

Old Town Chinatown Community Association
August 12, 2015 Board Meeting
Minutes

Present: Jane DeMarco, Chris Hanford, Sarah Stevenson, Evan Ross, Dave Hooff, Helen Ying, Tim Desper, Gloria Wong, Jackie Peterson, Jessie Burke, Dan Lenzen, Zach Fructengarden, Beth Hansen

Guests: Mark Seiber, NWNW, Chris Anders, resident

Minutes from the July Board Meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report: As of August 12, we have \$12,790.00 in the General Fund. This amount includes \$518.57 from the Street Clean-Up; \$1,982 designated for Art walk maps; \$649.74 from National Neighbors Night Out; \$2,600 in matching funds; and \$7,040.19 in unrestricted funds. In addition, \$30,000 collected in donated funds for the District Manager position has been transferred to PDC.

Old Business:

District Manager Report- Jane DeMarco

Rain was selected unanimously, save one vote, by the District Manager selection committee. Before publicly reporting the selection, PDC wants agreement from Rain that they will produce the deliverables spelled out in the District Manager RFP and to do so within the \$60,000 budget. Pending this agreement and the drafting of a contract, the other applicants for the District Manager position will not be notified that a choice has been made. NWNW is working with PDC on the contract with Rain, and will ask for the agreement from Rain to be delivered within the next week and to be circulated to the board. Jane DeMarco will be the point person. Once the contract with a District Manager is signed, Jane DeMarco and David Houff will be the overseers of the work.

David Hooff suggested that the board, rather than NWNW, is in the best position to oversee the District Manager's work, and that the need for a manager working directly with and for the Board could best be resolved by forming a 501c3 corporation. Gloria Lee proposed that we let Rain get started and set reviews of their work at 90 days and six months. The discussion about a 501c3 was deferred to a future meeting. The goal is sustainability, and the hiring of a District Manager is a first step. The first action once a contract has been signed will be a press release announcing the hiring of the District Manager.

China Gate Restoration Report – Gloria Lee for the Art, History and Culture Committee

Gloria Lee, the volunteer project manager for Gate Restoration is working directly with PDC, PBOT and Peter Meijer to complete a contract for the work.. No general contractor will be needed since the work is primarily restoration and conservation. The budget is \$53,000. \$46,900 has been allocated to Phase I: Assessment and Conservation of the Lions and the Gate. \$6,900 has been allocated to Phase II: Maintenance to pay Heritage Conservation \$1000/year as part of a three year contract. The OTCTCA with the help of organizations such as the CCBA will be required to assume the responsibility for annual maintenance.

Completion of the work is expected by spring, 2016. No scaffolds will be needed and Bob Naito will build boxes to protect the Lions during the Gate's restoration. Blueprints for the Gate provided by Rebecca Liu include the original paint colors and an electrical plan.[No one at PBOT knew that the Gate was electrified!]

Art Walk Map and Art, History and Culture Map Production – Gloria and Jackie

The Art Walk Map is due to be reprinted and there are funds in the OTCTCA account for that purpose. The map's original intent was to link the Last Thursday event in Old Town/Chinatown and The Pearl. In reprinting this map, the Art, History and Culture committee will open a discussion with the Pearl Neighborhood Association about a collaboration. At the same time, the educational map of neighborhood museums and cultural and historical sites, with the bronze plaques on its cover, is also due for an updating and reprinting which Reid Decker of Saturday Market will manage. The Art, History and Culture Committee will oversee both projects to completion in the next several months.

Annual Neighborhood Forum – Helen Ying

October 7, 2015 has been set for the second annual Neighborhood Forum. The General Meeting for October, 2015 is cancelled.

New Business:

Street Closures Requested by the Film and TV industries – Helen, Zach and Evan

While the city generates considerable revenue from the film industry, the frequent street closures in Old Town/Chinatown – a favorite location of the TV series *Grimm* – have a negative financial impact on businesses and residents, particularly those living and working between Naito Parkway and NW 3rd Avenue. A discussion about how to recoup some of these losses from the film companies for both the OTCTCA and individual property and business owners was deferred to a future board meeting.

Business Committee Report and Homeless Task Force – Jessie Burke

Jessie and Evan are the point persons from the OTCTCA on a new task force which seeks to address the issue of lawless behavior on the city streets, especially in Old Town Chinatown. The approach of the task force is to distinguish between homeless citizens who find themselves on the street due to hard times and/or addiction and mental health issues, and traveling gangs who now roam and camp on the waterfront and city streets, engaging in lawless behavior. The task force, which is gathering complaints and reports of lawless behavior from traveling gangs throughout the central city, is asking residents and workers to report the behavior to the police and to sign up to testify before City Council. The task force emphasizes that increased housing and addiction services are essential components of any longer term solution to the citizen homeless problem, but that an immediate response to lawless behavior by homeless gangs is warranted. Public testimony is being sought for upcoming Wednesday afternoon council sessions. Five individuals are needed per week. Contact Jessie or Even to sign up.

National Neighbors Night Out – Beth Hansen

Beth reported on a highly successful National Neighbors Night Out event organized by the Livability Committee. 128 residents and workers from the neighborhood turned out, including many from apartment complexes which had not been represented before. Reid Decker of Saturday Market was responsible for the event poster and the musical entertainment.

The meeting adjourned at 1:00 P.M.