



Board of Directors Meeting Minutes January 23, 2024

Board Members Present: Brendan Zak, Katrina Homer, Gordy Jones, Kate Warren, Cherie Kaiser, Adam Saurwein, Harry Quinones, Berto Huertas, Andrew Katusin **Staff:** Lucas Reeve, Amber Jones, Jess Timms, Charles Kennick, Juan Collado Diaz.

Meeting was called to order at 6:02pm. Brendan Zak asked if anyone had any edits to the minutes or would like to move to approve them. Adam Saurwein made a motion to approve the December minutes, Harry Quinones seconded, minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report (Gordy Jones) Highlighted the monthly financials, two lines of credit were paid off. 2204 Hood Ave. was sold to a developer. The organization is currently up to date with CDBG reimbursements. Harry Quinones made a motion to approve the treasurer's report, Berto Huertas seconded, financials were approved.

Finance Committee update (Brendan Zak) Asked Gordy Jones and Lucas Reeve for any updates on the search for new Finance Committee members. Lucas mentioned that through social media posts and a recommendation from the banking community, two new members have been vetted and added to the Finance Committee. With Gordy Jones stepping down as Treasurer, Kate Warren nominated Harry Quinones to take over the position. Gordy Jones seconded. Harry was voted in unanimously as the new Treasurer.

2024 Events (Amber Jones) The Staff started the evaluation and planning process for 2024 events in the Fall of 2023. Amongst the goals that continue into 2024 include, focusing on DEI, building community, activating spaces, providing access to resources, and building awareness around the Old Brooklyn experience. In reviewing past years events and opportunities to further engage, the organization is developing a strategy around supporting more community member led events, programs, and initiatives. Some of the organization led events and programming continuing into 2024 include, Young Professional Series, OB Nite and OB Day, the Annual Meeting, Home Buyer and Home Repair workshops. New for 2024 will be a street fest, kicking off the celebration of OBCDC's 50th year, and supporting placemaking efforts and investments along the Broadview corridor. The Old Brooklyn Farmers Market is moving to Thursdays 5 – 8 pm. July 11 – Sept. 26. This will include elements of Takeover with resources plus kids activities and a change of location. OBCDC supported, but partner led events such as Ben Franklin Community Garden Music Series, Pedal for Prizes, Trick or Treat Trail and Eclipse events will also be going on in 2024.

OB Streetfest - Kick-off celebration of OBCDC's 50th year. Culmination of Phases 1 & 2 of the Broadview corridor.

Gateway Welcome Signage (Charles Kennick) Shared the new welcome sign designs, which update the existing signage with the new Old Brooklyn brand and provide a much-needed refresh to the existing condition. Charles also shared that in addition to replacing the existing seven signs, three new locations will receive signs. Charles added that this effort is part of a larger placemaking brand effort that will also include metal pole banners in the Brighton District later in 2024. Harry Quinones asked what would be done with the old signs, adding that they could be used or sold to local businesses. Kate Warren asked if the organization had ever explored doing holiday lighting, which will be looked into by Staff.

New Business: (Kate Warren) As a follow up from the December Board meeting, where Marlon Brown brought forward the issue of police chases ending in crashes in Old Brooklyn, Kate Warren brought the conversation up again to update and encourage further discussion. Updates included conversations with local Councilmembers, and with Vision Zero program administrators at the City of Cleveland. Lucas Reeve added that members of the Vision Zero program will be joining an all staff meeting February 15th to discuss the issue. Harry Quinones mentioned exploring more traffic calming measures on neighborhood commercial corridors.

Meeting adjourned at 6:59pm