

Old Town Chinatown Community Association
Board Minutes
May 13, 2015
11:30 AM – 1:00 PM

Present: Jane Demarco, Tim Desper, Zach Fructengarden, Beth Hansen, Gloria Lee, Dan Lenzen, Jackie Peterson, Evan Ross, Sarah Stevenson, Helen Ying, Chris Handford

Not Present: Jessie Burke and David Hooff

Helen Ying called the meeting to order at 11:30 AM

Treasurer's Report: As of April 30, 2015, the Old Town Chinatown Community Association had a total cash balance of \$42,249.70 and \$6,305.61 in unrestricted funds. \$32,600 in PDC Matching funds had been received.

Chair's Report:

Air B & B has contributed \$1,000 to OTCTCA. It was not solicited as part of the PDC match and thus will be deposited into the General Fund.

Board signature Page completed, except for Chris Handford's signature.

Update on China Gate budget discussions with NWNW and on District Manager Position hiring process and timeline

Land Use Committee:

Tuck Lung Building: Sarah Stevenson announced that a methadone clinic will occupy the second floor of the Tuck Lung Building and that a signed lease was imminent. Zach agreed to contact Tom Carolla for more information.

Multnomah County Building – Contact Doug Oblitz: We revised our letter asking for a good neighbor agreement and asked for a response in writing, which we have not received. Before committing to testifying in MC's behalf at Council, we are seeking a meeting with MC for more discussion.

Mason-Ehrman Building – PDC is downsizing substantially and is talking about looking for other office space where the lease expires in 2017. We would like them to stay in the neighborhood. A letter to that effect will be sent.

Grove Hotel – The developers have closed on the property The Grove Hotel project presentation went well at the Landmarks Commission, Zach reported. The developers will respond to the Landmarks Commission's recommendations later in the summer. The entrance to the hotel will be sited on NW 4th. The tower on the lot behind the current Grove Hotel will be under the 100' height restriction. The Hotel's design will have an Asian influence and there will be an open Penthouse on top. The sole Landmarks Commissioner who might have opposed the project design was not at the meeting.

Broadway Corridor Plan – Zach Fructengarden serves on the selection committee for the Plan's designer. The proposals from four design teams are posted on the BPS website. The project is in an early stage of development.

Business Committee – Evan Ross reported that he and Jessie Burke went to the Venture Portland Annual meeting to investigate whether OTCTCA should seek representation on the Venture Portland Board. Their recommendation is not to join the board but to attend a training session in the fall. Chris Handford reported that the Business Committee is working on metrics about the effect of the weekend street closure on the 14 neighborhood bars. Chris and Evan reported that Commander Day of the Portland Police Bureau has called a city wide meeting of neighborhood business leaders on May 27 to talk about bars and restaurants. Chris Handford will go as OTCTCA’s representative.

Livability – Beth Hansen reported on the Neighborhood Cleanup: 350 bags of trash were collected. Gloria Lee reported on the Tree Inventory and called for volunteers to serve as team leaders. Helen reported on the Tree Care committee, a pilot project started on NW Couch 3rd and 4th Avenues.

Timothy Desper reported that the proposed Right to Dream move to the Southeast Portland seems to be stalled and might not be resolved until the end of the 18 month agreement negotiated by the mayor. Jane Demarco suggested that Andrew Theen of the *Oregonian* might be willing to write another story about Right to Dream and its continuing negative effect on business and development the neighborhood. She agreed to contact him.

Motion to Place the Better Blocks’ 3rd Avenue project under the Livability Committee as a new subcommittee was seconded and passed unanimously.

Art, History and Culture Committee – Jackie Peterson reported that the Committee will meet at its new monthly time on May 27, the fourth Wednesday of the month from 11:30 to 1:00 in the second floor front conference room at 221 NW 2nd Avenue. The May meeting has a full agenda. Lynn Longfellow and Reid Decker are serving as co vice-chairs of the Committee, which now includes representatives from PNCA, OCOM and UO as well as a growing number of non profit museums and other Art, History and Culture organizations in the neighborhood.

Announcements:

The Board retreat to finalize the OTCTCA Strategic Plan is scheduled for May 19 from 4:00-8:00 PM in the Jade Room of the Philanthropy Center, 221 NW 2nd Avenue. Chris Handford will supply supper.

Sarah Stevenson has received a request for support from neighborhood organizations in NE and NW who are opposed to the Pembina Pipeline Corporation terminal project at the Port of Portland. After board discussion, Sarah agreed to write a letter from the Land Use Committee.

Gloria Lee asked that Neighbors Night Out be placed on the June Board Meeting agenda.

The meeting adjourned at 1:00 PM