

**MINUTES**  
**NOTICE BOARD MEETING**  
**January 18, 2016**  
7:30 P.M.  
Portner's Landing Community Room

**Present:** Matt Hennesy, Howard Middleton, Tom Soapes, Clarence Tong, Christa Watters, Roger Waud, Fran Zorn.

**Excused:** Ernie Lehmann,

Tom Soapes called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m.

**Minutes:** The minutes of the December 14 board meeting were unanimously approved.

**Treasurer's Report/Membership:** Fran Zorn reported that the Treasurer's transition is almost complete; Clarence just needs to be added to the online access list to use our bank account. Membership stands at 121 households. The bank balance is \$8,501.50.

**Winter Party February 19:** Clarence and Fran visited the Kingsley and reserved the room for the Winter Party, paid the \$500 security deposit and \$225 for the hourly use fee, which includes one free hour for cleanup. Any additional cleaning fee will be deducted from the deposit.

Fran will again handle the food/catering. Board members agreed to solicit gift certificates and other donations for the Silent Auction.

**Christa Watters** will send a sample donation solicitation letter to the board at the time she e-mails the draft minutes. The list of donors each will solicit has been confirmed as follows:

**Roger Waud:** Joe Theisman's Restaurant, Hank's Oyster Bar, Tokyo Japanese Steak House, MetroStage, & Rubini's Jewelers. If open, the new Pasta Bar at the corner of St. Asaph and Montgomery.

**Howard Middleton:** Harris Teeter

**Clarence Tong:** Sugar Shack, Lost Dog Café, Mason Social

Fran Zorn: A **dinner or other event catering donation; Haute Dog & Fries**

**Christa Watters:** Bistrot Royal, A La Lucia, TJ Stones, Potomac Riverboat Co.

**Matt Hennesy:** The Royal, Royal Thai/Felipe/Perks

**Tom Soapes** will invite the Mayor and Council early on to attend the gathering and arrange to rent coat racks. Final logistics will be settled at the February 8 Board Meeting.

**VISION:** The board discussed how to deal with the formation and new activism of the VISION group. We conclude that they have no proof of having the 80+ members they claim, and the good faith and veracity of their actions is somewhat in question. Most of us feel that as a NOTICE member it would have been proper for Dr. Drury to come to us first if he had concerns about any development issues, rather than start a new group. We will not endorse their positions at this time.

**Update on Development Projects:** Several board members attended the Edens meeting on the Giant/ABC project on January 6. Christa took notes for those who were away on travel or otherwise unable to attend. Tom will write to Cathy Puskar to request any available updates on what they intend to present to Planning Commission and Council and on what dates. If we receive any news, it will go into the newsletter.

**Update on SAP Process:** The North Old Town Small Area Plan Advisory Group at its December 17 meeting reported on progress in refining the plan and the formation of subcommittees to study particular issues. The subcommittees are meeting this month. Staff will then test and refine the proposals and changes that come out of those meetings as the general meetings progress. SAP Committee members will keep NOTICE and the community updated. The Committee as a whole will next meeting on Monday evening, January 25, from 7 to 9 p.m. in the Sister Cities Room at City Hall. All meetings are open to the public; board members are especially encouraged to attend if possible.

**Newsletter:** The board agreed to publish a February-March newsletter this year, altering the pattern from our previous 10 years of not publishing in the Jan-Feb time frame. We will remind people to vote in the Virginia Primary on March 1, publish news briefs about board members, address development issues including the SAP, Giant/AB, Travelodge, Old Colony and Town Motel sites to the extent we know, and publicize the Winter Party.

**Web site:** The board recognizes that our web site is woefully out of date. Still, it remains useful to have it as a site where readers can download membership forms and learn the basics about our organization. We will continue to search for an individual or small firm that would be willing to update it as a volunteer or for a minimal cost.

**Next Meeting:** The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 8, in the Portner's Landing Community Room.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Christa Watters, Secretary