

RPIA Board Meeting Minutes – February 24, 2021

The board meeting of the Ryan Place Improvement Association was held via Zoom on Wednesday evening, February 24, 2021, with President Tim Keith presiding and Sarah Geer as secretary. A quorum was established and the meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m.

Board Members in Attendance: Tim Keith (President), Ryan Scharar (Vice President), Sarah Geer (Secretary), Jen O’Connell (Treasurer), John Belknap (Parliamentarian), Jake Neal (Membership), Douglas Cooper (Infrastructure), Jason Jones (Public Safety), Ryan O’Connell (Ryan Place Drive), Chris Gee (S. Adams), Barbara Forshey (Willing), Kendall Wells (College Ave)

Others present included: Fernando Peralta, Ruth Karbach

Special Reports

- District 9 Council Candidate
 - Fernando Peralta introduced himself as a candidate for the District 9 Council seat. He is the current president of Las Familias de Rosemont Neighborhood Association (helped reorganize the association to embrace more democratic processes)
 - Tim mentioned there has been interest in a larger scale candidate forum given the number of candidates in the field. Other candidates have requested to come before RPIA – Tim is working to figure out schedule/format for March/April meetings. There may also be an outdoor social distanced forum.
 - Members expressed interest in requesting candidates share a position/stance re: Hemphill development in advance of the candidate meeting(s) – maybe they can submit in writing. Maybe also include a question re: electricity infrastructure improvements.

NPO Report – Officer Garner not present

Report Summary/Notes

- President
 - Hemphill Task Force rep (Richard Ricetti) planning to present at RPIA March meeting.
 - Re: winter storm, to what degree should RPIA communicate with local leaders, Oncor, etc., regarding the quality of our infrastructure?
 - A member mentioned there are persistent issues with the sub-station that feeds our neighborhood. Needs to be replaced but TXU and Oncor have not prioritized maintenance/upgrades.
 - Do we want to craft a letter as RPIA requesting prioritization of this maintenance? Ask for commitment/timing for the sub-station to be replaced?
 - Tim will ask Ann Zadeh for advice on next steps.
 - If we do a letter, we should consider copying TX PUC, media, local leaders, etc.

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- Tim encouraged board members to put an ear to the ground for any households in the neighborhood that need help.
- Vice President – nothing to report
- Secretary
 - Sarah distributed draft minutes from the January meeting and asked for review/comment.
 - **Jake Neal moves to approve the January minutes. Ryan O’Connell seconds. Motion passes.**
- Treasurer
 - As part of renegotiated landscaping contract, we will not have chicanes maintenance. Jen is planning to organize gardening committee via FB for monthly maintenance.
- Membership
 - Casey Creager is interested in a neighborhood mentorship program for new residents. Maybe workshop/event model? Maybe Casey could be a welcome committee member? Perhaps we could recruit Casey as street director for Alston/Lipscomb.
- Communication – Eric not present but provided notes to Tim
 - Newsletter is delayed due to the winter storm and will go to print on 2/25. March edition will get pushed to mid-March and then April will be back at beginning of month.
- Activities – Jeff not present
 - Cowtown Clean-Up is scheduled to happen for 3/20
- Historic Resource – Chris not present
- Public Safety
 - Jason sent around crime statistics. Officer Garner is also posting information via Next Door.
 - Still working on Lights, Camera, Action – aiming for inclusion in April newsletter.
- Infrastructure
 - Douglas is checking on the status of lighting at the gates
 - He offered to work with Jen re: the neighborhood gardening committee that has been suggested via Facebook.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Geer
Secretary