



Minutes of Civic League Monthly Board Meeting

Wednesday, December 1, 2021

Zoom Only

Attending: Claudia Diamond, Mary Kay Battafarano, David Blumberg, Steve Ralston, Ann Barron Carneal, Martha Holleman, John Morrel, Rachel Dawson, Rita Walters, Bobby Marinelli, and Margaret Black. Late: Andy Niazy and Tom Hoen. Absent: Ken Rice, Patricia Carroll, Ed Goodlander, Raman Tallamraju, and David Fitzpatrick.

1. Routine Business

- a. President Claudia Diamond called the meeting to order at 7:05PM.
- b. Draft minutes from November's meeting were **approved**.
- c. *In Our Community*: one slot remains on the signup for holiday meals provided by volunteers to our local Fire Station, thanks to Steve Ralston and Ann Barron for facilitating the effort this year. Santa will again ride through Roland Park streets on a fire engine the weekend of December 11-12th, route map and times will be posted online. Claudia also mentioned a neighbor's involvement in loveandcornbread.com, visit the website for more details.
- d. RPCL Speaker Series at RP Enoch Pratt Library branch, is Thursday January 6th at 6:30PM with Ethan Abbott, Project Manager Greenway Trails. RSVP in advance to Julie Johnson, Librarian.
- e. Our January meeting is canceled, we next meet February 2, 2022. The plan is for Tom Hoen to facilitate technology for a hybrid Meeting and present an update from the task force on governance issues.

2. New Business

- a. Discussion of a draft position statement on 5G installation circulated to the Board by Claudia, who seeks feedback tonight before sharing it with the community and ultimately city representatives.
- b. Officers and Directors present agreed with the approach of the draft and a call to action for transparency by the City, as well as enforcement of guidelines citywide.
- c. Consensus tonight is that the criterion of "major impact" is met according to the RPCL Project Approval Process; but our role as a neighborhood association is limited because of federal directives.
- d. There is also agreement tonight that the benefits outweigh risks, particularly related to improving wireless access citywide for those neighborhoods where long-standing structural inequities exist.
- e. Additionally, we recognize Baltimore City has greater concerns and scarce resources to allocate equitably.

- f. As a health concern, John Bond, a local communications expert with us tonight confirms the 5G radio frequency is the same as microwaves and cell phones, which science has proven safe.
- g. Issues of sound and visual pollution locally and citywide were mentioned as similar concerns that are complex to resolve.
- h. Guilford/Homeland neighborhoods utilities are underground, with historic street lights so their situation differs significantly.
- i. Claudia concluded the discussion asking Directors and Officers to send her specific suggestions for the draft statement in the next 10 days.

3. Committees

- a. Landscape Committee of Community Foundation- Kathy Hudson mentioned a new committee member, Matt Morgan. The stolen benches on Roland Avenue will be replaced by the Foundation. Look for seasonal updates to planters at Wells Fargo soon. A reminder to all: please clear leaves from storm drains and along curbs bordering our properties; the city no longer vacuums them. Please also advise lawn crews working for you not to blow leaves into streets.

4. Adjournment The meeting was adjourned at 8:30PM.