

PARK SLOPE CIVIC COUNCIL GENERAL BOARD MEETING

Date: January 8, 2015, 7pm

Location: Brooklyn Conservatory of Music

Present: SJ Avery, Bob Braun, Peter Bray, Michael Cairl, John Casson, Joan Emerson, Kyle Johnson, Joni Kletter, Judith Lief, Kim Maier, Martie McNabb, Cathy Sokil Milnikiewicz, Tom Miskel, Melinda Morris, Chandru Murthi, Eliza Pepper, Joe Rydell, Candace Woodward, Gilly Youner, Time Darden, Peter Sohn

Excused: Sarah Murphy Gersowitz, Chandru Murthi, Jeff Roth, Lauri Schindler

Absent: Richard Bashner, Bob Gilbert, Josh Levy

Guests:

Ortner Award Winners: Ivan Brice, Seth Brown, Bernie Galailey, Christa Horrigan, Chris Horrigan, Gayle and Herb Solomon.

Joseph Chiafari, Kathleen Dillon, Judge Michael Gerstein, James Harvey, Clem Labine, Steven Mechlowicz, Bob O'Neill, Saul Raw, Berryl Schiffer, Catherine Zinnel.

Welcome: Gilly Youner and Judith Lief, Co-Presidents

Introductions and Mission Statement

Trustees and guests introduced themselves. SJ Avery read the Civic Council mission statement.

Minutes

December minutes were passed with the following change:

Spelling correction of the name of guest Ronny Schindler.

Presidents' Address

In follow up to the Special Trustees Meeting on November 21, the PSCC sent a letter to the Board of Standards and Appeals requesting that the BSA reconsider its decision to grant zoning variances to New York Methodist Hospital for its new outpatient care center. At a hearing on December 16, the BSA declined to reconsider its decision. An amicable settlement was reached between Preserve Park Slope and New York Methodist Hospital. A group representing the community around Barclays Center is concerned about the possibility of the Democratic National Committee holding its convention there in 2016; they have asked the PSCC to support them.

Elected Officials

Jim Harvey, Constituent Liaison, Jo Anne Simon's Office, announced that Jo Anne Simon's office opened on New Year's Day at 341 Smith Street, phone number 718-246-4899. He invited people to drop by.

Catherine Zinnel, Deputy Chief of Staff, Brad Lander's Office, announced that the City Council is accepting grant applications from non-profits, with a deadline of February 20. Free computer lessons for seniors will be offered in Windsor Terrace and other communities.

Jerry Galante of the 78th Precinct announced that the Precinct had given out many summonses for speeding and cellphone use while driving, and that the crime rate was low. Judge Michael Gerstein added that arrests are down substantially for misdemeanors.

Committee Reports

Livable Streets Committee-Michael Cairl

The Livable Streets Community Workshop will be held Sunday, March 22, 10am-12 noon at Congregation Beth Elohim. The moderator will be Ben Fried of Streetsblog. Issues for discussion will be improved access for the disabled, aging in place, public art and safety. More information will be available in February,

FOFA-SJ Avery

The next FOFA meeting on January 13 will be focused on a discussion about Universal Design ideas for 4th Avenue with the Executive Director of Brooklyn Center for Individuals with Disabilities. All are invited to attend.

Sustainability Committee-Candace Woodward

Mulchfest will take place this coming weekend, Saturday and Sunday, from 10am-2pm. If you can't take your Holiday tree to the 3rd Street entrance of the park, please drag it to your corner, where it will be picked up and taken to the Park for mulching.

Evelyn and Everett Ortner Park Slope Preservation Awards – John Casson and Clem Labine

Clem Labine: In 1963 Evelyn and Everett Ortner purchased a brownstone on Berkeley Place. At that time, Park Slope was an area in decline, with absentee landlords, abandoned buildings and crime.

