

CORNER HOUSE BOARD
APPROVED MEETING MINUTES
January 13, 2021
by videoconference

Members in attendance: Danita Ishibashi, Wendy Jolley, Cecilia Mathews, Joann Parker (1st alternate), Wendy Perello (2nd alternate), Henry Polanco, Dwaine Williamson.

Excused: Darrell Francis

Student Representatives: none

Staff in attendance: Gary De Blasio, Tracy Kindelsperger, Jean Woodman.

- I. Gary De Blasio opened the meeting at 6:03 PM. Gary read the following notice into the record.

Notice of the Board's regular meetings as required by Sections 4a, 3d, 13 and 14 of the Open Public Meetings Act has been provided to the public. On December 22, 2020 public notice of the meeting date was posted on the municipal website. On January 12, 2021 public notice with a videoconference link and a draft agenda were posted on the municipal website. All notices were also published by Planet Princeton.

- a. Reorganization: Wendy Jolley nominated for Board Chair. Motion Dwaine Williamson, second Cecilia Mathews, approved.
 - b. Wendy assumed the chair and welcomed Wendy Perello. Ms. Jolley also thanked the Board for its kind outreach following the death of her husband.
 - c. The November 18 minutes were corrected in Item VII to remove the word "other" so the sentence reads, "Regular meetings will be held at 6:00 PM on the 2nd Wednesday of every odd-numbered month, with no meeting in July." The minutes were then approved as corrected. Motion Dwaine Williamson, second Cecilia Mathews, approved.
 - d. The resignation of Minnie Craig as a Board member was noted with regret.
- II. Director's Report – Gary DeBlasio – see attached report.
- a. Dwaine Williamson and the Board spoke to Corner House's good work throughout the pandemic, noting the valuable services it has provided despite the challenges of social distancing.
 - b. The Board expressed appreciation for the COVID safety video produced by Corner House Prevention students. Wendy Perello noted how useful short videos like this are in a clinical setting; she shares videos with clients.
 - c. The Board responded with dismay to reports that the Crawford House and Daytop adolescent programs have both closed. Gary noted the number of referral sources – such as courts and probation programs – that have slowed down.
 - d. The transfer from our endowment was approximately \$58,800, well above the \$51,000 average of recent years. We were able to make our last payment to the municipality in December, which was helpful.

- III. Corner House Foundation and Development – Tracy Kindelsperger

- a. The fundraising year has started fairly well. The Direct Mail fundraising campaign is our largest fundraiser every year. Last year's campaign raised \$86,000; this year we have received \$81,000 so far. We are aware of a mail delivery backlog of up to 2 weeks, so we are expecting more donations. We are pleased to see donors re-engaging after a few

years' absence. Additionally, we have received donations in memory of Mike Jolley, which are a tribute to his life of kindness.

- IV. Municipal Liaison Update – Dwaine Williamson
 - a. Letitia Fraga is the new Council president for 2021.
 - b. Council Member Williamson reviewed the number of affordable and market-rate housing units scheduled to be built. The plan includes age-restricted units and units for disabled persons. The plan includes 801 new units, of which 310 will be affordable units. A few existing, older units will be demolished; the residents will be prioritized for new units. Board members remarked that the new units will likely affect population density and school population.

- V. Corner House Student Board Report (CHSB) – The students were not able to attend this evening's meeting, but their activities are noted in the Director's Report.
 - a. The Board viewed the student-produced video on COVID-19 wellness.
<https://www.facebook.com/CornerHouseNJ/videos/1305690269816998>

- VI. Old Business
 - a. None.

- VII. New Business
 - a. Funding for the Princeton Alcohol & Drug Alliance (PADA) has declined due to the pandemic. We are using our reduced funding to support our Outreach programs. The PADA continues to meet in order to share resources and to be a presence in the community. The PADA is in need of community members. Please contact Gary with suggestions. The Mercer County Prevention Coalition is reviewing the new marijuana laws. Board members requested a summary of what it means to be a member of PADA.

- VIII. Adjournment
 - a. The meeting adjourned at 7:11 PM. Motion Joanne Parker, second Danita Ishibashi, approved.

Next regular meeting: Wednesday, March 10, 2021 at 6:00 PM.

Meeting Schedule for 2021:

- March 10
- May 12
- No meeting in July
- September 8
- November 10

Respectfully submitted,
Jean Woodman, Corner House Board Secretary
Minutes approved March 10, 2021