

OAKLAND TASK FORCE MEETING

April 8, 2008

Carnegie Mellon University

Minutes

Present:

Andrews, Lena	City Planning
Blenk, David	OPDC
Clark, Renny	Pitt
Gnage, Casey	First Baptist Church
Hart, Nathan	OCC
Hassett, Patrick	Public Works
Jackson, Shelia	Carnegie Library
Layman, Jennifer	CMU
Leibow, Ron	Pitt
McNulty, Tim	CMU
Petropoulos, Georgia	OBID
Rainey, Mavis	OTMA
Sass, Richard	OCC/Oakcliffe
Sciannameo, Louise	Carlow
Stiles, Kevin	Pitt
Walnoha, Adrienne	CHSC/OCC
Wilds, John	Pitt

Create a Sense of Place

- **Stimulate Neighborhood Revitalization**
- **Make it Easier to Get Into and Around Oakland**
 - **Advocate for Quality Development**

Make it Easier to Get Into and Around Oakland

Hometown Streets bids are in and are 15% over the approved \$1.583 project amount. Bids range from \$2.1 million to \$2.5. Material costs are much higher than anticipated. Discuss centered on how to bring bids down:

- Since Joseph B. Fay is already working in Oakland and could stage here, have them bid.
- Work would have to be done during the day instead of over night.
- Reduce the scale of the project by two intersections.
- Raise more funding.
- Institutions contribute more money.

Ron Leibow will be looking at the fastest way to re bid. It was decided by the group that the Fifth Avenue and Desoto island must stay in.

Pat Hassett reported that the Boulevard of the Allies Bridge group is currently working to design a placque which will be placed under the bridge on the abutment (near where mural was). The eagles will be back in place for the opening. Currently, PennDOT is in discussions with the owner of the building to make up for lost parking.

Stimulate Neighborhood Revitalization

Renny Clark gave the group an overview of on going discussions with Carlino Giampolo regarding the litter in Oakland. Mr. Giampolo wants:

- 365 days per year clean up of Oakland by Pitt and UPMC
- Wants the City and Pitt to pay for a litter crew devoted to Oakland (similar to the arrangement for the inspector position).

Renny also announced that Pitt would be doing a litter pick up of the “Portals of Oakland” on April 19, 2008 beginning at 9:00 a.m.

Renny wanted to know what ideas the OTF might have to help with litter issues in Oakland. The group felt that they could take on the education portion.

Announcements

Casey Gnage: The steeple to the First Baptist Church will be back up in April. The Elmhurst development is still on hold.

Richard Sass: CHS will host along with Oakcliffe a meeting on 4/30 to discuss the permanent closure of Lawn & Ophelia.

Louise Sciannameo will be the new representative from Carlow University.

OBID will sponsor a public safety roundtable with the police chiefs from the area institutions on April 17.

Jenn Layman introduced Tim McNulty to the group and announced that CMU would be holding its annual spring carnival on April 17-19.

Shelia Jackson announced that the Carnegie Library is in the final stages of planning for the Reading Extravaganza on June 8, 2008. The Library Lawn and Schenley Plaza will be the center of activities.

Lena Andrews announced that this would be the final meeting she would attend, Noor Ismail, the Director of City Planning will now be attending OTF meetings.

John Wilds announced that the International Children's Festival will run from May 14-18 and will have several streets in Oakland closed for the duration.

Nathan Hart announced the resignation of Elan Strait and they will be looking for a new OCC coordinator. Atria's restaurant is currently undergoing scope review.

Mavis Rainey announced that the 2008 construction schedule is out and she will be sending it to members via email. The Railing project is moving forward with work to be done 7:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m. No word on whether or not the bus lane will close.

David Blenk distributed copies of the OPDC annual report, if you would like more or have any questions, please contact him directly.

2008 OTF Meeting Schedule

January – University of Pittsburgh

February – Magee Womens Hospital of UPMC

March – Pittsburgh Playhouse of Point Park University

April – Carnegie Mellon University

**May – OPDC/OBID/OTMA/OCC – Red Oak Café – Forbes
Avenue**

June – Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh/Carnegie Museum of Pittsburgh

July – Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy

August – No Meeting

September – University of Pittsburgh Medical Center

October – Western Pennsylvania School for Blind Children

November – Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh

December – Carlow University