# Roland Park Civic League Civic League Meeting

Roland Park Presbyterian Church 4801 Roland Avenue (enter on Upland) November 7, 2018 7:00-9:00PM

Attendance: Bob Connors, Mary Kay Battafarano, Blair Storzer, Ashley Handwerk, Anne Stuzin, Chris McSherry, Steve Grantz, Chris Cortright, Richard Bruno, Tom Carlson, Jennifer Viglucci, Kristin Herber

#### 1. Routine Business

- 1. Police/Fire Updates: The transition of Truck 25 to Hampden and replacement at the RP station with an ambulance has been smooth. There have been some administrative changes for the department downtown but none locally at the fire house. Additionally, the firehouse roof is finished.
- 2. Draft minutes for approval: None.

### 2. New Business

- 1. Roland Avenue Safety Update: Curbside parking has been restored in front of Eddie's, St. David's and the Women's Club. We are waiting on a template for a sidewalk symbol to be painted in front of Eddie's. First meeting with DOT today. You may recall that we selected WR&A, which is supposed to be combined with PELA. WR&A representative was at the meeting today. He came from DE and was well-versed in the history of the project. His goal is to engage about 20 residents including those from within RP and also those who do not live in Roland Park but who use Roland Avenue. He would like to develop kind of a focus group to help determine how things should be. Bob Connors said the meeting went extraordinarily well. Bob will put out an email.
- 2. Update on Alonso's MOU: Chris McSherry, on behalf of RPCL, and along with representatives of neighboring associations, went to the liquor board and transferred the liquor license from Steve Summers to Binod Uprety. The next step is for the updated MOU to be filed with the land records.
- 3. Thanksgiving Food Drive: Sharon Middleton came to us a few months ago to see if there was a way that we could team up with another neighborhood within her District in some way. George Mitchell directs the Langston Hughes Business and Community Resource Center in Park Heights. They serve 6300 people per week. They do a Thanksgiving dinner the Tuesday before Thanksgiving. This would be an excellent effort for us to do and gives the residents an opportunity to give.
  - Chris McSherry moved that we approve the concept of doing a
     Thanksgiving food drive and work out the details within the next few
     days, which was seconded by Steve Grantz and unanimously approved by
     voice vote.
  - 2. Mary Page Michel discussed that the Roland Water Tower has essentially approved an MOU. There is one other historic water tower still standing in Baltimore, and it is also within Councilwoman Middleton's district.

- Ms. Michel has gotten to know the gentleman working in this neighborhood to raise money. Ms. Michel presented the idea of doing a joint fundraiser with this neighborhood to benefit the water tower restoration. Discussion was had and this idea will be revisited.
- 4. RPBL team sponsorship: The Roland Park Baseball League has just put out some new sponsorship activities. In past years, the RPCL has sponsored a team for \$500. This year the cost is \$600. We have sponsored a team for many years and have budgeted for this expense.
  - 1. Anne Stuzin moved to approve the expenditure of \$600 for the sponsorship of a Roland Park Baseball team, which motion was seconded by Blair Storzer and unanimously approved by voice vote.
- 5. There was a draft article for the Roland Park News regarding Air B&B's. That article was referred to Bob Connors and Tom Carlson for review and decision as to publishing.

## 3. Committee Reports

- a. Architectural Review: Tom Carlson presented the report of the Architectural Review committee. The Court of Appeals declined to hear the appeal of the property at 532 University
  - 1. Chris McSherry presented the idea of writing an article about the case for the Roland Park News. Mary Kay Battafarano discussed that it will be important to make sure that the scope of the article does not overstate the precedent.
- b. Finance: Jennifer Viglucci presented the report of the Finance Committee. All is well.
- c. Audit: Has not begun their work yet, but will soon.
- d. Social: Kristin Herber has distributed the new welcome bags within her plat. Steve Grantz plans to do so, as well.
- e. Maintenance: Andrew Marani presented the report of the Maintenance Committee. There is a small issue with Laurel Path. We have been in touch with the City Arborist regarding the dead trees along Falls Road.
- f. Landscape committee of RPCF: Kathy Hudson presented the report. The previously installed bike racks in front of the library fell out, so the Foundation is paying to re-install the bike racks. There is a water issue at Stony Run within the Oakdale meadow. The water situation slightly north of the meadow is so bad because there is a diversion of water through a white plastic pipe from a well in the back of someone's yard. All of this flow, as well as the flow down Keswick all end up at this spot. We met with Mahan Rykiel and other stakeholders and we have asked them to create a solution so that we can divert the water that is pooling and try to move it away from the path. Then we will meet with Parks & Rec. Additionally, you will see some magnolias being planted at Cold Spring Lane and Roland Avenue (near Ridgewood). The Free Tree Program has planted 38 trees to date. The Oakdale island has been completely replanted with native plants.

### 4. Other New Business:

1. Richard Bruno stated that Tony Bridges, one of our new representatives would like to attend an RPCL meeting. Hopefully we can communicate with our new elected officials.

- 2. Steve Grantz revisited the issue of DPW's work in Plat 5 City. A recent meeting held by DPW for residents was very informative and there is some followup work that will be done on Meadow Lane.
- 3. The Roland Park Community Foundation is looking for a new editor of the newsletter. So, if anyone is interested, please apply.
- 4. Bob Connors adjourned the meeting at 8:13.