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**General Membership Meeting Minutes  
Monday, April 13, 2015  
1400 Buena Vista, 7:00 p.m.**

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**In Attendance (48)**

John Augustine, John Bornyas, Patricia Buck, John Canning, David Charlton, Laurie Charlton, Nathan Darity, Bethany Davidson, Patrick Dexter, Sylvia Duarte, Adel Fournies, Lisa Freeman, Joan Gielas, Donna Green, Jerrold Green, Cody Harding, Tom Hardy, Darlene Harris, Kelson Hedderich, Rebecca Hudock, Regina Humphries, Paul Johnson, Tim Johnson, Kate Kay, Deena Kelly, Sandy Kniess, Bill Kosegi, Susan Larkin, Gregory Mucha, Katie Pierson, Henry Reese, Andrew Reichert, Shannon Reichert, Vincent Salvino, Robert Sechler, Sheila Sechler, Kyle Smith, David Solosko, Adam Stokes, Samuel Su, Patrick Sweeney, Tyler Verin, Leslie Ward, Sharon Watkins, Tom Westfall, Andrew Wickesberg, Matthew Williamson, Randy Zotter.

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**Introduction**

The regular monthly meeting for the membership of the Allegheny City Central Association was held on Monday, April 13, 2015, at 7:00 p.m. at 1400 Buena Vista Street. President Andrew Wickesberg chaired. Vice President Deena Kelly recorded the minutes.

Minutes from the 03/9/15 meeting were approved.

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**Announcements**

- Tyler Verin from Councilman Daniel Lavelle's office introduced himself.
- Councilwoman Darlene Harris spoke about her proposed dog legislation, street trees, pending legislation regarding closing streets for construction, and the Ohio Street bridge.
- Sharnay Hearn, the Community Affairs Liaison with Mayor Peduto's office, spoke about the City's commitment to adopt a complete street policy that encompasses pedestrians, bikes and cars to provide safety for all on the roads.

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**Treasurer's Report**

Tom Hardy presented the year to date finances.

- \$53,000 in Revenue
- \$69,924 in Expenses

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**City of Asylum**

Henry Reese presented an update on City of Asylum.

- The mission has changed.

- The original mission was an asylum for exiled artists.
- The mission has developed into an organic consequence.
- The 2015 Jazz Poetry Concert will be on September 12. It will be free to attend.
- 207 artists from 57 countries.
- Digital Sanctuaries app

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## Pittsburgh Community Reinvestment Group / Conservatorship

Bethany Davidson, the Neighborhood Policy Director from PCRG presented about using Pennsylvania's Conservatorship process to readdress blighted properties.

- The conservatorship act became state law in 2008.
- Allows for the conversion of blighted and deteriorated properties back to re-use through the courts.
- Specific to a piece of property.
- Municipalities, the ACCA, the MWSS, or a neighbor within 2000 feet of a property can participate.
- Several properties currently in the process in Pittsburgh.
- Preserving structures is at the core of conservatorship.
- Sometimes restoration is possible, sometimes buildings must be torn down.
- You can restore and sell, rent or live in the property.

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## Development

Tom Hardy reported on development topics.

- Great House Sale II
  - Recycle tax delinquent properties
  - Properties on Carrington, Jefferson and Armandale.
  - PCRG is helping homeowners repair and restore.
  - Central Northside is a targeted area for their help.
- Garden Theater Block
  - Bill Gatti of TREK Development will be a next month's General Membership meeting.

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## Board Elections

- Vince Salvino was nominated and accepted the nomination.
- Bios for all nominees will be posted on the website.
- Nominations were closed.

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## Dollar Tree

Andrew Wickesberg reported.

- Dollar Tree has purchased the former Family Dollar property at 1516 Brighton Road.
- They wish to expand the size of their illuminated sign.
- They haven't engaged the community.

John Canning moved:

*To oppose the process until more information is known.*



ALL TOGETHER. DIFFERENT.

The motion passed.

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## **AGH Partnership**

Andrew Wickesberg reported.

- Deb Caplan has retired from AGH.
- NSLC will meet about five different topics of concern including parking lots.

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## **Children's Table**

Lisa Ferguson of Fabled Table spoke about Children's Table

- Partnering with Gwen's Girls, Salvation Army, and North Side Coalition for Fair Housing.
- Children's Table will be on Wednesday and Friday nights from 5-7 in April and May.
- Looking for volunteers to attend sessions to help teach.

Minutes recorded by Deena Kelly, Vice President.

Attendants added on 5/11/15.

Attendants updated on 5/18/15.

Minutes approved on 6/8/15.



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