

Roland Park Civic League
Civic League Board Meeting
Mennonite Church

July 11, 2018
7:00-9:00

In attendance: Ed Goodlander, Bob Connors, Christine McSherry, Steve Grantz, Anne Stuzin, Ann-Barron Carneal, Mary Kay Battafarano, Cara Shea Kohler, Hap Cooper, Dan McIntyre, Chris Cortright, Trish Carroll, Blair Storzer

I. Bob Connors called the meeting to order at 7:07.

II. Routine Business

a. Police/Fire Updates

- i. Representative of the Fire Department stated that the new roof on the Fire House is 90% done.
- ii. There was no one in attendance from the Police Department.

b. Conflict of Interest forms: Blair Storzer provided an update on the collection of Conflict of Interest forms from Board members. Forms have been collected from all but two Board members.

c. Approval of minutes

- i. Blair Storzer stated that the June 2018 and draft annual meeting minutes have been circulated amongst the board.
- ii. Trish Carroll moved for approval of the June 2018 meeting minutes, which motion was seconded by Chris McSherry and unanimously approved by voice vote.
- iii. Steve Grantz moved for approval of the draft annual meeting minutes, which motion was seconded by Chris McSherry and unanimously approved by voice vote.

d. Communication Roles and Committee Sign-Ups

- i. Mary Kay Battafarano renewed the conversation from the June 2018 meeting regarding the necessary roles for the Communication Plan that must be filled per the Bylaws as well as the committee roles that are open to the community. She passed around forms for signup.

III. New Business

- a. Update on Legal Cases: Chris McSherry announced that the Court of Special Appeals issued its decision today affirming the decision of the Circuit Court regarding the garage at 532 W. University Parkway.
 - i. There is no update regarding the Overlook at Belvedere.

- b. Sale of Alonso's and request for changes to the Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU").
 - i. There is an MOU between Alonso's and the surrounding communities. Alonso's has always abided by that agreement. With the proposed sale of Alonso's to the owner of Namaste, the surrounding communities are hoping to amend the MOU. Chris McSherry is meeting with presidents of Evergreen and Keswick to discuss and to ensure that the MOU continues to be upheld.
- c. Office Manager
 - i. Bob Connors moved that the Civic League hire Shari McLane (Hash) to the open office manager position, which motion was seconded by Chris McSherry and unanimously passed by voice vote.
- d. Speaker
 - i. Camille Wathne appeared on behalf of the Baltimore Housing Roundtable. This is a coalition of different organizations working on behalf of affordable housing in Baltimore. In 2016 a ballot measure created the Baltimore Affordable Housing Trust Fund, which was initially funded by the City. The fund was then empty for 18 months. The mayor put in \$2 million a few months ago. A City Council bill was introduced in April 2018 to add a 1% surcharge to property transfers that are not owner-occupied, which revenue will go directly into the Trust Fund. This is currently in committee. The hearing on the bill will be on Thursday, September 21st. The community should know that they are invited to a rally in support of the bill on September 21st at 10:00 a.m. outside of City Hall. There is also a ballot measure seeking signatures in support of the bill. Anyone interested in following up with Ms. Wathne can do so at camiwathne@gmail.com for ways to get involved. After Ms. Wathne left, Ed Goodlander advised to carefully read this material, which he believed to have been misrepresented.
- e. Lot 42 in Plat 5 possible auction: Steve Grantz presented information regarding a tax auction sale on a lot behind the 3900 block of Keswick. The property is held by Tax Sale Auctions, LLC. There is interest amongst immediate neighbors in purchasing the property and keeping it as a green space.
- f. Project Approval Process-Roland Avenue Options
 - i. Announcement of Poll Results
 1. Bob Connors reviewed the poll custodians and methodology and the DOT Proposed Options for Roland Avenue. He presented a PowerPoint presentation including the results. The presentation will be posted on <http://www.rolandpark.org/results-of-poll-roland-avenue>.
 2. Wyndhurst Improvement Association did its own poll. Caroline Wayner presented the results of that poll, where 70% preferred Option 2 over Option 1.
 3. Whereupon a discussion was held regarding the results of the polls.

- ii. Bob Connors read a position statement.
- iii. Trish Carroll moved to adopt the position statement that Bob had read with the understanding that we will modify the last sentence to reflect that we think that any option other than Option 2 cannot be adopted without further study.
 - 1. Chris McSherry seconds the motion, which was approved by voice vote.

- g. On behalf of the Landscape Committee, Kathy Hudson reported that median and other landscaping needs a deep root watering, which will cost \$2,800. This has been budgeted in the annual Roland Park Civic League budget.
 - i. Blair Storzer moved for approval of the request, which motion was seconded by Bob Connors and approved by voice vote.

- h. Attorney, Howard Schulman of Wright, Constable & Skeen provided an overview of potential legal options for RPCL should Baltimore DOT choose to ignore the Board's position based on our poll. Mr. Schulman shared his experience representing neighbors on Potomac Street last year is a similar matter.

IV. Bob Connors adjourned the meeting at 9:05.