

RPIA Board Meeting Minutes – June 17, 2019

The board meeting of the Ryan Place Improvement Association was held at St. John's Church on Monday evening, June 17, 2019, with President Tim Keith presiding and Sarah Geer as secretary. A quorum was established and the meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m.

Board Members in Attendance: Tim Keith, Jake Neal, Chris Gee, Chris Rogers, Chris Ebert, Barbara Forshey, Ryan O'Connell, Jen O'Connell, Hayley Wateska, Chip Mansfield, Kipp Baker, Terri West

Others present included: Ruth Karbach, John Belknap

Report Summary/Notes

Code Compliance Update (Officer Salinas)

- Note: Officer Mata will be relocating overseas for a year, Officer Salinas is our primary contact at this time.
- With severe storms, please help be the eyes of the neighborhood and report issues with downed trees, etc.
- Questions/discussion:
 - Tim relayed report from Javier re: tree down in an alley – was hanging on wire above garage apartment, AT&T cut it down but now in the alley (2531 S Adams)

Update re: James/8th Ave Zoning Petition

- Tim and Peter Szok attended the recent zoning commission meeting, and the petition passed with no opposition. The petition will go before city council during the week of 6/24, and the prospects are positive for it to pass.

Note: FW Bike Share was on agenda but speaker couldn't make it and will come in August

President's Report

- We are moving forward with design work on the Daggett Park pavilion. The contractor is providing options for next steps, and Tim should have something to approve at RPIA August meeting (column designs, etc.) Tim hopes to provide info in advance of August meeting for board to review.
- In the aftermath of the events of May 18 and town hall on June 3, Tim would like to set up an additional committee dedicated to follow-up/accountability related to police relations and procedures. Cade Lovelace will lead the committee. Expected timeframe is between now and end of 2019. The committee will work to address the following questions:
 1. What FWPD policies have changed to address the known failures of the FWPD's Amber Alert process?
 2. How has FWPD modified its social media policy so that officers on the scene are able to disseminate information during an emergency more effectively?
 3. What barriers prevent FWPD from quickly alerting and engaging with neighborhood leaders during emergencies?

RPIA Board Meeting Minutes – June 17, 2019

4. What resources are unavailable to FWPD and/or what practices are not able to be implemented or modified due to budget constraints?
5. Why has the Citizen Review Board not been created?
 - Q: what is the ideal size of committee? Keep it small, 3-4 people in total.
 - Resident comment: would like to see this defined as annual or standing committee. Would like to see clear job description/scope.
 - We could consider it a standing committee until disbanded.
 - Q: are committee members RPIA board members only? No, residents but not necessarily board members.
 - Resident comment: recommends at least three members that are inclusive and representative of the neighborhood.
 - Q: have we thought about combining forces with Fairmount? Would that help bring power in numbers?
 - Tim clarified that this is not so much about ongoing crime – those issues fall to office of public safety. This committee would be focused on police procedures and relations.
 - Residents discussed uptick in crime, typical for the time period following the end of school. Sergio will be doing some strategic night patrols.
 - **Sarah Geer moves to approve establishing committee as described by Tim. Jake seconded. Motion passed.**

Note: No Vice President's report (Ryan is absent)

Secretary's Report

- **Terri moves that we approve Feb 10, Feb 18, and March 18 minutes. Jake seconded. Motion passed.**
- **Sarah moves that we approve May 20 as edited by Terri West and John Belknap. Jake seconded. Motion passed.**

Treasurer's Report

- Jen noted error on event revenues that will be corrected.
- Expenses from croquet tournament came in at \$121 which is in excess of budgeted amount of \$100.
 - **Jen moves that we reimburse Chris Ebert \$121 for croquet tournament expenses. Terri seconded. Motion passed.**
- Invoice from Jennifer Renta received for plants in circles. Jen asked for clarification on where we can pull funds to pay and a decision on payment.
 - **Terri moves that we pay the invoice out of the dedicated circle landscaping line. Chris Gee seconded. Motion passed.**
 - A resident asked whether we should expect this issue to come up again, and Jen said it is a one-time issue.

RPIA Board Meeting Minutes – June 17, 2019

Membership Report

- Crawfish boil attendees surfaced some leads for possible neighborhood events. (i.e., Woodhaven)
- Jake asked whether there is anything tangible we might need to solicit donations for related to neighborhood security. Tim said not at this time.
- Ruth reported 3 welcome visits since last meeting and we have an additional welcome committee member. Full report available as attachment to the minutes.

Communications Report

- Kipp redesigned RPIA envelopes
- Kipp incorporated new graphic in constant contact email
- 30-40% click/open rate on constant contact emails
- About 10% bounced emails for constant contact list – needs to do a purge
- Since March 1, avg of 15 visits to website per day
- May 18 and May 19 had huge spike in visits (500+ each day)
- 64% access website through mobile device
- Most visited pages: home page, about, directory
- Yard of the month has had 60 visits but program not active because we lost sponsor.
 - Q: what would it take to sponsor?
 - Also get nominations for yard of the month through contact form.
- Newsletter: Kipp mentioned interest in switching so that paper newsletter is opt-in
 - Resident comment: concerns about leaving people out due to mobility, etc.
 - Resident comment: just got good cost savings from new printer
 - Q: how much does it typically cost?
 - Jen: we approved expense of \$8,650
 - Q: what about pick-up location for paper? People like to get it on their door.
 - Kipp notes that he is getting requests to opt out via web but people don't provide address so he can't follow through with opt out. Opt out procedures are confusing, not obvious/accessible.
 - Terri proposes we establish a committee that will submit formal proposal regarding newsletter distribution that would be in place for 2020. Need to handle the discussion more efficiently.
 - Tim responded that we will stick with the current system for 2019 and will seek options going forward.
- Newsletter editor is doing a lot but Kipp is shouldering a lot burden. Seeking volunteers to assist with news content.
 - Q: could we reinstate solicitation email for stories that would go out two weeks before deadline? Kipp could do this.
 - Q: could we add a section on public safety (or other areas)?
 - Resident comment: could consider cutting back pages to save money and save on content needs.

RPIA Board Meeting Minutes – June 17, 2019

Activities Report

- Tim noted that Jason Allen is handling July 4 softball game planning
- July 13 is bbq at Javier and Patricia Rodriguez' house
- Reminder for recruiting local businesses for small business mixer in September
- Note: nothing budgeted for back-to-school event.

Historic Resource Report

- Chris mentioned the discussion on Facebook re: gates torn down in 1955 and misunderstanding about history of that
- July 4th parade coordination in the works

Public Safety Report

- Magnolia motorheads may be interested in July 4th parade also
- Up to May 18, primary safety concern in the neighborhood was traffic. Chip asked city for traffic study, no results yet.
- Committee established after events of May 18
 - First meeting held in June
 - Added two at-large members from the neighborhood, Chip is chair
 - Hope to have proposal/presentation for August board meeting
 - Challenge: zero budget allocation
 - Tim commented we will definitely have to look at standing budget line for safety
 - Comment: could be genesis for membership drive

Infrastructure Report

- Planning to do a count of street lights that are out and will ask residents (via board meeting and newsletter) to provide info. There is a number to call to report.
- Terri is planning to make a call to city forest department re: sidewalk and tree issue. If there are any other MAJOR issues (more than a couple inches), let Terri know.

John shared that fire truck will not be ready for July 4th but shared that we still we need a home for it when it does return.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Geer
Secretary