The Ortners began a relentless promotion of Park Slope brownstones, with the following strategies: house tours, campaigning against redlining, cocktail parties for mortgage lenders, creation of the Brownstone Revival Committee, support of Brooklyn Union Gas' Cinderella Program, brownstone fairs, and advocacy for the Park Slope Historic District. Clem described how the Ortners convinced him to purchase a Park Slope brownstone at a New Year's Eve party in 1966.

John Casson: The Preservation Awards were developed to counter the current situation in Park Slope, with cornices being removed, stoops disappearing and developers erecting buildings that do not fit the 19th century character of this community.

The following Evelyn and Everett Ortner Park Slope Preservation Award winners received plaques in honor of their achievements:

- The Ortner Award for Exterior Rehabilitation was given to Christa Horrigan, Architect of Horrigan O'Malley Architects and Christopher Horrigan of Horrigan Development for their work on 107 Prospect Park West, which revitalized a long neglected building.
- The Ortner Award for Neighborhood Intervention was given to the Lincoln Place Block Association (Bernie Galiley, President) for actions that preserved the traditional character of their handsome rear yard gardens.
- The Ortner Award for Exterior Restoration was given to Ivan Brice of Ivan Brice, AIA, for his restoration of PS 39, The Henry Bristow School, which preserved the Victorian charm of this Park Slope beauty.
- The Ortner Award for New Construction was given to Seth Brown, Principal, Aspen Equities and Herbert and Gayle Solomon for the energy efficient home at 319 4th Street, demonstrating that it is possible to erect new buildings that are compatible with our neighborhood.

Possibility of Democratic National Convention at Barclays Center in August, 2016.

Jonathan Viguers, Community Affairs, Mayor's Office

New York City is one of three finalists to host this event; the others are Columbus and Philadelphia. Jonathan has met with Wayne Bailey; whose group is concerned about parking, business closures and an unfortunate economic impact on neighborhoods around Barclays Center. They request that a representative from Community Affairs be assigned to deal with community needs and concerns. Peter Bray mentioned that at the 2004 Republican National Convention at Madison Square Garden there were rampant violations of constitutional rights, and that in the event NYC is chosen, there must be very clear policies that balance security concerns and constitutional rights. He added that the 2004 Bush ads showing images from the 9/11 terrorist attacks were extremely inappropriate. SJ Avery said that improved subway signage was necessary and that we should be thinking of legacy projects – if NYC is chosen, what do we want to get out of it?

Toys for Tots-Tom Miskel

It was a very successful year, with 2,900 toys collected and 45 shops participating. Tom attributed this to an improved economy.

Veterans Museum Tour-Tom Miskel

The Veterans Museum at the Armory is one of Park Slope's well-kept secrets. The Tour will take place on January 31 at 11am.

Revised Code of Conduct-Peter Bray

The Committee on Trustees has focused on specific standards for Trustee participation as well as recruitment of new Trustees and orientation of those new Trustees. The Committee proposes that Committee Chairs mentor any new Trustees on their Committees, and that at the June Meeting Trustees are able to vote for individual Trustees rather than a bloc of Trustees. Peter and SJ distributed in advance of the meeting a memo outlining the Committee on Trustees' rationale for greater participation by Trustees in the activities of the Civic Council with recommendations of specific standards for participation. They also distributed a revised Code of Conduct embodying these standards, which would establish that Trustees are subject to removal for cause if they exceed a certain number of absences from board meetings or fail to participate actively in PSCC committees and at PSCC events. Michael Cairl proposed an amendment deleting the inclusion of those standards in the Code of Conduct, and having Trustees approve them instead as a Board Resolution, which could later be incorporated into revised bylaws. Peter responded that it was important to include them in the Code of Conduct, which is much easier to access by all Trustees than in minutes, and that it would be easier to modify the Code of Conduct than the bylaws through experience with the new standards, and that having the standards in the Code of Conduct would make them more transparent to PSCC membership and the wider community. Gilly proposed the following motion: Trustees adopt the Revised Code of Conduct, while the Committee on Trustees will subsequently consider incorporating the new standards in the bylaws. The motion passed with one abstention.

