



## RPCL Board Meeting Minutes

October 7, 2020 via Zoom

7:00PM

Board members present: Bob Connors, Bobby Marinelli, Blair Storzer, Ed Goodlander, Tom Hoen, Ken Rice, Mary Kay Battafarano, Devon Dodson, Ashley Handwerk, Martha Holleman, Andy Niazy. Absent: Jen Viglucci, Dan Motz, Rachel Dawson, Richard Bruno, John Morrel, Ann-Barron Carneal.

### 1. Routine Business

- a. President's Opening Remarks.
- b. Police/Fire Updates: New police liaison that we need to connect with and introduce to our monthly meetings
- c. Draft minutes for approval: Ken Rice should be added to the Land Use & Zoning Committee in the Sept 2020 meeting minutes; motion to approve Sept 2020 meeting minutes by Ashley Handwerk, Second by Bobby Marinelli, approved unanimously.

### 2. New Business

- a. Strong Schools Maryland: Martha Holleman shared that this group is working to override May's veto by Gov Hogan for school funding as set by the Kirwan Commission. They expect to be successful. The ACLU has taken up the cause of historic underfunding of schools in Baltimore City. Another issue that has been raised in the State Legislature is that funding is based on school enrollment and during the pandemic, we have less students enrolled. Martha has committed to continue to brief the Board on these issues in the coming months.
- b. Water Tower: Mary Page Michel informed us that work has started on the tower on Oct 1, and will continue for seven months. The immediate roads around the water tower have closed. All three neighborhoods surrounding the water tower will contribute to the design of the landscape and a landscape architect has been selected.
- c. BCC update: Mary Page Michel shared that the BCC leadership confirmed that they are selling the bottom 20 acres and are seeking proposals from potential buyers. BCC leadership is still in the process of hiring an outside firm to manage the proposal process. The bottom 20 acres is the acreage between Hillside and Harvest from the top of the former tennis courts to Falls Road .
- d. Cross Keys planned timeline: Caves Valley Partners sent an email with updates to Bob. Bob shared the email, noting that deferred maintenance issues should be resolved soon, with work starting shortly. As well, upgrades to interior spaces will happen. They are still working on a grocery store deal. The village square and courtyard design plans are progressing and we should have draft designs to share later this year. The new logo has been rolled out. They are seeking to have their zoning efforts resolved in November. They also anticipate doing façade

renovations this spring, if key stakeholders approve. The new apartment site is still on track for execution in 2022 with a finished building in 2023.

- e. Tentative plans for Thanksgiving Food Drive: In the past, we have done a food drive for the Langston Hughes Center. Given George Mitchell's passing, Bob is working to connect with the new leadership to see what they are able to receive. Bob will come back to the group with possibilities. Bob is also talking with Eddie's on how to support this drive logistically, while keeping everyone safe.
- f. Motion for Ken Rice to be Plat 3 RPCL representative: Ashley Handwerk moved that Ken Rice move from at-large representative to Plat 3 representative; Devon Dodson seconded the motion. The Board approved the motion unanimously.
- g. Motion for donation to RPEMS Exercise for Equity: Ashley Handwerk described the fundraising campaign that RPEMS has begun to raise money for the local public school, Exercise for Equity. Ashley moved for the RPCL to donate \$500 to the RP Annual Fund for this campaign; Tom Hoen seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Bob also agreed to work with Anne Stuzin to post the flier on RPCL's webpage and Nextdoor. We also committed to sharing the flier and information through our plat-specific email group lists. Tom Hoen noticed that the link in the flier needs to be fixed and Martha Holleman suggested that the webpage reference the campaign. Bob also informed the Board that our \$500 donation from last year to the REPMS sign campaign will be reallocated to this effort, for a total of \$1,000.
- h. Voting locations: St. David's and RPEMS are closed this year. Western High School will be the voting location closest to the neighborhood.
- i. Outdoor Barre Classes: Blair Storzer asked if there is any interest to do outdoor barre exercise classes. She is anticipating holding it in Oakdale meadow.

### 3. Committee Reports

- a. Architectural Review: Bank of America is working with RPCL to ensure lighting matches the community standards and reducing the number of lights as much as possible to respect the historical nature of the building. BoA will submit a final package to the Architectural Review Committee and CHAP before implementing any changes.
- b. Finance: No report.
- c. Social: No Fall Family Social or Trick or Treating at Presbyterian Church this year.
- d. GRP Master Plan: Martha Holleman updated the group that the committee met, reviewed work over the past 10 years against the original goals/ plans and suggested new action items. She is asking for review of their work thus far and will send the new information to the RPCL Board and seek feedback.
- e. Maintenance: Graffiti on Squirrel Path will be remediated.
- f. Land Use/Zoning: Andy Niazy updated on the Overlook project. The Zoning Committee introduced a bill to change the zoning code, including on how a building height is measured. This would potentially eliminate the developers' need for a height variance. They would still need a variance for lot coverage. This bill is in committee. Once Andy learns of the date of the meeting, we may need to send in a letter of opposition to the City Council. Bob will connect with other neighborhood associations to alert them of this bill and ask for a coordinated effort.
- g. Traffic and Transportation: Devon Dodson shared that the City's meeting on the Falls Rd/Northern Parkway meeting is scheduled for Thurs, Oct 29, from 6-7:30 pm. There have been multiple concerns raised about any plans for this intersection. Also, speed cameras on

Roland Avenue (at Oakdale) are installed and running. There have been requests from neighbors at University and Keswick concerning the parking lane on the eastbound lanes. The community has asked for three flexible poles to delineate the traffic lane from the parking lane and the City is reviewing this request. MDOT rescinded its plan to reduce bus lanes; there is still a fiscal issue so this may not be entirely resolved. The curve going north on Roland Avenue past Wyndhurst has experienced many accidents. Bob is working with WIA to seek a remedy at this location.

h. Membership: no report

i. Landscape committee of RPCF: Kathy Hudson updated the group on landscaping on the commercial block of Roland Avenue (block where Eddie's is located) that was done by the Landscape Committee. City Parks & Forestry is looking at the dead trees on the commercial block and will inform the committee of next steps. The committee is working with Eddie's on their renovation plans. The triangle at Oakdale will be addressed.

#### 4. Adjourn