

**OLD TOWN CHINATOWN COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION**  
Board Meeting, March 8, 2016

**MINUTES**

Present: Sarah Stevenson, Zach Fructengarden, David Hooff, Beth Hanson, Gloria Lee, Jane DeMarco, Helen Ying, Jackie Peterson-Loomis, Tim Desper

Absent: Jessie Burke, Dan Lenzen, Evan Ross

Helen Ying Opened the Meeting at 11:35 AM

**Minutes:**

Minutes from the February, 2016 meeting were approved unanimously

**Treasurer's Report:** David Houff

As of February 29, 2016, OTCTCA's total checking balance was \$12,236.20, comprising 5,795.31 in restricted funds and \$6,440.69 in unrestricted funds. There was a total of \$17,437.50 in the District Management Fund (at NWNW).

**Chair's Announcements:** Helen Ying

Helen reported on the first General Meeting to be held in the evening. It was very well attended by neighborhood residents who expressed gratitude for the opportunity to express their interests and concerns about the neighborhood. Mayoral candidate, Jules Bailey, was the featured speaker. Mayoral candidate Ted Wheeler will be present at the day April general meeting, which is also the annual Board election.

**Livability Committee**

Board Discussion about Public Safety and Homelessness in the Neighborhood

**Gloria:** Is private security a current point of discussion?

**Zach:** Yes, a conversation has begun among a mix of property owners and business owners who are already paying for security. The issue is whether as a group they could leverage better security. We need a poll of who pays for what. We would like to see records from Clean and Safe of calls to them reporting safety issues. We also would like to see a record of calls are being received by the Mayor's One Point of Contact, now a single number. In other words, for enhanced safety, we need numbers and a study of calls and response.

**Gloria:** What is the synchrony between the needs and security systems in place for patrons of businesses (such as the entertainment industry) and institutions?

**Sarah:** We need the foot patrol reinstated.

**Jackie:** We need to address this and other safety remedies in terms of what was promised in the Five Year Plan.

**Zach:** At the end of the day, let's make sure that we can track the numbers, that we have hard statistics at hand. We have a high threshold of tolerance of things which other neighborhoods would not stand for. We are a diverse neighborhood which includes elements who don't meet acceptable norms and stats will help us get the help we need to provide safety and security for all.

**Gloria:** A District Manager could bring volunteers together to contact property owners and residents to tell them who to call and what to do when faced with a security or public safety issue. We need Clean and Safe to count and record their calls.

**Jane:** We should ask for a real count among NWNW member neighborhoods with similar issues. We also need real numbers from the Mayor's Office. It is not OK to say that no one wants to work for the Portland Police. It's time for a call to action. Clean and Safe's numbers need to go directly to the Police and the Mayor's office.

**Sarah:** The day storage facility under the Steel Bridge is now open. Central City Concern is its manager.

**Helen: List of Proposed Action Items:**

- 1) Send out contact numbers for both Clean and Safe and One Point of Contact to all neighborhood stakeholders
- 2) Work with Clean and Safe to get their data to the Police
- 3) Have RAIN add a Page for Safety and Security on the OTCTCA website
- 4) Set up a closed group communication system on Google. Other Neighborhoods have such groups for reporting incidents
- 5) The intranet system being developed by RAIN. Who will monitor it?
- 6) Get something in writing from the Mayor's office about One Point of Contact. We know that there is not an immediate response to calls received. The office determines whether a spot is "hot."

**Jane:** The bigger issue is working with those paying for security to see if within this void of safety services we can get more security and safety on the street. Let's push the City to hire private contractors now to supplement what we (don't) have.

## **Art, History and Culture Committee Report**

**Gloria:** Update on the China Gate Restoration Project funded by a PDC Livability grant. The team under the direction of Peter Meijer Architects has received condition reports and has spent \$10,000 on the workplan. The marble base can be replaced, the paint can be removed from the bronze lions, and the steel framings of the Gate appear stable. The unforeseen problem is the poor condition of nearly all the clay tiles. The cost of tile replacement is beyond the scope of the current grant and will necessitate a second request to complete the work. The good news is that the tiles do not contain specific design motifs and replacements can be obtained in the US and Japan as well as in Taiwan or China. An 11 page report will be sent out shortly.

Gloria Lee reported that that work on the China Gate begins February 10, today.

**Helen:** Report on the second Livability grant for the repair of the Chinatown, Japantown, and Skidmore painted lamppost and the creation of new banners. PBOT looked at 150 lampposts on NW 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> and found that not many need repair. Anastasia and Raymond Cheng are on the project committee. RAIN is working on the 4 Logos for the neighborhood and will check in with the committee and the Board in April about banner designs.

**Gloria:** Update on the QingMing kite making and storytelling and writing event, in collaboration with Write Around Portland, on the Davis Festival Street on April 3. The forecast for rain may necessitate bringing the kite making activity into the Kida Building owned by Louis Lee.

## **Finance Committee**

**Helen:** A proposal for a gas tax to “Fix Our Streets” was presented to the March General Meeting.

### **MOTION**

Helen moved that the OTCTCA Board support the 10 cents/gallon gas tax to pay for Street improvements. Jane Demarco seconded the motion.

Discussion: Dave Hooff and Jane Demarco, member of the Finance committee spoke in support of the motion. The vote was 3 ayes, 2 nays, and four abstentions.

The Motion did not pass.

**General Announcements:** Reminder of the April General Meeting Board Elections.

Helen adjourned the Meeting at 1:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jacqueline Peterson-Loomis, Board Secretary