

## **Roland Park Civic League February 4, 2010 Monthly Meeting**

In attendance: Phil Spevak, Ian MacFarlane, Ken Winkler, David Blumberg, John Kevin, Rita Walters, Louise Phipps-Senft, Bill Sharpe, Michael Braverman, Chris McSherry, Muriel Berkeley, Kate Culotta

Absent: Mike McQuestion, Jesse Halvorsen, Peter Kannam, Doug Munro

Special Guests: Wazir Qadri (Acting Chief of Engineering Water & Waste Water)  
Arthur Jones-Dove (Program Manager for EA Engineering)  
Carlos Esponosa (KCI Technologies) To discuss issues and developments of water and waste water from an engineering point of view.  
Julia Pierson & Cristina Oliveira- Rolden Association

Meeting called to order by Phil Spevak at 7:10 PM

### **Old Business:**

1. 4301 Roland Avenue: David Tufaro and Steve Zeigler still meeting with developers on the final exterior plans.
2. Fire House: Kitchen paperwork still under review by Insurance underwriter. Still waiting for discussion on 2<sup>nd</sup> floor to begin with the City.

### **7:15 Start of Presentation by 3 guests on topic of City Water & Waste Water. Introduction by Ian MacFarlane.**

Baltimore City currently has 8 pumping stations and 2 treatment plants (Back River & Patapsco) Consent Degree 2002-2016 \$1 billion federal program to require the City to evaluate the water & sewer system, all 8" pipe and larger.

- A. Upgrade Pumping Stations to eliminate overflow areas
- B. Evaluate all manholes with CCTV- have completed 30,000 of them
- C. Continuous upgrades on 8" pipe and large

Roland Park : Part of the Jones Falls Watershed.

- 272 manholes have been CCTV'd.
- 186 were found to be "fair. 81 were graded as "poor".
- Study to be completed by 2010, new construction of pipe in 2011.
- Most of the pipe in Roland Park is 6" clay constructed in 2 foot lengths so it's not part of the study.
- Each of the joints are weak spots, as the ground shift, roots and debris get into the pipe. DW&WW has tried treating roots with high concentration of root killer, has seen success with this program.
- 6" pipes are too narrow to CCTV.
- Houses are required to have a "clean-out" valve near the street so technicians can check for blockage in city pipes or determine the blockage is in pipes on homeowners property. A clean-out valve can cost anywhere from

\$3500-\$7000 to install.

- Homeowners should limit use of garbage disposals. The City tracks grease hot-spots and Roland Park is grease Hot Spot.
- To prevent problems, the City will retreat with heavy duty de-greaser in the manholes to limit grease related problems.
- The city tracks 311 calls for water and sewer problems. Map of calls was brought to the meeting for review.
- Homeowner Jason Goldstein brought up an interesting legal question when he faced severe sewage flooding in his home caused by a city blockage, when he applied to re-coup clean-up costs, he was told that only repairs where the city was “aware” of existing problem, would be covered. How often do you need to call 311 to report a problem for it to be considered “notified”?

### **Continuation of Old Business:**

3. RPP- Julia Pierson & Cristina Oliveira: Rolden Association is opposed to an expansion of PUD at RPP to expand parking. Rolden Association would like to confine the PUD to a minor revision that would expand parking within the existing grounds and not expand to the residential home and vacant church on Roland Avenue. The Rolden Association is asking local residents to write letters to Council Woman Mary Pat Clarke to state opposition to the expansion of parking to the 4000 block of Roland Avenue. The Civic League voted in November of 2009 to support the Rolden Association and oppose the major PUD revision.
3. Roads & Maintenance: Kathleen made a motion to install new plat representative, second by David Blumberg. Motion was approved. Barry Goodinson: Plat 1; Martha Armenti: Plat 4
4. January Minutes: Motion of approve minutes by Chris McSherry, second by Ian MacFarlane.
5. Financial Report: By John Kevin. Motion to approve by David Blumberg, second by Ian MacFarlane. Financial report approved.
6. Membership Drive: David Blumberg- 2010 dues up from 50% participation to nearly 66%. Asking plat reps to talk to neighbors who don't normally pay dues to contribute. Would like to see participation at 85%. Bring membership cards (in the RP office) to Chili event and Spring Fling party in April.

### **New Business**

1. Master Plan: drafts due by end of February. In March, committees will be setting up meetings with local businesses and organization for their input. There is opportunity for everyone to give their input. More information and committee blogs available on the web site.  
Charette #3 April 8 from 7-9 PM at RP Elementary/Middle. Looking for community input.
2. Nominating Committee: New officers elected May 2010. A couple of officers will meet the 6 year limit and have to step aside (at least for 1 year). Nominating committee to meet.
3. March meeting: Commission for Historical and Architectural Preservation (CHAP) with Tyler Gearhart, Donald Kann and Michael Murphy. CHAP could be an important component to RP Master Plan.

Meeting Adjourn: Motion to adjourn by Bill Sharpe, Second by Ken Winkler. Adjourn at 9:10 PM