



Ellis Board of Directors Open Meeting September 29, 2015 Ben Franklin Institute of Technology

Regina Pyle called the meeting to order at 6:35.

Directors Present: Betsy Hall, Regina Pyle, John Alekna, John Chambers, Michael Hall, Jane Siegel, Patty Brennan, Gretchen Chauncey, Dave Crowley, Leo Delaney, Tony Gordon, Bill Gregor, John Herbert, Barbara Hoffman, Gordon Holmes, Yvonne Lee, Ed MacLean, Toby Rodman, Marie Schappert, Carol Trust, Mike Worhach.

Directors Excused: Paul Duffy, Ellen Sheets, Kim Schultz.

Directors Absent: Ken Tutunjian

Guests: Stacy Koepfel, Executive Assistant, Sarah Woolverton from Peters Park, and Alphonse Litz and Ayanna from Boston Explorers.

Sarah reported Peters Park has a \$100,000 capital campaign and is planning a \$60-65,000 renovation. The city has contributed \$15,000. Tony suggested soliciting donations from developers in the area.

Alphonse and Ayanna recapped highlights of the Explorer's summer

August minutes were approved as amended.

Treasurer's report: The budget for the upcoming fiscal year was accepted unanimously. The EC had decided to increase Stacy's hours, rather than her salary for fiscal reasons. It was noted that the budget depended on increased fundraising revenue. We will need a new treasurer next year. Stacy can help with record keeping. The question of hiring an assistant was raised. Regarding the annual financial review, Michael has met with John Alekna, and will meet with Gordon Holmes and a third member for financial review.

Executive Assistant Report: Stacy reported on membership renewals. The new member party has been cancelled. She suggested quarterly membership events, such as a civic forum or various speakers.

Committee Reports: DLZ: Tony has drafted a formal letter for responding to inquiries that will be posted on the website. Tony attended a Stuart Street meeting and is on the IAG for a proposed 26-story Hancock building. There will be public hearings on the previous Stuart Street study. The Red Lantern has applied for an extension license, which does not appear to be a problem. The DLZ wrote a letter of opposition to the BRA proposed Urban Renewal plan extension. There has been considerable support from other neighborhood associations and groups. A complaint of loitering at 40 Berkeley was satisfied by a letter from the management company.

Events: The yard sale netted \$1100. Stacy has surveyed the sellers. There will be cooking classes at Sur La Table on October 29 and January 14 at a special price of \$100 per person.

Neighborhood Services: The date of the Fall Cleanup has not yet been confirmed. Committee members will follow up if 311 complaints have not been resolved. Ellis donated money for tree pits on the BCA plaza. There is a question whether we should have plaques. There was discussion about holiday wreaths.

Wine Committee: A wine tasting is scheduled for September 30. There will be a serious tasting of South African wines in November or December.

Nominating Committee: The committee will consist of Ellen Sheets (as chair), John Chambers, Dave Crowley, Ha Orbon, and Carol Trust. We are awaiting word as to whether Rebecca Roth Gullo will also agree to serve on the committee. We are looking for diversity and skill sets.

Young Professionals: Mike has identified a group of 25-39 year old professionals. The Board approved a budget of up to \$1,000 for events.

Ellis (formerly Ellis Memorial): Leo discussed the Ellis strategic plan for expansion and renovation. They hope to begin construction in March and will have a community meeting when they have a construction plan.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05.
A short "social hour" followed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jane Siegel, Clerk