

## **Roland Park Civic League Minutes**

April 2, 2014

Roland Park Presbyterian Church

Present: Chris McSherry, Paula Dube, Andrew Marani, Hilary Paska, Jennifer Vey, Andrew Wolfe, Anne Porterfield,

Absent: Muriel Berkeley, Michael Kwass, Ian MacFarlane, Laura Grier, Elisabeth Sachs, Kurt Overton, Seema Iyer, Christy Crain, Beth, Tim Schere

### New Business

- 1) Approval of the March 2014 minutes was postponed until next month.
- 2) The Treasurer's Report was postponed until next month.
- 3) **Board Members:** Beth Hayes is stepping down.
- 4) **Cross Keys Renovations/Redevelopment:** Alan Waldman from Cross Keys Maintenance Corporation (CKMC) reported.

A meeting took place in March between the Ashkenazy Co. and the residents. There is a tentative agreement on not completely demolishing the gatehouse. There are two alternative proposals to demolishing the current gatehouse, although it would look different and that is still of concern to some residents.

Much of the rest of the CKMC March meeting with Ashkenazy meeting covered an Ashkenazy presentation of the proposed changes (outlined in the RPCL Minutes of November 2013.) There was an overflow crowd of over 100 people. The new owners of the Radisson invested \$6 million in the hotel and an overall refreshment of CK would benefit everyone. All agree that some changes are needed but that should not diminish appeal of the village as residential area with shops as opposed to a mall with residences nearby. Residents would support a change to the tennis barn depending on what it looks like. There was also discussion of pedestrian access improvements within the village and across Falls Road.

Chris McSherry reported that CKMC has been keeping us up to date. The RPCL has not heard from Ashkenazy directly since last fall but the company knows the RPCL supports the residents. Chris has told Stanley Fine, attorney for Ashkenazy, that they need to make another presentation to the RPCL, and the RPCL will review the next set of detailed plans very carefully.

Cross Keys resident Alan Malester spoke as well. He noted his and some other residents interest in keeping Cross Keys as a gated community and that some residents have concerns about safety at night if retail is a priority. He noted the residents' appreciation for the RPCL's support and interest in the project.

- 5) **Proposed Coldspring Transit Oriented Development.** Developer Judy Segal, Chair of Landex Development Company, gave a presentation to update the RPCL on progress since their last appearance. Also in attendance were representatives of the Coldspring-Newtown

community, the Baltimore Development Corporation and the City. After many months of negotiation, the City and BGE entered into an agreement whereby BGE will build its substation across Coldspring Lane. Segall presented some very draft site plans for the commercial/residential development on the south side of Coldspring. The proposed development will include open space including a bike path, limited retail and residences. The City has agreed to put a traffic signal at the entrance to the site. A physicians group is possibly interested in the commercial area.

#### Old Business

- 1) **Roland Avenue Paving:** Al Copp reported. Contractor - Louis Construction - has been selected. A construction schedule will be reviewed by Al and shared with residents and the fire station.
- 2) **Broadband Initiative Report:** Phil Spevak reported. Baltimore was not chosen as part of a Google project regarding broadband. They are looking for events/parties to attend where residents can sign up (i.e., RPEMS MayMart).
- 3) **Maintenance Committee:** Andrew Marani reported. We spent \$4300 for plowing and throwing salt. Organic debris pickup has been resumed.
- 4) **Traffic Report:** Al Copp and Chris McSherry reported. A meeting with the City was finally held and found out that need a petition from the residents for the affected roads by April 17. We need to canvass those residents. We also might get an extension of the deadline from the City but the relevant point person will be out on medical leave. It was noted that the RPCL needs to draft a proposal to accompany the petition that explains to residents how this will affect them.
- 5) **Bike Rally:** Chris McSherry reported. Poly-Western was not able to store the bikes. The Northern District Police Station is looking for storage space. After that, we will schedule drop off of old bikes, get them repaired and schedule the rally.
- 6) **Uniform Drive:** Chris McSherry reported. Thanks to Seema Iyer and the Girl Scout troop, piles of clothes were collected and the Park Heights community group was thrilled. Spring Lane Cleanup: Been suggested but need a point person to advertise it and need block captains.
- 7) **Spring Clean-Up:** Chris McSherry reported. It has been suggested that we organize a clean up of the lanes. We need an organizer and block captains.
- 8) **Public Safety Update:** Chris McSherry reported. There will be a new procedure for BCPS police to alert security personnel at the area independent schools when BCPS police are aware of a relevant incident.
- 9) **RPCL Board Nominations:** Chris McSherry reported. A Nominating Committee will be formed.
- 10) **Spring Celebration:** Chris McSherry reported. This annual event will be held on May 2nd at the Roland Park Women's Club.

There was no quorum so no votes were taken.

Adjourned: 8:25 p.m.