Fidelity Account-Peter Bray

PSCC investments at Fidelity do not conform to the Civic Council policy that principal be risk-free and safe. These investments should be liquidated. Fidelity has informed us that no current Trustee is authorized to make changes. Motion:

- Trustees adopt Corporate Resolution – please see attached.
- Four Trustees be authorized to perform this transaction – Jeff Roth, Eliza Pepper, Tom Miskel and Peter Bray.
- Duplicate statements be sent to at least two of the above individuals
- At least two of the above individuals should authorize changes

The motion passed unanimously.

Civic News-Berryl Schiffer, Managing Editor

Berryl is currently working on the next newsletter cycle. The new PSCC logo will inspire the design for the fall issue. The spring issue will cover the successes and accomplishments of the year. She described her role as a facilitator, with Gilly and Judith being the strategists. Louise Crawford acts as a volunteer. Berryl is working with the Post Office to ensure compliance and to see if there is potential for savings. She thanked Gilly, Judith and Michael for their support. She hopes for more synergy between the PSCC website and the newsletter.

NYMH Traffic Task Force-Catherine Zinnel, Deputy Chief of Staff, Brad Lander's Office

Brad Lander's office is the driving force behind this Task Force, which, according to several attendees, should meet quarterly. Also discussed was the settlement between Preserve Park Slope and New York Methodist Hospital, one of the components of which is the agreement to implement a comprehensive traffic management plan developed by a mutually retained traffic engineer. The goal is to reduce use of residential streets by traffic to/from New York Methodist Hospital, to limit the impact of the loading dock and to add on-street parking. Catherine also mentioned that Gowanus United has filed a lawsuit to stop the Gowanus Parole Center from opening.

Office Hours

Civic Council "office hours" will be held on the third Tuesday of every month between 7 and 8pm at Parish Bar, 223 7th Avenue between 3rd and 4th Streets. The next "office hours" will be held Tuesday, February 17.

Round Robin

Cathy Sokil

Cathy will be stepping down as Membership Secretary as of June 2015. She is looking for a replacement and wants to speak with anyone who is interested. Responsibilities include: coordinating with Time Darden on the Membership Database, coordinating membership materials/publications, coordinating mailings and coordinating tabling at events with event chairs.

Candace Woodward

According to James Ellis of the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce, there has been no progress on a 7th Avenue Business Improvement District, due to a lack of leadership. Per Phil Chaitman of Good Footing Adventure, the problem is a lack of interest on the part of property owners. Melinda Morris added that she and others have worked hard for a 7th Avenue BID, with no results.

Meeting adjourned at 9:45pm. Minutes respectfully submitted by Candace Woodward, Recording Secretary

4 AUTHORIZED ENTITY (IF ANY)

Entity name _____

Tax ID number _____

Country of tax residence _____

Permanent address _____
(no P.O. boxes) Street City State ZIP

Mailing address _____
(if different from above) Street City State ZIP

State/country of organization _____

Trust date (for trusts only) _____

Entity ID document _____ State/country of issuance _____

5 RESOLUTIONS AND SIGNATURE OF CERTIFYING OFFICER

Certified Copy of Certain Resolutions Adopted by the Board of Directors Whereby the Establishment and Maintenance of Trading Accounts Have Been Authorized

RESOLVED:

FIRST: That the individual listed in Section 2 of this corporate resolution hereby is authorized and empowered, for and on behalf of this Corporation, to establish, maintain, and act on this account (which may be a margin account) and that the individuals listed in Section 3 of this Corporate Resolution are, and each of them hereby is, authorized and empowered for and on behalf of this Corporation, with Fidelity Brokerage Services LLC and its affiliate National Financial Services LLC (herein called the "Brokers") for the purpose of purchasing, investing in, or otherwise acquiring, selling (including short sales), possessing, transferring, exchanging, or otherwise disposing of, or turning to account of, or realizing upon, and generally dealing in and with any and all forms of securities including, but not by way of limitation, shares, stocks, bonds, debentures, notes, scrip, participation certificates, rights to subscribe, options, warrants, certificates of deposit, mortgages, evidences of indebtedness, commercial paper, certificates of indebtedness and certificates of interest of any and every kind and nature whatsoever, secured or unsecured, whether represented by trust, participating and/or other certificates, or otherwise.

