

Athenaeum Foundation
Board and Annual Meeting
Willkie Room
March 19, 2013

Minutes

Board Members Present: Wayne Schmidt, Rozelle Boyd, Meghan DeMars, David Willkie, Tina Connor, Mary Ann Sullivan, Stephen Wagman, Charles Kennedy, David Kingen, Giles Hoyt

Staff: Cassie Stockamp, Marianne Isaacs, Corey Behmer

Guests: Julia Whitehead, Mike Alerding

Board Meeting

The meeting was called to order by Wayne Schmidt at 5:45pm. Meeting minutes from the January 23, 2013 meeting were approved subject to one addition.

Finance Committee Report

Isaacs presented the current finance report covering January and February 2013. Income and expenses are both under budget for the year. Isaacs pointed out that the Foundation expenses are \$13,000 under budget due to maintenance that had not yet been completed. Isaacs also noted that payroll was \$6,000 less due to the Development position being empty at this time. Finances were approved.

Governance Committee Report

Willkie spoke of the strategic initiative the board has been charged with. Part of the initiative is to increase revenue 25% each year for the next three years. Willkie proposes three committees: one focused on increasing current revenue, one on identifying potential revenue, one for development. One new idea is to partner with the International Film Festival and show movies in the theatre. Willkie asks each board member to join one of the committees.

Schmidt asked the board to accept the resignation of William Witchger from the board who had been past Chair and a model Trustee. His service and support was greatly appreciated. This was approved.

Building Committee

Stockamp talked about the proposed development of the Athenaeum parking lot into a mixed use/multi-level parking lot. The development would generate revenue for the Foundation. Requests for proposal have been sent to select developers.

The meeting officially adjourned at 6:00pm.

Next Meeting: May 22, 2013

Annual Meeting

The meeting was called to order by Wayne Schmidt at 6:00pm

State of the Avenue

Schmidt spoke about the development of Mass Ave and the construction both ongoing and planned. There are many exciting new businesses coming to Mass Ave, among them a yogurt shop, ice cream and Mexican restaurant. Phase one of Millikan on Mass is under construction across the street and it wraps the Barton tower. Phase two will continue later this year. The building is both residential and commercial. Schmidt talked about the location of the fire station to potentially move which would allow for more development of residential and commercial. Because of the all the developments on Mass Ave, the Athenaeum will continue to be the cornerstone of the neighborhood.

Governance

Stockamp presented the 2013 Foundation Board governing slate. Wayne Schmidt, chair, Mary Ann Sullivan, vice-chair, Stephen Wagman, treasurer and David Willkie, secretary. The slate was approved.

Cultural Collaboration

Julia Whitehead, Executive Director of the Vonnegut Memorial Library spoke about the ongoing partnership with the Athenaeum. The Foundation and Library are partnering on Vonnegut Fest in November, events will be in venues all over Indianapolis. The Foundation will host the travelling museum. The exhibit will showcase a digital version of Vonnegut works and memorabilia shown in a “work room” setting.

Whitehead spoke of the upcoming National Trust for Historic Preservation annual meeting. This is the first time the Trust will meet in Indianapolis. The current planning agenda slates the Athenaeum as the opening event host site.

Finance

Mike Alerding, Alerding and Company, is the Athenaeum Foundation’s auditor. After analyzing the 2012 financials, Alerding believes the Foundation is “stabilized”. Alerding praised the financial control systems of the Foundation and Wagman’s oversight. He also stressed the importance of founding an endowment and cultivating planned giving. Alerding noted that the financials presented in the Annual Report are pre-audited numbers.

State of the Athenaeum

Stockamp highlighted 2012, including the Roof Sitting event, commemorating the 20th Anniversary of David Willkie’s 90-day historic sit on the roof. It was noted that GermanFest and the other heritage events continue on a growth pattern. Stockamp pointed out the new German American story installation in the hallway. The Foundation was awarded \$26,000 from CICF towards strategic planning for Board development. With the new Mass Ave developments, it is planned to transform the lobby to host more visitors to the Athenaeum. The Athenaeum is listed three times on the National Register of Historic Places; the Foundation has applied to be a National Historic Landmark. This is the next level of preservation and historic significance. A new identifying sign will be installed in the front of the building and the YMCA canopy removed. Other plans for 2013 include Wi-Fi installation and the development of a Smartphone app that would allow users to do a self guided walking tour of the Athenaeum.

The meeting officially adjourned at 6:50pm.