



**Minutes of Board Meeting, May 26, 2015 at 6:30 PM
Benjamin Franklin Institute of Technology, Room U 202A**

Board Members Present: John Alekna, John Chambers, Dave Crowley, Tony Gordon, Betsy Hall, Michael Hall, John Herbert, Elsa Hill, Barbara Hoffman, Ha Orbon, Regina Pyle, Toby Rodman, Marie Schappert, Ellen Sheets, Jane Siegel, Carol Trust, Mike Worhach.

Board Members Notified Absent: Patty Brennan, Paul Duffy, Bill Gregor, and Ed McLean.

Board Members Absent: Gordon Holmes, Ken Tutunjian

Guests: Stacy Koepfel, Executive Assistant.

Regina Pyle, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:30.

March Minutes: The March minutes were unanimously approved.

Executive Assistant Report:

Fundraiser: The budget for the fundraiser was passed out. We need to sell more tickets, but we are well ahead in obtaining business sponsors. We have excellent auction items.

Membership: Membership renewals will go out electronically after the fundraiser and will be followed up if necessary. Stacy is trying to keep a database of residents who are not (yet) members. A membership meeting is scheduled for Thursday and will work on a calendar. There will be a focus on Casenove and St. Charles streets.

Website: The website is up and running and we are getting many hits. We were not able to track hits on the old website.

Treasurer's report: Financial reports for the past three years were distributed on one page, as requested. Although this year's numbers show a loss, we have not included the income from the fundraiser and are in very strong financial condition. Our largest expense in the executive assistant. Elsa reiterated she wanted a five-year report. Mike Worhach stated we set our sights too low for the fundraiser. A motion was made and carried that the treasurer would provide a five-year report of trending actuals and the current year projected and actual figures.

Dave Crowley recalled that past years' all volunteer fundraisers had burned everyone out. Elsa suggested hiring a bookkeeper to help the treasurer. The Board turned down a suggestion to increase the fundraiser ticket price. Barbara suggested a Casino Night. The committee will consider scheduling the fundraiser for a time other than June.

Tony raised the issue of what kind of an organization we want to be and what we want to do with our money. The Chair was willing to put these questions on the agenda for the September meeting. John Alekna, Mike Worhach, Elsa Hill, John Herbert, and Tony Gordon volunteered to schedule a planning meeting and present a strategy to the Executive Committee. Mike Worhach was concerned about the rate of membership within the community.

Committees: A motion to change the name of the Social Service Partnership Committee to the Community Outreach Committee was made and carried. The Chair stated that committees were less effective because of lack of reporting and lack of communication between the committee Chairs and the EC and between Chairs. It was proposed that each vice president oversee three committees. John Alekna will oversee the Development, Licensing, and Zoning (DLZ), Communications, and Neighborhood Services committees. John Chambers will oversee Events, Community Outreach, and Membership. Chairs will be invited to attend EC meetings and EC members may attend monthly committee meetings. Committee Chairs are encouraged to recruit members outside the Board. An email will be sent to the membership to join committees. It was recommended that when committees are fully formed they meet with their vice president and decide the Chair. Tony was concerned that the Nominating Committee should not wait till December. By bylaws the Nominating Committee must be formed within 90 days of the new year.

Boston Ballet: Toby reported about negotiations with the Boston Ballet over concerns about double parking and the potential safety of children. Toby had met with the executive director, administrative director of the school, and the community relations manager/administrative liaison in December 2014 about solutions for the problem (a dedicated 15 minute parking space for drop off and pick up or a police detail) and agreed to reconvene in March, but despite repeated emails and phone calls Toby had not heard back from them. Barbara suggested involving D4 Sgt. Taxter or the Mayor's liaison Jordan Deasy. Other suggestions were to go to the press, but we agreed to give the Ballet warning before such measures. It was also suggested that we go on record noting the problem.

New Business: It was agreed to schedule both July and August meetings.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jane Siegel, Clerk