



General Membership Meeting Minutes
Monday, May 13, 2013
Allegheny Traditional Academy, 7:00 p.m.

In Attendance (33)

Steve Adams, Patricia Buck, Paul Carson, David Charlton, Christopher D'Addario, Patrick Dexter, Joan Gielas, Randy Gilson, Tom Hardy, Arthur James, Paul Johnson, Brian Kaminski, Jennifer Kilgore, Todd Kilgore, Susan Larkin, Joe Mansfield, Randi Marshak, Charles Moore, Jason Owens, Erin Powers, Vincent Salvino, Bob Sechler, Sheila Sechler, David Shlapak, Katie Tarara, Ruth Tomlin, Leslie Ward, Karina Westfall, Thomas Westfall, Andrew Wickesberg, Craig Worl, Al Zanon, Randy Zotter

Introduction

The regular monthly meeting for the membership of the Allegheny City Central Association was held on Monday, Month Day, year, at 7:00 p.m. in the auditorium of Allegheny Traditional Academy. David Shlapak, Treasurer was the chair and Arthur James, Secretary, was present. The minutes of the last regular monthly meeting on 4/8/13, being posted on the web site beforehand, were approved.

Treasurer's Report

The treasurer's report was given by David Shlapak.

Andrew Wickesberg moved:

To approve the treasurer's report.

The motion passed.

URA Residential Façade Grant Program

Josette Fitzgibbons from the Urban Redevelopment Authority reported on their new residential façade grant program.

- The URA applied to the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development for funding for six targeted neighborhoods and was awarded \$200,000.
- The six neighborhoods are Allegheny City Central, the Upper Hill District, Manchester, Polish Hill, Arlington and Garfield.
- Those in the proposed expanded area of the city's Mexican War Streets Historic District are eligible. Those in the current historic district are not eligible.
- The program provides homeowners with a 50% match of their façade costs with a maximum grant of \$5,000.
- Your matching contribution could be anything except services in kind. It could even be a URA loan, or another grant from the MWSS or ACCA.
- The grant is given as a reimbursement.
- Must use licensed contractors for work. Work can't be done by you.
- There is not an allocation of funds per neighborhood. The grants are given on a first come/first serve basis for all neighborhoods.



- There is a \$150 application fee.
- Contact Quianna Wasler for more information (qwasler@ura.org)

Board Elections

Patrick Dexter and Andrew Wickesberg directed the election of board members. Since there were 8 available seats on the board and 8 candidates, the vote was by acclamation. The 8 candidates were:

- Chris D'Addario
- Pam Grove
- Arthur James
- Deena Kelly
- Todd Kilgore
- Vincent Salvino
- Sheila Sechler
- Barbara Talerico

Andrew Wickesberg moved:

To accept the vote by acclamation.

The motion passed.

Historic District Expansion

Randi Marshak reported on the proposed expansion of the city's designated Mexican War Streets Historic District.

- City Council is holding a public hearing on May 28th at 1:00pm in City Council Chambers.
- People are encouraged to write all council members to express their opinion.
- The ACCA will also be launching a façade grant program.

Development

Tom Hardy reported on development topics.

- New Town Homes on Jacksonia Street
 - October Development will build six new homes.
 - October Development plans to close on finances on 6/4.
 - The state required that an archaeological assessment be made before development can begin.
- Great House Sale
 - Current houses for the sale include 400 Jacksonia, 1405 Buena Vista and 108 Carrington.
 - 209 and 253 East Jefferson will be added.
 - Still looking to add more houses.
 - PCRG will facilitate financing for buyers with local banks and the URA.
- Garden Theater Block
 - The URA has financing for the GTB on the agenda for their next board meeting.



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Safety

Steve Adams reported on safety topics.

- Have nearly completed installation of three cameras.
- Have three more possible camera locations identified.
- Pam Grove and Sheila Sechler are leading the effort to plan this year's National Night Out. It will be held on Arch Street this year and a block will be closed off.

Branding Initiative

Randi Marshak reported on the Allegheny City Central branding initiative.

- The ACCA received a \$15,000 grant from The Design Center.
- The ACCA hired Moore Design Associates to develop banners and signs.
- There is a steering committee that consists of various neighborhood stakeholders. The committee has met twice.
- Submitted a letter to Morton Brown, the City's Public Art Director, asking for approval to move forward with banners since the city has a policy regarding over the sidewalk banners. Awaiting his response.
- An RFP for redesigning the CNNC website to use the new ACC and ACCA names will be published shortly.

Northside Leadership Conference

At the 4/24 board meeting, the board voted to not renew the ACCA's membership in the Northside Leadership Conference. A letter was sent on 4/26 to the Executive Director of the NSLC stating that we are withdrawing. This had not been discussed at a general membership meeting before sending the letter. David Shlapak reported on the reasoning behind the board's decision to withdraw from the NSLC.

- Being a member of the NSLC has accomplished very little for us. Many applications for funding were submitted by the ACCA and none was awarded to us.
- It cost ACCA board members and volunteers a lot of time in attending meetings.
- The NSLC had 4 million worth of tax credits slated for the Garden Theater Block project that they did not deliver on. Not only did it short the selected developer on those expected credits, but it delayed the project as the developer had to secure alternative funding.
- The NSLC has had issues with administering the money they have at their disposal.
- The Casino decided not to renew their funding of the NSLC after their three year commitment expired.

Randy Zotter moved:

That the ACCA notify the NSLC that we're rescinding our letter of withdrawal.

The motion passed.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:35

Meeting minutes prepared by Arthur James, Secretary
Minutes approved on 6/10/13



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