

ROLAND PARK CIVIC LEAGUE

Annual Meeting

May 24, 2017

Minutes

(Approved May 22, 2018)

Board Members Present: Ian MacFarlane, Patti Ephraim, Dan Motz, Tom Carlson, Chris Cortright, Trish Carroll, Steve Grantz, Tim Schere, Anne Stuzin, Mary Kay Battafarano, Leslee Bivalacqua, Rob Horst, Cara Kohler, Bob Connors

1. Standing Rules
2. Agenda
 - a. Upon reviewing the agenda, Mr. Ned Bartlett of St Johns made a motion to move the by-laws discussion up earlier in the agenda. It was clarified that the motion for the by-laws would take effect after the meeting is concluded if there is a proviso. Vote indicated that the members were not in favor of this motion.
 - b. Agenda approved
3. Administrative functions. The President recognized parliamentarian, Carl Silverman, and this was approved by the Board. Board Member Anne Stuzin was approved as the time keeper for 5-minute discussion rule.
4. The 2016 Annual Meeting Minutes 2016 were posted on the Roland Park Civic League Website at <http://www.rolandpark.org>. The President noted this and asked for any corrections or additions for the floor. Hearing none, the 2016 Meeting Minutes were approved by a vote of the members in attendance.
5. Voting for the Officers and Platt Officers. The Slate of Nominees put forth by the Nominating Committee was presented. The Slate included:
 - a. President Hap Cooper, President
 - b. Chris McSherry, First Vice President
 - c. Anne Stuzin, Second Vice President
 - d. Patti Ephraim, Secretary
 - e. Trish Carroll, Treasurer
 - f. Blair Storzer, At Large Plat Representative "D"

The proposed slate of candidates was approved by a majority vote of the Civic League members in attendance.

6. Year End Report
 - a. Presidents Report: Ian MacFarlane highlighted the issues at the forefront for the Board this year included a review of the by-laws and assessment of the cycle track. In addition, the Board worked to refine procedures to develop and practice sound financial management. Mr. MacFarlane notes that a little less than a year ago, a member, Molly Macauley, was murdered near her home on University Parkway and to this date there are still no leads in the case. There were several issues that came up during the Rezoning Baltimore process. Baltimore City elected a new mayor this past November 2016 and the Board has had to navigate the transition in administration. Looking forward in 2018, there is the issue of the Belvedere 2 development. While the Belvedere 2 development is not part of Roland Park proper, concerns have been voiced that the community may be impacted by an increase in traffic as a result of new

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residents in that area and an increase in enrollment of children in the Roland Park Elementary/Middle School. The issue of Air Bed and Breakfast listings in Roland Park will be reviewed by Roads and Maintenance in the coming year as well. The Board will also establish a committee to continue advocating for a safe and complete street on Roland Avenue, prioritize formation and continuation of standing committees, and work to develop policies and plans for conflict of interest, project approvals, communication. The Bylaws Committee has worked to revise the Civic League by-laws, which will be presented at this meeting. There will be an effort in the next year to review and modernize the Roland Park Roads & Maintenance Corporation's ("R&M") by-laws.

