

11/3/15 Board Meeting for Rose City Park Neighborhood Assn.,

Submitted by David Gates

Mtg. started at 7:02 –

RCPNA board members present:

Tamara DeRidder, Anne Lindsay, Richard Crockett, Rob Coleman, Deborah Field, David Gates, Craig Lindsay, Terry Parker, Ramona Reule, Erich Stiefvater, Gail Zuro.

Board members not present:

Nate Carter, Amanda Petretti and Michael Roth

Visitors:

Vince Shiro, Rich Petersen, Ramod Chhetni. Hereafter VS, RP and RC.

Visitor VS (strikeat17.5@gmail.com) came to let us know he was having continuing problems, despite efforts of the RCPNA by helping to create educational signage, of dog poop being “thrown” into his yard, with the, in his words “likely culprit” [sic] being a resident of the apartment complex (Sandy Crest) adjacent to his property. Vince said that his efforts to speak with the manager of the apartment did not result in any positive response of intention to investigation or take any action. A general discussion, including some questions by board members, resulted in the decision that the RCPNA would explore additional educational efforts. Tamara suggested that the newsletter format that was the best way to let the neighbors know that there was a continuing/unresolved issue.

A discussion was started about the best means for letting the CNN know the names of which RCPNA board members were in attendance for each meeting. Rob volunteered to send the official list after each meeting, in PDF form, to CNN.

Committee Reports

Gail asked about the procedure for submitting reports.

Treasurer

Richard submitted the report stating our balance with a brief discussion about bills that had been paid.

Communications

Erich brought up the communications grant that was being offered by CNN.

Entertainment

Craig invited input into how the next Concerts in the Park would be conducted. Richard suggested that we should set a list of criteria for judging whom we should seek out for future performances. Collectively the board came up with a short list: 1) Family Friendly, 2) Engaging to Children, and 3) to be 2 hours duration w/ appropriate breaks. Terry liked

the idea of events like the Conga Line that occurred this last summer. Anne wanted to make sure that children, especially, were engaged. Rob stated that “good music” was important. Craig said that he knew a ukulele band and that demonstrations (getting kids to try making music/singing?) and “giveaways” were popular. Craig also stated that our budget was \$1,000 per event.

Environment

David mentioned that he had been in contact w a RCP citizen living adjacent to the park that was having difficulties w/ dog poop issues and he was considering the CNN Communications grant for the communication of the issue in the form of signage. Tamara suggested that any violators of the existing laws already knew that they were in violation and that signage would likely not help the situation.

Communications

Ramona asked about electronic contacts, and Tamara reported 350 e-mails from neighborhood citizens.

Erich said that the Com. Committee would come up with a set of questions to survey

RCP citizens and would look into the best means of distributing the survey, perhaps using Survey Monkey. Deborah suggested exploring the use of promotional post cards saying a direct door mailing of 5-8,000 was cost efficient. Terry thought via his personal experience of running for political office that he felt the expense of mailing was too high.

Land Use

Tamara reported that there would be a Planning and Sustainability meeting on Dec. 10.

Additional Business

Anne made a motion to move the two requests for zoning support from visitors up in the meeting order, so as to facilitate their not having to stay for other RCPNA board meeting business. Seconded by Terry and there were no objections or abstentions.

Visitor RC (owner of property on Fremont) asked for RCPNA board support for his requests with the city for zoning changes to allow new development that would likely include mixed use and multiple occupancies. Tamara stated that there was room for 2 houses on the property. Deborah said RC proposal made sense for him to have the same advantage of previous businesses and that similarly developed businesses and housing made for more uniform and better flow on Fremont (and street already with current challenging flow issues [sic]).

Tamara said Comp Plans were done every 15 years and that General Developers have taken advantage before Comp. Plans caught up leading to current issues of confusion regarding zoning changes. Terry asked RC if he had asked for support from neighbors and he said that he had. Erich asked Deborah if the Beaumont NA has any views on the property in question and she said they hadn't had any discussion in that regard. Rob suggested that the property should have a Fremont address. Anne asked how adjacent block and that the City Council should rezone whole blocks rather than a piecemeal approach.

Deborah said that the zone in question was from 41st – to 50th Ave. Terry suggested including support for logistical strategies in the application. Gail asked if there was the intention to build housing as mixed use. The answer was yes. Tamara said the City in the past rezoned for high density housing as a buffer against _____.

