

Roland Park Civic League
Minutes of Board of Directors Meeting
November 6, 2008

CALL TO ORDER

The Meeting was called to order at approximately 7:00 pm.

Board Members Present: 10 of the CL's 17 Board members were in attendance at the meeting.

Others in attendance:

Adam Bednar: Baltimore Messenger

Doug Munro: RP webmaster

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

1. The Treasurers Report dated Oct. 31, 2008 was circulated and approved. Treasurer Jesse Halvorsen noted a continuation of donations to the CL advocacy fund. Advocacy expenses are estimated at \$25,000 and the CL has agreed to pay \$9,500, plus donated items earmarked for advocacy. The Foundation is expected to pay the remainder. Our investments have not been negatively impacted by recent economic events.
2. Minutes from the Oct. 2 2008 meeting of the CL Board were circulated for review and approved by the Board.

BUSINESS

1. **Keswick Update:** The CL continues to build on efforts in opposition to the proposed KMC project. The CL recently secured the support of Councilman Jim Kraft as well as the support of the Mt. Washington Community Association. Allies of KMC have attempted to make presentations to other community groups in the area and the CL is interested in meeting with the same groups to lend our perspective on this issue.
2. **RP Fire Station:** The CL was updated on proposed improvements to the Station. New lockers will cost about \$12,000 and new kitchen cabinetry will cost about \$18,000. Firefighters will donate their time to install the lockers. \$2,300 has been raised thus far. The CL approved the contribution of \$6,000, plus the \$2,300 raised thus far, for the purpose of purchasing the lockers and cabinets. The possibility of obtaining \$100,000 in bond funds to be used for bathroom and sleeping quarters renovations is being explored.
3. **Sewerage:** Ian MacFarlane augmented his report on this issue from last month. He stated that despite the fact that most of the community is served by 6" lines, the primary problem in our area are obstructions, not capacity. Many obstructions are caused by tree roots and the City plans to use "diquant" a chemical root killer that will remove the obstructions, but not damage trees. There will not be a complete video inspection of all lines in the area, although there will be some of this occurring. The ultimate "engineering solution is for all lines to be replaced with 8" PVC pipes. For this to occur, the plan must become part of the 2010 capital plan, although we are unsure of its inclusion in the plan. Last: Ian asked that when any community residents call about a sewerage "hotspot" that he be notified so he can track the issues and follow up with the City.

4. **Membership:** David Blumberg reported on efforts to increase CL membership the first step is to develop a list of all households that are not CL members and to send those homes a letter seeking their participation. This will be followed up by calls/visits by CL board members. Lists will be generated shortly and will be distributed to each CL plat rep.
5. **Traffic:** Chris McSherry reported on the results of meeting with the Transportation Dept. over traffic/safety issues on Roland Ave. in the school/Library/shopping district area. The CL supports a re-alignment of the median (to allow left turns into Gilman and RPCS with an in-fill of the now paved median at the north exit from Gilman. We also support cross walk signage and speed cameras (on SB Roland near the library)
6. **Beautification Committee:** Is now official!! Thirteen "Island Stewards" have been selected to be responsible for coordinating landscape improvements to their respective islands. 1,000 plants have been purchased and will be planted in the islands within the week. Next on the agenda is the selection of "Path Stewards", Trolley stop makeover, and the resurrection of the RP sign on University
7. **Marianist Property:** The CL has been contacted by the owner of this property about a change in development plans. Instead of the previously approved town home community, the owner would like to sell to a group that intends to construct and operate a 63 unit, 100,000 sq. ft. memory care facility. Details were not fully developed as of our meeting, but there appears to be no need for resident parking, but a need for 30 spaces for staff (approx. 16 employees) and visitors. Concept drawings have been submitted to the planning department. The CL has ownership of our land use process and asked that a meeting with our land use committee be scheduled in short order. No position was taken on the proposal at this time.
8. **Other:**
 - a. Next City Master Plan meeting is set for 11/17 (see transform Baltimore website"
 - b. Cross Keys is on the market again. The CL has been contacted by an interested party. No word on any sale.
 - c. Zurich is interested in selling it's office complex next to the Rotunda
 - d. Rotunda Project. Spevak spoke to Chris Bell for an update. No news to report

ADJOURNED 9:00 p.m.