

Roland Park Civic League Minutes  
February 6, 2014

Present: Chris McSherry, Michael Kwass, Muriel Berkeley, Hilary Paska, Ian MacFarlane, Laura Grier, Andrew Marani, Andrew Wolfe, Elisabeth Sachs, Anne Porterfield, Kurt Overton, Seema Iyer

Absent: Laura Grier, Jennifer Vey, Paula Dube, Christy Crain, Beth Hayes, Tim Schere

Old Business

- 1) The December and July 2013 Minutes were approved.
- 2) The Treasurer's Report was postponed.
- 3) Maintenance Committee Update: Signs will cost more than expected. They would like to shift funds approved last month from path repairs to signs. Motion to approve the fund shift. Motion Approved.
- 4) Broadband Initiative Report. Phil Spevak reported. The campaign has 400 backers including 1 out of 10 Roland Parkers. The campaign is progressing and is open to other communities joining. They hope to reach the 20% goal by the summer. The campaign has two immediate needs: spread the word about backing the campaign and enlisting some volunteers to help out.

New Business

- 1) DPW Update: There will be work starting on sanitary sewer lines on Hillside Road between Falls Road and Goodwood Gardens. The City is also doing a comprehensive assessment of this general area because there are so many smaller (6 inch) clay pipes. When the pipes are replaced, they will be replaced with 8 inch pipes. In attendance at the meeting were Madeline Driscoll with the DPW asset management division, a contractor for the Hillside project and the DPW community liaison Erica Parnell. The RPCL Infrastructure Subcommittee will get in touch with Erica for continued updates and coordination on these projects.
- 2) Cross Keys Renovations/Redevelopment: Chris McSherry reported. She and Laura Grier went to the UDAG hearing. Suggestions were made. The RPCL ad hoc committee for this project met with the representatives of the Cross Keys Maintenance Corporation (CKMC), comprised of representatives from each of the nine condo associations. The CKMC does not want changes to the main gatehouse. RPCL generally supports its neighbors and will wait for a definitive decision from the CKMC about the gatehouse.
- 3) Park Heights Renaissance: Julius Colon, Executive Director, Park Heights Renaissance Association attended the meeting.
  - They are developing a master plan for the southern Park Heights area. There are several areas of need: school uniforms, volunteering in the schools, a bike give-back program and general knowledge sharing between the neighborhoods with Roland Parkers lending professional expertise where needed (legal advice, architectural advice, etc.)

- Seema Iyer reported that the Roland Park E/MS Girl Scout troop has a plan for a used "khaki drive" for the Park Heights schools. Several troop members were in attendance and reported on their plan.

4) Zoning Committee: Transform Baltimore

Councilwoman Sharon Middleton was in attendance and gave an update on City Council actions:

- Village Center Density issue: Our City Council people are supporting us on reinstating B11 density restrictions.
- Educational Campuses: Chris McSherry reported. She has been working on amendments and met with the area schools regarding our issues.

5) Roland Avenue Paving: Al Copp reported.

There were five bids received in December. An award has been made but we don't have a notice to proceed. Work is likely to begin this spring.

6) Water Tower: Al Copp reported.

The first contract will be the exterior restoration. Two additional contracts will be the interior space and the park.

7) Trolley Building: Al Copp reported.

The building was damaged by a vehicle in the past year. The City is prepared to award a contract to fix it.

8) Maintenance Committee: Andrew Marani reported.

The lanes were plowed and salted after one storm so some snow funding has been spent. Chris McSherry reported that next wave of path signs will go up soon.

9) Traffic Report: Chris McSherry reported.

There is no word from the City on our request for a traffic volume/feasibility study to assess that need for "no left turn" signs on all cut-through streets from Coldspring Lane to Northern Parkway, between Falls Road and Roland Avenue, during the 7-9 a.m. "school rush hour".

10) RPEMS Mentoring Program - Kurt Overton reported

The mentoring program has 22 mentors. Students are RPE/MS students who are not from the Roland Park community. There is a meeting next week to discuss lessons learned so far.

11) Website

Laura Grier needs a co-chair. A name was suggested and Chris McSherry will follow up.

12) Firefighters' Update: Members of the Roland Park Fire Station reported.

If you see a hydrant leaking, please notify fire station. There could be freezing issues which hinders firefighters' ability to use the hydrant. Also, narrow streets make it difficult for trucks to navigate. Don't park where it says no parking, and put sideview mirrors in. In general, feel free to stop the fire station to say hi!

13) Chili Cook Off - February 22. Tickets available through the website.

14) Public Safety Update: Northern District Officer O'Donnell reported.

- They are getting new patrol cars soon so more officers can patrol the neighborhood.
- If you want an officer to check on suspicious behavior, call the roll call room and it your request will be read at roll call for 10 days. Ask for “special attention” in the roll call book when you dial 410-396-2455

15) New Issue: David Tufaro noted that speed cameras are still an issue  
He urged people to contact Councilwoman Middleton to let her know how you feel about it.

Adjourned: 8:39 p.m.