

RPIA Board Meeting Minutes – January 16, 2023

The regular board meeting of the Ryan Place Improvement Association was held in Mitchell Hall Parlor at St. John's Church on Monday evening, January 16, 2023, with President Chris Gee presiding and Cindy Belknap as secretary. A quorum was established and the meeting was called to order at 7:03 P.M.

Board Members in Attendance – Chris Gee, President; Cade Lovelace, Vice-President; Blake Villa, Treasurer; Cindy Belknap, Secretary; Sarah Geer, Director of Membership; Ryan Terry, Director of Communication; Sarah Rucker, Director of Activities; Jason Jones, Director of Public Safety; John Belknap, 8th/James/Stanley St. Director; Casey Creager, Alston/Lipscomb/Page St. Director; Terri West, College/Cantey St. Director; Elizabeth Milstein, Ryan Ave. St. Director; Javier Rodriguez, S. Adams St. Director; Aaron Ballard, Willing Ave. St. Director.

Others present included Jennifer O'Connell, Chair of the Home Tour Committee; Ruth Karbach.

President Report – President Chris Gee introduced Elizabeth Milstein, nominee for Ryan Avenue Street Director.

Director Sarah Geer moved to appoint Elizabeth Milstein as the Ryan Ave Street Director. Motion passed.

President Gee called for all present to introduce themselves and he emphasized the importance of attending board meetings. All board members were provided a Board of Director's Resources and Information packet for 2023 which contains a brief history of Ryan Place, Board of Directors roster, calendar, proposed budget, bylaws, policies and procedures, and a brief guide to Robert's Rules of Order. President Gee gave an overview of goals for the coming year including an organization review, succession planning, and improvement projects.

Vice President Report – Vice President Cade Lovelace described his goals for the coming year which includes being the Ryan Place representative in community organizations such as Near Southside Inc., Hemphill Corridor Task Force, and Berry Street Initiative.

Secretary Report – Secretary Belknap presented the October 17, 2022 Board Meeting Minutes and November 28, 2022 General Meeting Minutes.

Jennifer O'Connell moved to approve the October 17, 2022 Board Meeting Minutes. Motion passed.

Javier Rodriguez moved to approve the November 28, 2022 General Meeting Minutes. Motion passed.

Treasurer Report – Treasurer Blake Villa presented the proposed 2023 RPIA budget from the Budget Committee meeting on January 8, 2023. Jennifer O'Connell presented the Home Tour Committee's 2023 budget and requested an additional \$4,000 for the Candlelight Christmas expense line item to cover a more suitable storage unit and an improved 4th of July float among other things. It was discussed that the storage unit can be used for both CCRP and RPIA related items.

John Belknap moved to move the \$7,186 allocation for the Ryan Place Roundabouts to unallocated as proposed by the Budget Committee. Motion passed.

Blake Villa moved to increase the Candlelight Christmas expense to \$17,265 and offset the CCRP revenue budget line item appropriately to maintain a balanced budget. Motion passed.

Terri West moved to accept the proposed RPIA 2023 budget with the above two changes as moved. Motion passed.

Membership Report – Director Sarah Geer gave an overview of membership initiatives planned for the year including spring and fall new neighbor events, expressions of gratitude to members, and the continuation of welcome visits to new neighbors. The current Welcome Visit committee members are Sarah Geer and Rose Decker. The need for additional members was expressed with the suggestion Street Directors consider helping.

Communication Report – Director Ryan Terry established the deadline for content submission for the Ryan Place Newsletter as the Friday following a Monday RPIA board meeting with the goal of delivery beginning the first Saturday of the month. Diana Koch is the new delivery lead. An editor for the newsletter is needed. Director Terry will lead an effort to review and modify as needed the Ryan Place website.

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Infrastructure Report – President Gee informed the Board the first partial payment for the Daggett Park pavilion has been made and construction should begin within 18 weeks.

Representing the Triangle Park committee, Director Terri West provided a conceptual draft of improvements for the park which includes a new sidewalk, removing dead/trash trees, and correcting drainage issues. \$19,370 is currently allocated for this improvement project. Next steps will include City and community reviews of the plans.

Sarah Geer moved to approve the Triangle Park concept. Motion passed.

Candlelight Christmas in Ryan Place Report – Home Tour Chair Jennifer O’Connell provided a financial recap of the 2022 home tour noting 1,271 total tickets were sold with a total income of \$49,038.25 and total expenses of \$12,656.72, resulting in a net profit of \$36,381.53. The committee created a 2023 budget and already secured two houses for this year’s tour. A chair-elect is still needed. Chairwoman O’Connell and previous Chairman Chris Gee extended gratitude to all who worked to make the 2022 neighborhood tour a great event.

Other – Observing there is insufficient written history of Ryan Place, Director West and neighbor Donna Darner are spearheading an effort to compile such through interviews of long-time residents.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:17 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Cindy Belknap
Secretary