Terry made a motion to approve rezoning support from the RCPNA board, Craig seconded and approval was unanimous.

Visitor RP (with son Blair) owners of the Christmas Tree business on Fremont asked for RCPNA support for his rezoning request w/ the City to allow for mixed use, including commercial, in the future. He stated that the property was commercial when he purchased it, and that residential status was not appropriate as he “could see 7 bars/marijuana-related business adjacent” to the property in question. He stated that the City would allow 8 units if parking is part of the development. He asked that the City physically “look at properties rather than make decisions from desks,” and stated that people would not want to live there (at his property). RP wants “equal treatment

on Fremont,” “ what everyone else has access to.” And that he fears being blocked in (by current zoning).

Rob made the motion to approve RCPNA board support, seconded by Richard. Anne wanted to stipulate we were speaking specifically about 41st- 50th, in terms of uniformity and Erich asked if our support should be in an additional letter or w/the actual application. Tamara suggested that we do both. RP added that he could claim the

“grandfather” understanding, if necessary. The motion was approved unanimously.

- Next General Meeting

Tamara mentioned that Depave and Raise the Wage had requests to speak at the next GM Terry said that Raise the Wage was political. David said that Fire on the Mountain had said they would like to contribute food. Terry wanted to ask City Council. Anne wanted to address the homeless issue, incl. Dan Saltzman. Ramona wanted to include schools and school boundary issues. Rob liked that issue for “bringing in big crowds,” and said he would try to encourage Rep. Barbara Smith Warner to attend. Ramona accepted the task of developing the next GM w/ Terry’s assistance.

- Retreat

Minute’s approval from the Retreat moved by Terry and seconded by Deborah.

Unanimous approval.

- CNN Special Communications Fund

Erich talked about exploring the post card idea, but was open to other ideas and invited ideas submitted w/in a week. General discussion ensued- Ideas were to hand out post cards at RCP events that would have key meetings and dates for a full year as well as initiatives in question and contact info for the RCPNA. Anne suggested thinking about using cards for means of development rather than distribution of facts. Gail liked the take home aspect. Deborah suggested distribution at Fremont Fest, Ramona said the Farmer’s Market was a good place. David said maybe the dog waste issue could be an opportunity to capture people’s interest.

Erich moved that we apply for the grant via the Communications Committee, Rob seconded and the vote was unanimous.

- Land Use and Transportation

Tamara recommended comprehensive language in the proposed plan particularly on transportation issues and parking and wanted to look at more carefully in the December meeting. Anne asked if last year's RCPNA comments were added to the amendments and if both old and new comments would be included. Tamara said that the new would replace the old comments. General discussion resulted in a consensus that the proposed plan needed more balance, in particular the inclusion of more strategic ability to park cars in residential neighborhoods. Anne wanted our letter to the City to start off with that language to emphasize that need. Gail wanted to emphasize that the issue was largely about single occupancy vs. private vehicles not about single occupancy trips.

- Retreat

Anne said that the City should be more involved (proactive) in initiating homeless issues rather than relying on the police to perform this task. ONI should do this kind of thing for all neighborhoods since neighborhood associations have "Zero Resources." She suggested coordinating meetings to this effect with Amanda Fritz.

- By Laws

Rob said there was interest for the RCPNA to update the By Laws to allow activism. He stated that he was not opposed to exploring the possibilities of changes in the future, and that discussion of that would have to go through a subcommittee. He said that our By Laws were largely based on an ONI template, and the subcommittee would recommend considering changes. Changes in By Laws require a two-step process- two board meetings and then a General Meeting to adopt the revision to the template. Anne stated that templates have options and that some of them are practical.

Rob reiterated that the subcommittee would explore the options for procedure. Terry wished for a one-step process and exact proposals. Rob said it would be October before that could happen. Anne supported a slower, simpler process. Rob said they we should give notice that we intend to adopt the template at the General Meeting in January, and that the subcommittee would report in (March?).

Issues to Carry Over:

Deborah wanted to discuss Local Business Committee objectives.

Craig wanted to discuss the CNN and ONI standards handout.

9:04 PM

Deborah motioned to adjourn the meeting. Gail seconded. Passed unanimously.