- b. Committee Reports
 - i. Treasurer Report: Reviewed the committee members and the work of the committee. The committee met monthly to review financials. The civic league net income was negative last year. R&M had a net positive income. 80% households paid dues.
 - ii. Balances: \$114,000 R&M \$133, 000. Priorities included developing budgets, with conservative guidelines for expenses.
 - iii. Total Income = \$38,099.
 1. Expenses included: Alta Engineering Report on the Cycle Track Advocacy, \$5,372; CL Meetings, \$2,774; Event (Ciclovia), \$8,183; Office \$21,774; Charitable Donations \$4,500; \$4,708 Miscellaneous. Net Income -\$9,169.
 - iv. R&M fees collected were far above average of previous 5 years. Contract Services, \$132,988; Office and Admin, \$12,158, Payroll, \$20,519. Legal fees were used to defend our covenants.
 - v. Communications Committee: Mary Kay Battafarano chaired the committee that focused on methods of communication to try to reach members more effectively. They launched an on-line community survey. Information will be used to develop a communication plan and prioritize efforts. Paper copies will be available at the RP Office on Roland Avenue.
- c. Architectural: Tom Carlson is the new President of the Architectural Review Committee and was confirmed at the May 2017 meeting. Mr. Carlson introduced new members of the committee. Status of covenants, 281 plats in Plat 1, 100% under covenant. Plats 2 – 6, 75% under covenant. Received 78 applications last year, all eventually approved. R&M sued last year regarding an application. The case went to trial in the Fall 2017 and R&M won. The owners have decided to appeal.
- d. Community Foundation Report: Mary Page Michel presented an overview of the purpose of the foundation. The Foundation established five committees continue to work on issues:

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- i. Stony Run master plan: the group has had 3 community meetings, 3 walks, on-line survey and is awaiting approval by the City of Baltimore. Will turn over to Friends of Stony Run.
 - ii. A committee formed to address issues with flooding at Wyndhurst and Stony Run.
 - iii. Purchase of BC Roland Water Tower: The group is working to restore the old water tower. The received a \$250,000 grant that is matched by State with a bond bill, \$337,000 from the City that they were going to demolish. They are awaiting the MOU from department of public works to begin work on this project.
 - iv. Landscape committee: Kathy Hudson and Kathy Manson will advise community foundation on long term plans. The first plan was to bring back the bench in front of Eddies.
 - v. Roland Park News, editor Hilary Paska.
- e. Maintenance: negotiated new snow removal contract.
7. Fire Department: Teresa Everett, Logistics; Chief Wagner, Assistant Chief of Operations; Mr. Holcomb, Fire Apparatus Specialist, were present at the meeting. The fire house for Engine 44 was designed by Wyatt and Nolting Architects and constructed in 1895. Truck 25, a ladder truck, barely can fit into the fire station. There has been extensive funding used to renovate this fire station. However, there is need to replace truck 25. Due to the new design, a newer apparatus cannot fit in the historic space. When T25 is out on maintenance, no other truck that can be substituted. The new truck design would have only 1-inch clearance and reach of ladder would be 88 ft vs 100 ft. Currently have an engine 44 and ladder truck 25. Proposing to keep engine 44, move the Medic 19 truck up to 2 Upland, and move the new ladder truck 25 to the station located on 3724 Roland Avenue.
8. Elected Officials in attendance were introduced.
9. By-laws Committee Chair, Tim Schere, reviewed the work that was done by the committee to review the by-laws. They had 14 meetings over the past year. Paul Newhouse, Andrew Marani, Sarah Johnson, David Blumberg served on the committee. Blair Storzer and Mary Kay Battafarano reviewed. The committee's mission was to improve accountability and transparency. Requiring the creation of three new policies: 1) conflict of interest/ethics policy; 2) project approval policy; and 3) a communications plan. In addition, they added the role of "past president" to foster continuation of knowledge followed by a required year off. Lastly, to require that budgets for RPCL and R&M be audited; added a new representative from Plat 1, the largest Plat. Amended motion: remove the 1st exception, "current officers and directors will be permitted to complete their current elected terms." The motion was not passed. Motion to approve the by-laws was passed, with permission for any necessary minor edits.

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10. Cycle Track Committee Chair, Andrew Marani, presented an overview of the work of the group. The Committee had 14 meetings, walked the cycle track end to end, and had two public meetings. The groups produced the following consensus statement: *either restore curbside parking with a wider, safer bike lane and slower traffic, or partner with the community to create a complete street that works for everyone.* After much discussion among the community and Board, a motion was made for the RPCL Board to recommend to the city to restore curb side parking immediately and completely on Roland Avenue and continue the work of the committee to achieve the other objectives. The motion was approved with a vote of 55 “yes” and 31 “no.”