

RPCL Meeting March 2016

RPCL Members present: Chris McSherry, Patti Ephraim, Trish Carroll, Tim Schere, Jennifer Vey, Chris Cortright, Steve Grantz, Bob Connors, Anne Porterfield, Ian MacFarlane, Andrew Wolfe, Leslee Bivalacqua

### Minutes

November 2015 and January 2016 meeting minutes approved.

### Police Report

Agent Perfetto, Major Gibson, Northern District Commander

Hillside and Woodlawn property robberies occurred in recent weeks. Police identified that there was someone casing the neighborhood driving a Silver Nissan Altima. In alley behind #14 Hillside. House owner scared him. Police stopped several Nissan Altima driving in the neighborhood, but did not apprehend the suspect. They are continuing efforts to patrol the neighborhood and look for vehicles associated with crimes.

Speed enforcement update. Police have been writing speeding tickets and been focusing on enforcement of speed limit on lower Roland Avenue. They will be moving up to Northern Parkway. Speed limit is 25 MPH. A new 30 MPH sign went up in front of the library on Roland Avenue. The monitors installed on the road are recording speeds and collecting data on how fast people are travelling on Roland Avenue.

### Architectural Approval

Eddie Jacobs steel security gates approved.

### Annual Meeting scheduled for May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2016.

Scheduled for May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2016. Chris will ask City Council president Jack Young to be the speaker, to discuss Transform Baltimore.

### Centennial Park Cleanup

Neighbors have gotten together to clean up Centennial Park. Efforts have been made to identify plants. Civic League authorized cleanup around the holidays. Saturday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> 9 am – 12 pm, Clean Up day. Baltimore green space will provide vests, trash bags, gloves, do pick up. Need to apply by Friday, 3/3/16. Lots of poison ivy in the park and therefore suggested that this be an adult activity. Weed Warrior Program as part of Tree Baltimore. Certified Weed Warrior have to attend classes 3/16, 6:30 pm – 8 pm and 3/19 12 pm – 3 pm.

[www.meetup.com/baltimore/wee/warrior](http://www.meetup.com/baltimore/wee/warrior)

Contact Paula at [Gizma95958@verizon.net](mailto:Gizma95958@verizon.net) for more information.

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### Roland Park Baseball Travel Team

RP Baseball League represents about 700 kids. 60 recreational teams, 9 – 15 years. Also 9 travel teams. Looking for a sponsor for one of the 7 travel teams. Asking for \$250 in support. Board approved supporting one of the 7 travel teams.

### Ingenuity Project

Caroline Wayner, President of the Wyndhurst Improvement Assoc, presented on behalf of the Ingenuity Project, RPEMS and Polytechnic, a request for a donation of \$1,500 at the “friend” level. Funds go to employ math teachers, professional development, support competitions, summer programs, etc. 73 children from Roland Park in the 21210 zip code attend either RPEMS or Polytechnic. Board approved the support.

### Cyclovia

Planning for an event in May, depending on when the city determines is a good date.

### Social Committee

Carol Bishop presented an idea for a project to inspire residents and children. Similar to Cylburn Arboretum “Professor Cools Schoolhouse.” Proposing placing Rural Mailbox at select neighborhood corners. A letter, sheet of paper, with activity would be placed in the mail box. Each month a certain theme for the letter. Example would be a focus on Poems – every week there would be change in the boxes. History of Roland park given as another example. Box would be assigned to a volunteer to maintain. Suggested it be supported by both Roland Park and Wyndhurst association. Need to explore the permits for such a plan and other factors that still need to be identified.

### Q&A Session on Cycle Track

Representatives from DoT present to answer questions from the community: The DOT representatives were: Director William Johnson, Kohl Fallin (kohl.fallin@baltimorecity.gov), Caitlin Doolin, and Graham Young  
Parking Enforcement Chief, Yolanda Casson  
Representative Sharon Middleton and Robert Ginyard both attended as well to hear comments and concerns.

There will be a grace period for enforcement of parking violations within the cycle track. DoT will let the community know 2 weeks before they begin ticketing cars that are illegally parked. Grace period will begin at the end of construction period estimated in June. Friendly warning currently being placed on cars windshield for violators. Parking in the buffer is illegal parking. If hatched out – not allowed to park.

People are parking in the daylighting area at intersections and bus zones where cycle path comes out. Technically when the project is complete that will be illegal.

#### Comments/ Concerns

- Loss of parking on the street in front of residences. Can inspectors come out and check what has been done by the contractor in terms of marking the daylighting? If specific instances, let the DoT (through Kohl Fallin see e-mail above) and they can come out to inspect.
- Visibility problems. There are specific instances of where the daylighting and the markings are creating problems for drivers coming out into the road. Longwood and Valley Lane – coming out on to Roland Avenue cannot see to the left. Community member reported this specific issue and they are going to fix this. Colorado just south of Eddies is another area where there is a problem. Cars cannot see when pulling out on to Roland Avenue. Residents recommend people from DoT coming out into each intersection to see what it is like. RPCL committee can help put together a list of roads and lanes where there are problems with visibility as they have been previously reported.
- Crosswalk markings. Existing marking were temporary and will be permanent when brick is laid in the Spring. They are starting to take up the asphalt to make way for the brick.
- Evaluation. Is there a plan for a safety assessment of the new configuration and evaluation? The RPCL has formed a subcommittee and will work with DoT to develop and evaluation plan. How do you evaluate success? Count traffic, traffic speed, number of bikers, as built plan, compliance with parking restrictions, width of parking lanes and effectiveness. Concern that they will not be measuring bikers using the biking lane. The evaluation will also take into account community opinion and concerns. Is there a way to assess, maybe a questionnaire of the community, to find out if people who were using the bike lane previously are choosing not to use the current bike lane.
- Concern for Pedestrians in Bike Lanes. DoT needs to look at areas of high pedestrian usage – Eddie's, library – feels unsafe for the biker and there is fear that biker will hit pedestrian.
- Double Parking. Enforcement of double parking issue in front of the school. Problem is that there are so many people requesting this and too little people to enforce that are employed by the city.
- Modification of Daylighting Markings. Is there an opportunity to modify the daylighting? Affecting the number of parking spaces available to residents and this in turn affects property values and merchants.
- Loss of Parking. DoT reported that there would be a loss of 15 parking spaces, but it appears that there have been more spaces lost. Would it be possible to re-examine this and give an accurate count of parking spot losses? DoT estimates an additional of 35 lost spaces (20 to accommodate ADA ramps and 15 due to bump outs). Have had to increase daylighting due to concerns about being able to see when coming out of side lanes. Is it possible to put a handicap parking spot where there is daylighting?

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Resident asked DoT what can the community do to help. Response was to slow down traffic, continue open dialogue, keep your neighbors informed about the parking procedures. Finish date for the whole construction project – June 2016. Cycle track work to be done – needs to be dry and above 60 degrees. Projected sometime early April/May 2016.