



REGENT SQUARE CIVIC ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

January 7, 2008, 7:05 p.m. – 8:50 p.m.

7604 Charleston Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15218

Last revised: January 13, 2008 (*revisions to draft in red*)

Attendance:

Voting Members:	Org.	1/5	1/26	2/4	3/3	4/7	5/5	6/2	8/4	9/8	10/6	11/3	12/1
Cathy Brennan ('06-'08)	RSCA Board												
Liz Caplan ('08-'10)	RSCA Board												
Pat DiRienzo ('07-'09)	RSCA Board	X											
Kathryn Griffin ('08-'10)	RSCA Board	--											
Alina Keebler ('06-'08)	RSCA Board	X											
Andrew Lang ('08)	RSCA Board	X											
Melissa McDonough ('07-'09)	RSCA Board	X											
Darrell Rapp ('08-'10)	RSCA Board	X											
Joan Reefer ('06-'08)	RSCA Board	X											
Frank Ruffing ('08)	RSCA Board	X											
Kathleen Schneider ('07-'09)	RSCA Board, Treas.												
Carole Stanier ('07-'09)	RSCA Board	X											
Carrie Webber ('06-'08)	RSCA Board, Pres.	X											
<i>also attending:</i>													
Christy Hamilton	Interplay Day Care	X											
Darrell Kinsel	Ctr. for Creative Play	X											
Arch Pelley ('05-'07)	RSCA Board ('05-07)	X											
Alana Rykala	RSCA Newsletter	X											
Jenny Watson	Pgh Mayor's Office	X											

Call to Order: Carrie Weber, President, called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Approval of Minutes: October and November minutes were approved with corrections sent by Alina Keebler

Treasurer's Report: Kathleen Schneider submitted the Treasurer's Report via e-mail

Discussion – New Business – Committee Reports:

Elections – Board Members (report by Carrie Webber)

- New board members Andrew Lang, Darryl Rapp and Frank Ruffin were introduced. Other newly elected Board Members Liz Caplan and Kathryn Griffin were absent.
- Melissa McDonough moved that the new slate of Board Members be approved; Arch Pelley seconded the motion. All approved.
- Outgoing Board Members John Broyles, Glennen Greer, Kelley O'Brien, and Arch Pelley were officially dismissed from the Board and thanked for their service with special thanks given to Mr. Pelley for his service as President and Vice-President. As most recent past Board President, he will continue to attend Executive Committee meetings.
- **Action Item:** **Carrie Webber** to send contact information for new Board Members to all.

Elections – Officers (report by Carrie Webber)

- Nominations to date:
 - President – Carrie Webber.
 - Vice-President – Pat DiRienzo
 - Secretary – (n/a)
 - Treasurer – Kathleen Schneider
- All to consider positions. Election of Officers to take place at Board Retreat.

Board Retreat (report by Carrie Webber)

- All Board Members to attend on January 26th, coffee at 8:30, mtg. at 9 a.m.; location to be determined (possibly at Waverly Church)
- Action Item: **Carrie Webber** to contact everyone with finalized location.
- Action Item: Prior to Retreat, **All Board Members** to review Retreat topics emailed by Carrie Webber and last year's activities and accomplishments.

Communications Committee (report by Alina Keebler)

- Business Directory: Most businesses have been updated. Nancy Thompson is working on the few that remain unverified. Will be able to print soon.
- Website: Nov. 2005 Charette results have been uploaded. Most businesses have been updated. 2007 RSCA member listings now include extended description, logo and hotlink; non-members receive simpler listing.
- Calendar of Events (in newsletter and website): Now includes RSCA events (in bold) and non-RSCA community events (not bolded). RSCA events for entire year can be posted at beginning of year then updated as needed.
- Newsletter: This year will aim to get newsletter to homes by 1st of month. Will continue "Business Spotlight" articles. Possible upcoming articles on:
 - Mayor's Service 3-1-1 Line
 - new Pittsburgh Landlord/Tenant Regulations
- Year-In-Review: Will include RSCA activities and accomplishments during 2007. Information will be updated and included in both newsletter and website. Will be good to have for Retreat.
- Action Item: **Committees** to send 2007 highlights to Alina for Year-in-Review by Mon. 1/14
- Action Item: **All Board Members** to send event information for calendars to Alina
- Action Item: **Board Members** to send January/February newsletter articles to Alina by Jan 7th

