

# CITIZENS OF PIGTOWN

HISTORIC PIGTOWN'S COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

## Minutes – Dec. 2016 –Community Meeting

### BOARD

**Aparna Jain**  
Interim President &  
Vice President

**Sherry Scible**  
Treasurer

**Stacey Roberts**  
Secretary

**Gabrielle Gloriosio**  
Director

**DiDi Kassa**  
Director

**Meghan Wilson**  
Director

**Date and Time:** December 13, 2016 – 7:00 pm – 9:30 pm

**Location:** Hamilton Bank, 764 Washington Blvd., Baltimore, MD 21230

**Board Members Present:** Aparna Jain, Interim Pres.; Stacey Roberts, Sec.; Sherry Scible, Director; Meghan Wilson, Director; DiDi Kassa, Director; Gabrielle Gloriosio, Director (Late arrival per work conflict.)

**Absent:** N/A



2/9/17

Certification of Below Minutes by COP Board Secretary, Stacey Roberts

Date

### **Public Safety:**

Captain Mahoney of the BPD's Southern District discussed recent public safety issues within the community and the challenges and plans to address them. He was joined by 3 other officers.

**Removal of Richard Parker from being President of Citizens of Pigtown—** AJ and SR presented the Board's unanimous decision to remove Richard Parker his role as President of Citizens of Pigtown and the various roles that position holds within other community organizations. AJ and SR presented brief overview of the 3 reasons that the Board had concluded that Mr. Parker needed to be removed, including: 1) residency (i.e. evictions, misrepresentations of current residence, evidence that conflicts with RP's stated addresses within Pigtown); 2) misuse of COP resource/lack of accountability to the Board (i.e. ToolBank account for GOTV, Toy4Tots, making decisions without Board consultation or approval); and 3) conflicts of interest (i.e. nondisclosure of campaign contributions in relation to interest of 3<sup>rd</sup> parties).

Various individuals in attendance voice their displeasure with the way RP had been removed and the information disclosed publically and demanded he be given the opportunity to dispute the findings.

RP offered a rebuttal focused on the residency issue and produced a document reported to be a lease for and address on Barre St. He noted that he was renting from his Aunt, Ms. Duggar.

AJ contested this noting that RP's residency had been address with Ms. D who had reported that RP was not living with or renting from her.

A few members of the community requested to view the document, which was refused to them by RP.

RP's former landlord address the issue of him having been evicted, and the challenges she has had in ascertaining his current residency per the current civil case to college several months of back rent and other costs. She noted concerns regarding ability to represent the interests of the community given the bind that landlords are placed in when individuals do not fulfill their rental obligations.

During Richard rebuttal, a community residence, Lori, looked up the reported address in an online city database and reported back to the body that the whom was not owned by the person that he reportedly was renting from. She later reported back to the body that she had left the meeting to go to the address and confirmed that RP the individuals that answered the door did not know RP.

Hernan presented a synopsis of the findings and the underlying challenges of trust, noting that it appeared that the Board lacked confidence and trust in RP and that it was clear that RP had lost trust in the Board, nor felt a responsibility to consult or be subject to the oversight of Board.

Bill Marker discussed his experience in consulting AJ around the removal of RP and the bylaws. He noted that based on his review of the bylaws, the appropriate procedures were followed and the Board was within the bylaws to remove RP. Further, he discussed the bylaws and the limitations of how around organizational governance (i.e. leadership elections, appointments, & removals) going forward.

The President (and part owner of a Pigtown business) of a neighboring community association noted his objection to removal of RP, and noted the challenges they had recently been through within their association.

Kim, owner of a community business, vocalized her feelings around the dynamics that she had witnessed tonight.

Rodney vocalized his support for RP noting his historical experience of RP and his willingness to address various issues in the community.

Various community members vocalized their views in favor and in opposition to RP.

AJ and SR noted that the decision to remove RP was final and that this simple was to present and inform the community. SR noted that while the minutes that were released were very detailed, the Board was attempting to be conscientious of how much of the evidence to release publically given the personal nature and not wanting to bring further poor light on anyone associated. Further noting that the Board had hoped that RP would understand the seriousness of the issues and not contest it further.

GG, Board Member, arrived late per work obligation, but vocalized her contempt with the mounting evidence regarding RP's actions. She noted her profession and deep commitment to children, and how RP's misuse of his position as President to the benefit of personal and political associates vis-à-vis Toys4Tots was deeply troubling, particularly given her prior defense of RP.

The manager of the bank noted that they needed to close-up for the night.

A motion to adjourn was called by MW, and seconded by SR. VOTE: By voice vote, the meeting adjourned.