

Roland Park Civic League
January 7, 2015
Roland Park Presbyterian Church 7-9 pm

Present: Chris McSherry, Laura Grier, Andrew Marani, Elisabeth Sachs, Patti Ephraim, Andrew Wolfe, Tim Schere, Leslee Bivalacqua, Jennifer Vey, Trish Carroll, Kurt Overton, Kathleen Truelove

Absent: Chris Cortright, Muriel Berkeley, Steve Grantz, Anne Porterfield, Muriel Berkeley, Ian MacFarlane

New Business

- 1) Minutes - Deferred until next month.
- 2) Treasurer's Report - Deferred until next month.
- 3) Plat 1 Representative - We need to find someone. Please send suggestions to Chris.
- 4) Bicycle Safety Proposal - Peter Rosenthal reported.
Peter has been working with the City on better bike lanes on Roland Avenue as part of the repaving on Roland Avenue. The idea is to have a "cycle track." There are 130 cycle tracks nationwide including in NY and Chicago. Baltimore City DOT is reaching out to the Roland Park schools and the broader community. One idea is to put a track between parked cars and the curb. Any bike lanes would adhere to the bump outs that are planned for Roland Avenue. There will be a wider community meeting with DOT to explain the details. It will require education of the community. A discussion followed about current biking patterns and how this proposal might affect the commercial areas and the areas in front of the schools.

Motion: Support the concept of a cycle track.
Motion Approved.

- 5) Website Overhaul - Chris McSherry reported.
She would like to make this a priority. Steve Grantz has volunteered to spearhead it. There was discussion about paying a teen to help with this project. Laura Grier has already developed an outline of a proposed reorganization to make the site more user friendly. Current content would also need to be updated. The project will need a committee to help. Trish Carroll will reach out to neighbors who might have expertise in website design. Keeping a new website up-to-date might have to be added to the office manager's duties?.

- 6) Officer Manager Update - Chris McSherry reported.
The Officer Manager Beth Hayes sent a thank you note for the gift certificate to Johnny's as a holiday thank you. We also gave her a raise of \$5 more per hour.

- 7) Architectural Review Committee - Kathleen Truelove reported.
She is asking for a new filing cabinet for the property files. The current filing cabinet is very old. It would also be helpful to have a wireless router in the office. She would also like to revise the bylaws for the Architectural Review committee.

Motion: Authorize up to \$500 for a filing cabinet.
Motion: Approved.

Old Business

1) Roland Park Country School – No report.

2) Cross Keys Renovations – No report.

3) Firefighters Update – Several firefighters attended. The new Fire Chief is very community oriented. They do home visits for two hours every Saturday afternoon.

4) Crime Report - Sgt. Morales from the Northern District reported.

i. The individual doing drug drops in the neighborhood has a record including armed robbery. He was arrested but made bail and is back out. No one has reported seeing his car(s) recently. Maryland case search is a site where we can track his cases as they go through the criminal justice system.

ii. The Roland Avenue Bicycle Crash is being thoroughly investigated. It is ongoing. It is important not to rush this investigation.

iii. People are welcome to attend the community relations meeting that takes place monthly at the Northern District Police Station.

iv. Recent Crimes: A pizza delivery driver was robbed in the 300 block of Northfield in December. There has been an increase in commercial robberies south of Hampden on Sisson Street and other areas south of Roland.

v. The new schedule is starting that will be putting more officers on the street for 10.5 hour shifts. There will be double coverage between certain hours.

5) Bike Rally: Kurt Overton reported.

RPEMS has agreed to take on leadership of the Park Heights Bike Drive. There had been issues of who would store the bikes that were collected. The Northern District would offer a bike safety course and any kid who participates will get a bike and a helmet. The police said they would approach a big box store for the helmets. By April, there would be a collection effort, possibly over several weekends. There was a discussion about having to pay a technician to tune up the donated bikes and/or seeing whether bike locks might be donated as well as helmets.

6) Roland Avenue paving - Al Copp reported. No new updates until weather improves.

7) Water Tower - Al Copp reported. We should expect a scope of services from new engineers soon.

8) Maintenance Committee - Andrew Marani reported.

Railing at the condos: We need to pick a standard railing to use. There are also broken railings on Laurel Path.

Hilltop Path Repair: Work has not yet begun.

Path Signs: Kathleen Truelove reported. Some of the rustier signs have been "removed."

9) Traffic Report and Petition to Install “No Left Turn” Signs off of Falls Road - Chris McSherry and Laura Grier reported.

There is no update. There still needs to be a meeting with the City to address questions raised by Falls Road Terrace residents.

10) Sidewalks: There was discussion about responsibility for repairing sidewalks and reminding homeowners whose responsibility it is and contractors who are recommended.

Adjourned: 8:30 p.m.