

Minutes of Civic League Monthly Board Meeting (Approved)  
Wednesday- June 2, 2021 via Zoom

**In Attendance:** Claudia Diamond, Tom Hoen, Ed Goodlander, Mary Kay Battafarano, Margaret Black, Ann-Barron Carneal, Ken Rice, Bobby Marinelli, Andy Niazy, Rachel Dawson, Devon Dodson, David Blumberg, John Morrel, Rita Walters (arrived at 7:35PM). **Absent:** Trish Carroll, Steven Ralston, Rachel Dawson, Tom Dolina, Richard Bruno, Martha Holleman. **Guests acknowledged:** Andrew Marani, Mary Page Michel, Robert Ginyard, Kathy Hudson, Fern Shen, Mary Page Michel. Our total count of all participating over Zoom, including residents was 20.

The meeting was called to order at 7:05PM (a quorum established) by President, Claudia Diamond. Claudia's opening remarks included her own introduction, followed by each Director & Officer present introducing ourselves as well.

#### Routine Business

1. Reminder: July 9th Citywide Plastic Shopping Bag ban becomes effective.
2. Police/Fire Updates- Northern District Community meetings are held virtually using Zoom monthly at 7PM on the second Wednesday. Next one is a week from tonight on June 9th. Looking for a volunteer to attend as a Board liaison
3. May Draft Minutes by Ann-Barron Carneal were circulated using Google docs, revisions accepted and require Board approval. Hearing no objections these minutes are APPROVED.

#### New Business

- Wyatt Winstead-thanked us for a prior year donation to the fall Wiffle Ball Tournament at Gilman, asking us to fund again. An official decision was deferred until our budget is finalized. Claudia will follow-up, Wyatt offered his email: wyattfallclassic@gmailcom
- **"In our Community"** will be introduced at each monthly meeting this year where we recognize individuals or families in Roland Park significant accomplishments or support those in need of comfort. This month we have tragic news of two families whose young adult children have died recently. Claudia suggested a letter of support be sent on behalf of the Civic League to both families, to which all agreed.
- An orientation will be held for those new to the Board this year, look for a Doodle poll to help finalize a date later this month. Next regular Board meeting is July 7, in August we typically do not meet.
- Consensus was reached to change our September meeting date to after Labor Day, on the 8th instead of the 1st.
- Every Director and Officer is invited to a "meet & greet" with Claudia, please follow-up with her directly to schedule this.
- Conflict of Interest Policy-Annual Disclosure Forms were sent to each Director and Officer per our Standing Policy, please reply to Mary Kay, our Secretary.
- The organic debris program is currently suspended. Claudia plans to communicate this directly to users.
- Fees/Dues Strategy- in follow up to Jen Viglucci's Finance Report last month and at our Annual Meeting held May 19, 2021, Claudia has initiated a Task Force to be led by Tom

Hoan, David Blumberg and Tom Dolina. Their goal is to form a recommendation prior to next year's annual meeting, proposing changes to our dues and fee structure. Bylaws specify the membership must vote to authorize such changes at our annual meeting. We may devote a full monthly meeting this year to discuss this matter in greater detail.

- John Morrel, R& M President advised that maintenance fees are a structural issue. Mary Kay reminded all that while dues can be changed at an annual meeting, fees in certain Plats are embedded in our deeds without a mechanism to raise them. Claudia mentioned we may need to consult legal counsel accordingly. Ken stated that the recommended full fees initiated years ago, are voluntary which creates a compliance challenge.

#### Committee Reports

- a. Claudia thanked the outgoing **Nominating Committee** and acknowledged our current 2nd VP, Ed Goodlander, who will chair this Committee in 2022.
- b. Bylaws specify an annual **Audit Committee**, Claudia called for qualified volunteers.
- c. **Land Use and Zoning**- Andy Niazy reported on the Claiborne project, revised designs are expected this Friday. David Blumberg has a personal relationship with City Councilman Schleifer, so he offered to reach out to him on our behalf. Devon mentioned his Merrymount neighbors' opposition to the development, but understanding that the neighboring Neighborhood Associations abutting the property are taking the lead here.
- d. **Maintenance**-Andrew Marani reported on the priority list of deferred maintenance on path signs and repairs. Centennial Park is receiving additional new trees and beds, as well as trolley stop area. Rita Walters raised the question of adding seating to Centennial Park.
- e. **Master Plan**-update is now overdue. Martha Holleman, Chair is traveling out of town.
- f. **Communications**-Anne Stuzin to continue, perhaps initiating a new e-letter format.
- g. **Architectural Review**-John Morrel-Bank of America lighting proposal still unresolved.
- h. **Community Foundation (RPCF)**-Mary Page Michel, Chair reported that BCC is still reviewing bids and no decision has been made yet. Yes, we are still in the room. No timeframe. Fundraising efforts continue. Roland Water Tower phase 1 is complete in 10 days, fencing and scaffolding to come down! Community Park in design phase still.
- i. **Landscape Committee of RPCF**- Kathy Hudson advocated for extra funds referencing deferred maintenance, supports 11K budget request from organic debris suspension made earlier by Andrew Marani. A photo of the custom Falcon box to be installed at the Water Tower was shared.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 PM