The fullest authority at all times with respect to any such commitment or with respect to any transaction deemed by any of the said officers and/or agents to be proper in connection therewith is hereby conferred, including authority (without limiting the generality of the foregoing) to give instructions (whether oral, written, electronic, or otherwise) to the Brokers with respect to said transactions; to borrow money and securities and to borrow such money and securities from or through the Brokers, and to secure repayment thereof with the property of the Corporation; to bind and obligate the Corporation to and for the carrying out of any contract, arrangement, or transaction that shall be entered into by any such officer and/or agent for and on behalf of the Corporation with or through the Brokers; to pay by checks and/or drafts drawn upon the funds of the Corporation such sums as may be necessary in connection with any of the said accounts; to deliver securities and contracts to the Brokers; to deliver securities to and deposit funds with the Brokers; to order the transfer or delivery of securities to any other person whatsoever, and/or to order the transfer of record of any securities, to any name selected by any of the said officers or agents; to affix the corporate seal to any documents or securities to any name selected by any of the said officers or agents; to affix the corporate seal to any documents or agreements, or otherwise; to endorse any securities and/or contracts in order to pass title thereto; to direct the sale or exercise of any rights with respect to any securities; to sign for the Corporation all releases, powers of attorney, and/or other documents in connection with any such account, and to agree to any terms or conditions to control any such account; to direct the Brokers to surrender any securities to the proper agent or party for the purpose of effecting any exchange or conversion, or for the purpose of deposit with any protective or similar committee, or otherwise; to accept

delivery of any securities; to appoint any other person or persons to do any and all things that any of the said officers and/or agents are hereby empowered to do, and generally to do and take all action necessary in connection with the account, or considered desirable by such officer and/or agent with respect thereto.

SECOND: That either Broker may deal with any and all of the persons directly or indirectly empowered by the foregoing resolution, as though they were dealing with the Corporation directly.

THIRD: That the Secretary of the Corporation be and hereby is authorized, empowered and if requested by the Brokers, directed to certify, under the seal of the Corporation, or otherwise, to the Brokers:

- (a) a true copy of these resolutions;
- (b) specimen signatures of each and every person by these resolutions empowered;
- (c) a certificate (which, if required by the Brokers, shall be supported by an opinion of the general counsel of the Corporation, or other counsel satisfactory to the Brokers) that the Corporation is duly organized and existing, that its charter empowers it to transact the business by these resolutions defined, and that no limitation has been imposed upon such powers by the bylaws or otherwise.

FOURTH: That the Brokers may rely upon any certification given in accordance with these resolutions, as continuing fully effective unless and until the Brokers shall receive due written notice of a change in or the rescission of the authority so evidenced and the dispatch or receipt of any other form of notice shall not constitute a waiver of this provision, nor shall the fact that any person hereby empowered ceases to be an officer of the Corporation or becomes an officer under some other title in any way affect the powers hereby conferred. The failure to supply any specimen signature shall not invalidate any transaction if the transaction is in accordance with authority actually granted.

FIFTH: That in the event of any change in the office or powers of persons hereby empowered, the Secretary shall certify such changes to the Brokers in writing in the manner herein above provided, which notification, when received, shall be adequate both to terminate the powers of the persons theretofore authorized, and to empower the persons thereby substituted.

SIXTH: That the foregoing resolutions and the certificates actually furnished to the Brokers by the Secretary of the Corporation pursuant thereto be and hereby are made irrevocable until written notice of the revocation thereof shall have been received by the Brokers.

SEVENTH: That the Corporation and its officers indemnify and hold the Brokers harmless from any claim, loss, expense, or other liability for effecting any transactions and acting upon any instructions given by the officers or Secretary of the Corporation.