moved to adjourn... 2nded Director D. Pfendler...the board meeting was adjourned @ 9:36 P.M.

These minutes were approved as redacted from the Secretary's notes, a complete audio file of the meeting, and board member corrections on 12/12/13.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Pfendler, Secretary OTTA