

Roland park Civic League
July 2, 2009 * Meeting Minutes
Roland Park Presbyterian Church

In attendance: Phil Spevak Mike McQuestion Christine Belzer
 Bill Sharpe David Blumberg Ken Winkler
 Peter Kannam Chris McSherry Louise Phipps Senft
 Minutes taken by : Kate Culotta

Absent: Jesse Halvorsen, Muriel Berkeley, Michael Braverman, Rita Waters, Jennifer Cooper
Ian MacFarlane, Yovi Poblete

Noted Guests: Tanya Coopers-Miller- Assistant to Councilwoman Middleton

Time Started: 7:05 PM

Old Business:

1. June's Minutes: Motion to approve by Bill Sharpe, second by Mike McQuestion
Minutes approved as written
2. Treasurer's report- will be emailed at later date, Jesse Halvorsen on vacation
3. July 4th Parade- update by Mike di Pietro. Plans set for meeting in front of library
at 10 am for opening. Will be attended by Mayor Dixon, Jill Carter & Ricki Spector.
Will include RP fire truck and antique truck from the fire museum. Refreshments
and entertainment at the Presbyterian Church. Several area groups will have tables
set up. Will sell raffle tickets for a few prizes to benefit the Fire House Fund.
4. Roland Park Place PUD: parking expansion plans to amend covenant and PUD
Still opposed by residents, discussions still on-going.
5. 4301 Roland Ave: Land-use sub-committee still meeting with Frank Harvey & group.
Have begun reviewing exterior plans. They passed their last zoning hearing. RP offered
letter of support with inclusion of our conditions and suggestions.
6. Wyndhurst Coffee Shop: Required change in covenant and conditional use.
Opposed by small group of Wyndhurst residents. Women's Consignment Shop using space
on a monthly lease in the meantime.
7. Fire Station: Celebrate Roland Park Week added \$2000 to the total. Not all donations
are in from the event. Looking forward to check from Petite Louis Bistro. Disappointed
in donation from CMG. Look to meet goal by summers end.

New Business:

1. *North Baltimore Coalition:* Update by David Blumberg on plans by Notre Dame College
to move and expand the main entrance to the college on Charles Street. Plan is supported by
the NBC but opposed by residents of Blythewood. Will change street parking and entrance site.
Will cause the elimination of 2 bus stops. Not completely funded at this time. Projected start is
July 2010, completion in 2018.

2. *Roland Avenue Water Tower*: presentation by Ken Winkler. Brought up to date on the deterioration of the tower. Falling debris prompted city to enclose with fence topped with barbed-wire fence.

Group of local residents have formed the Friends of Roland Tower to raise money and awareness of the historic landmark and to gain support by the surrounding communities of RP, Hampden, Hos Heights, Medfield, etc.... Group includes Suzanne Frazier & Michael Falk, both in attendance. Discussion included information passed by Louise on her past communications with Catherine Pugh on possible Bond Money. Also discussed inclusion into the city Master Green Space plan. Andrew Marani worked on rehab estimates 3 years ago and added his information to the discussion. Louise also brought up interest from Cell companies. Mike DiPietro has paperwork to set up 501(3) c to collect donations.

Phil motioned to offer support to Friends of Roland Tower's mission statement. The Civic League suggested adding words to include "uses" in the mission statement.
2nd by Louise, motion passed.

3. *Discussion of 2009-2010 Initiatives*:

A. Beautification and public works: Brought up to date by Louise. Recap of accomplishments so far; bulb planting, island stewardship, native plant sale, Falls Road clean-up, Lecture Series and path walk. Future goals: Another lecture series, obtain Olmstead Files from Cornell U. and find someone to start cataloging the material. Put together new neighbor Welcome Packets.

B. Education within Roland Park: by Peter Kannam. How to promote educational initiatives. Discussion on how to involve more children as leaders of the initiatives, such as walking groups to school, carpools, bike. Setting roles for kids to get involved within the Green Program.

C. Membership Drive: Volunteer cards and info available on table following Parade. Add info to Welcome Packets. Discussion on adding fees as automatic bank payment.

D. Sustainability & Energy Pilot Program: (Mike McQuestion)
June 24th meeting with Alice Kennedy at Mike McQuestion's house with Rita Waters, Lynn Heller, & Phil Spevak. RP participating in energy challenge, 1 of 8 neighborhoods working to reduce energy consumption. Program will be volunteer driven with volunteer residents visiting neighbor to sign-up in program. BGE will evaluate energy use, offer suggestions to reduce use, educate on tax benefits, city will provide orientation, technical support and {\$1000 incentive to enroll in project, 200 households participating)

Mike McQuestion is looking for volunteers to be Energy Ambassadors.

Other ideas include closing portion of Roland Ave one Sunday morning a month to allow bike, jogging, walking traffic (non-motorized traffic)

Improved mass transit initiatives

Bulk heating oil purchase

Motion to adjourn by Bill Sharpe

Second by Peter Kannam

Meeting closed at 9:06 PM No August Meeting