Membership (report by Melissa McDonough)

- Open House – Held at Square Café on December 3rd; presentation by Nine Mile Run Watershed Association; in spite of bad weather, 22 people attended, including 7 RSCA members

Events (report by Pat DiRienzo)

- Lighting Contest: Held on Dec 16th; winners were awarded checks to charities of their choice
 - 1st place: LeDonne Family at 1120 Milton Street (Children's Hospital - \$75.00)
 - 2nd place: Richard Hawkinberry and Evan Aiello at 923 Trenton Avenue (Susan G. Komen for the Cure - \$50.00)
 - 3rd place: Salipante Family at 1104 Macon Avenue (The Children's Institute Free Care Fund - \$25.00)
- Holiday Toy Drive: Gifts were dropped off at Neighborhood Realty Services & USSD; Center for Creative Play can be used as a drop-off next year; presents went to Hosanna House; need to have more "teen" gifts

Public Improvements

Braddock Ave. Committee: Needs new chair for 2008; RSCA has received final paperwork for new grant which will need to be spent in 2008. Committee has to make decisions and take action this year.

Marketing

- Group commended Liz Caplan for article in Winter issue of Shady Avenue magazine.
- Action Item: **Liz Caplan** to send draft of next issue to all Board members and committee chairs for information to include.

Community Liaison (report by Carole Stanier)

- Charter School: New application has been submitted with enhanced curriculum. Pennsylvania Board of Education will hold new hearing on Jan. 9th, a walk-thru school and then a discussion at Reizenstein School on procedures and curriculum content. A general meeting of PBE on Jan. 16th should provide some sense of results of appeal.
- WSCC:
 - Jan. 31st workshop presented by Conservation Consultants Inc. will focus on reducing utility bills.
 - May 2008 Used Book Sale: Donations can be left in WSCC lobby starting now.
 - Other: Donation from Run Around the Square was used to tile kitchen.

Safety

- Crime Prevention & Traffic (report by Joan Reefer)
 - Committee needs more members; Barbara Hicks has agreed to consult on past efforts
 - Organizing Block Watches is a possibility; Officer White can talk to group about it
 - Action Item: **Joan Reefer** to produce list of committee tasks by retreat date.
- Sidewalks (report by Darrell Rapp)
 - RSCA needs to be careful not to appear to be recommending any one contractor
 - Committee should ask contractors to submit their specifications for the work

Business Group (report by Alina Keebler for Cathy Brennan)

- Holiday Tree Lighting: Group needed **\$4,872** in donations from business owners for this year's purchase, set up and take down of lights; collected \$5,450; \$650 surplus will be used towards approx. **\$2,000** needed for next year's set-up, take-down and replacement of any broken lights.
- Blood Drive for Paws-itively Pets' owner Sue Rosko:
 - Blood Bank has contacted RSCA about organizing effort. Blood Bank will take care of everything but needs official support and a contact person from RSCA.
 - Alana Rykala has agreed to chair that effort.
 - Pat DiRienzo moved that RSCA support Blood Drive. Carole Stanier seconded and all approved motion.
 - Action Item: **Alina Keebler** to provide Blood Drive contact information to Alana Rykala.
- Other: At November meeting, group reviewed Nov. 2005 Charette recommendations and was pleased to see how many have been achieved.

Next Meetings:

Board Retreat: Saturday, January 26, 2008; 9 AM; location TBA

Board Meeting: Monday, February 4, 2008 7 PM; Wilkins School Community Center