
Cleveland Restoration Society

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Meeting Minutes

The Sara Benedict House
Cleveland, Ohio

Tuesday, September 16, 2014

All exhibits and attachments referenced herein are on file in the CRS office and are available upon request.

Trustees in Attendance

Renee Beaver	Dale Hilton	J. Gordon Priemer
Hannah Fritzman Belsito	Anthony Hiti	Rosemary Reymann
Steve Coon	Douglas Hoffman	Bill Saltzman
Michael Cummins	William Hubbard	Jonathan Sandvick
Susan Delaney	Joseph Marinucci	Rick Semersky
Kevin Dreyfuss-Wells	Neil Mohney	Robert Weeks
Greg Frost	Dana Noel	Lin Emmons

Staff in Attendance

Kathleen Crowther, President
Tom Jorgensen, Chief Operating Officer

- I. Call to Order –Mike Cummins, Chair of the Board
 - A. Minutes of the May 20, 2014 Meeting were approved
Steve Coon was introduced as a new board member
 - B. Report on the Small Deals Task Force
Michael Cummins reported that the task force had completed its report on the viability of using tax credits on smaller deals. They are starting phase two: the implementation of recommendations in the report. They have had two meetings to discuss implementation and will meet with additional groups to bring financing and infrastructure to move the project along. The City of Cleveland is still considering how to fund phase two.
 - C. Tom Jorgensen, Chief Operating Officer, reported on substantial infrastructure needs for deferred maintenance of the Sarah Benedict House and the recommendation of the Executive Committee & Finance Committee regarding use of Board restricted funds for infrastructure needs & cash flow. The Board was presented with a list of safety and security upgrades to the SBH and infrastructure needs that are critical and need to be addressed before the winter. The Board was asked for approval to use \$30,000 restricted funds for the maintenance and improvements and take \$70,000 out of restricted funds for cash flow. The \$70,000 will be returned to the endowment once the cash flow issue is resolved, the \$30,000 will not. We will begin including a line item for maintenance and improvement in the annual budget. A motion to approval the use of restricted funds for these purposes was made by Gordon Priemer and seconded by Joe Marinucci. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

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- II. Upcoming Benefit 10/11 @ the 9. Susan Delaney summarized the current status of the Benefit. \$34,000 in underwriting has been secured and 80 individual tickets sold. An additional 90 tickets must be sold to reach full capacity.
- III. Update on 2834 Courtland Boulevard Court Case
Tom Jorgensen provided an update. A hearing was held during which the next two hearings were scheduled, one 30 days out, one 60 days out. It is hoped that by the second hearing there will be a settlement or a decision on the motion to appoint the receiver. No money is at risk until CRS is appointed receiver. The Board discussed the exit strategy if at some point in time there is a decision to no longer progress with the receivership.
- IV. Proposal to renew CRS's commitment to Sacred Landmarks – Doug Hoffman explained the progress of the Sacred Landmarks Support Initiative, which is tasked expanding our support for sacred landmarks and to identify the historically significant buildings and categorize them as to why they are significant (architect, interior, artifacts, etc.) and their level of endangerment. They have identified about 40 structures that are endangered and plan to pick three target projects: a Catholic church, an African American church, and a synagogue. They have identified Partners for Sacred Spaces in Philadelphia as an entity that already does this type of work and which provides services to congregations to assist with funding, technical assistance, etc. The task force is considering whether to align with them and open a regional office of PSS for cities in the Great Lakes crescent. The Board was asked for affirmation that the task force should move forward with exploring working with PSS and an expansion of services. This would be under CRS, but a separate standalone self-sustaining program. A motion to approve the task force's work and encourage them to continue was made by Jonathan Sandvick and seconded by Joe Marinucci. All approved.
- V. CRS Slide Digitization Project – Kathleen Crowther updated the Board on the progress of the project. CRS has purchased equipment to digitize slides and inventory and archive them. Mike Baruschke has put up a challenge grant of \$5,000 to help fund the project. CRS is partnering with Cleveland Memory and the Cleveland Photographic Society.
- VI. Other Business
Rosemary Reymann invited the Board on a trip to Columbus, Indiana, October 6, 7, and 8. Columbus is the 6th City listed by AIA for outstanding architecture and has seven national landmarks. It is recognized as the "mecca" for mid-century modern architecture. The cost of \$450 includes bus, hotel, and a private tour lead by one of the local historians.
- VII. The meeting was adjourned at 6:00.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Bill Hubbard, Board Secretary.