COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Room 400, City Hall
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Tuesday, April 30, 2013
10:11 a.m.

PRESENT:

COUNCIL PRESIDENT DARRELL L. CLARKE
COUNCILMAN CURTIS JONES, JR.
COUNCILWOMAN JANNIE L. BLACKWELL
COUNCILMAN BRIAN J. O'NEILL
COUNCILMAN MARK SQUILLA
COUNCILMAN W. WILSON GOODE, JR.
COUNCILMAN KENYATTA JOHNSON
COUNCILMAN BOBBY HENON
COUNCILMAN WILLIAM K. GREENLEE

RESOLUTIONS: 130191, 130192, 130193, 130194,
130195, 130196, 130197, 130198

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COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good morning. For those of you that are here for the purpose of the public testimony on School District, we have one piece of business we have to take care of prior to that. We have appointments for the Old City Special District. We should get through that rather quickly. Thank you.

Good morning. We will now convene the Public Hearing of the Committee of the Whole scheduled for 9:30. I note that a quorum is present, and this hearing will now come to order. Purpose of this public hearing is to hear testimony on eight resolutions to make appointments to the Old City Special Service District.

Ms. Lewis, please read the titles of the resolutions being heard this morning.

THE CLERK: Resolution 130191, resolution appointing Reginal Cummings to the Board of Directors for the Old City Special Services District.

Resolution 130192, resolution appointing Jafar Maleki to the Board of Directors for the Old

City Special Services District.

Resolution No. 130193, resolution appointing Robert Dingman to the Board of Directors for the Old City Special Services District.

Resolution 130194, resolution appointing Nick Gregory to the Board of Directors for the Old City Special Services District.

Resolution No. 130195, resolution appointing Avram Hornik to the Board of Directors for the Old City Special Services District.

Resolution 130196, a resolution appointing Sonia Silverstein to the Board of Directors for the Old City Special Services District.

Resolution 130197, a resolution appointing Joseph F. Ritchie to the Board of Directors for the Old City Special Services District.

And Resolution 130198, a resolution appointing Luca Sena to the Board of Directors for the Old City Special Services District.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Thank you.

I'd ask for the first witness Mr. Graham Copeland. I understand you are the only member that is going to testify today.

MR. COPELAND: Yes.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Okay. Thank you. Please come forward.

Please state your name for the record and read your testimony, sir.

MR. COPELAND: My name is Graham Copeland. I am the Executive Director of the Old City District.

Council President, Members of Council, Old City Special Services District was formed by City Council in 1977 as a municipal authority to maintain and improve the Old City section of Philadelphia. We appreciate the ongoing support from Councilman Squilla and other Council Members in what we consider a great public/private partnership.

I'm pleased to present to you eight nominees for Board membership. Our Board of Directors has vetted and approved for your consideration three renewing and five new Board member candidates. With your approval, our Board will be full again at 19 seats. Each of these nominations is for a five-year term. The three nominees for reappointment are Joseph Ritchie,

Avram Hornik and Luca Sena.

Joe's work experience includes private sector real estate development, was founding CEO of Newark's Brick City Development Corporation and consultant for Wharton Small Business Development Center. He is our current Chairman of the Board of Directors and past Chair of our Economic Development Committee.

Avram Hornik is a long term entrepreneur in Old City owning and operating nightclub establishment in our district and numerous others throughout Philadelphia. He serves as the Chair of our Economic Development Committee.

Luca Sena is a long term owner and proprietor of Ristorante Panorama, Revolution House and Panzio Hotel in Old City. His many years of dedicated experience on our board.

And the five nominees for a first appointment are Nick Gregory. Nick is the General Manager of the new Hotel Monaco at 5th and Chestnut in Old City and Northeast Regional Director of Operations for Hampton Hotels.

Jafar Maleki is another entrepreneur recently started in Old City Yogurt, dangerously

close to my office. He is experienced operating other small businesses and brokering real estate transactions.

Reginald Cummings is responsible for health and wellness operations in 13 Walmart stores in the Delaware Valley.

Rob Dingman is a managing partner and artisan craftsman supply in Old City retailer.

Sonia Silverstein is a practicing attorney with experience in Philadelphia City government and many of our community and professional boards.

So, we are pleased to present to you this diverse mixed of experience professionals for your consideration. Thank you again for your support. And I welcome any questions.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Thank you, sir.

Any questions by Members of this witness?

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(No response)

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COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Thank you very much. Is anyone else to testify?

MR. COPELAND: Thank you.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Thank you so

much.

This concludes the Public Hearing of the Committee of the Whole on the Resolutions.

We will now go into our Public Meeting.

Chair recognizes Councilmember Jones for a single motion on the eight resolutions.

COUNCILMAN SQUILLA: Mr. President?

COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Oh, I'm sorry, councilman. Chair recognizes Councilman Squilla.

COUNCILMAN SQUILLA: Thank you, Mr. President. I just wanted to reiterate what Mr. Copeland said about the Old City District and in favor or and support of the nominees.

Thank you.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Thank you, sir. Chair, now -- we having some challenges with the mic and the boards. The mic and the boards, mics are not working.

Councilman Jones.

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(Brief pause while IT works on mics.)

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COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Here you go.

COUNCILMAN JONES: Thank you,

Mr. President.

I move that Resolutions No. 130191, 130192, 130193, 130194, 130195, 130196, 130197 and 130198 be reported from this Committee with a favorable recommendation.

COUNCILMAN SQUILLA: Second.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Thank you. It has been moved and properly seconded that the Resolutions 130191, 130192, 130193, 130194, 130195, 130196, 130197 and 130198 be reported from Committee with a favorable recommendation.

All those in favor say aye.

- - -

(Chorus of Ayes)

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COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Those opposed?

Ayes have it.

The motion carries and these resolutions will be reported from this Committee with favorable recommendation.

This concludes the business of the Committees scheduled for 9:30. We will convene at 10:00 a.m. Public Hearing on this Committee and continue with our budget deliberations shortly.

Thank you all very much.

(Committee Meeting adjourned at 10:19 a.m.)

C E R T I F I C A T I O N

I, hereby certify that the proceedings and evidence noted are contained fully and accurately in the stenographic notes taken by me in the foregoing matter, and that this is a correct transcript of the same.

Court Reporter - Notary Public

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