

**Regent Square Civic Association Meeting
November 3, 2008**

In attendance: Board members Carrie Webber, Carole Stanier, Melissa McDonough, Liz Caplan, Joan Reefer, Andrew Lang, Darrell Rapp, Pat DiRienzo
Newsletter editor Alana Rykala Delaney

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM.

Approval of October minutes

Darrell Rapp moved, and Liz Caplan seconded the motion to approve the October meeting minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

Accepted as submitted by Treasurer, Kathleen Schneider

Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of the RSCA will be held on Sunday, December 7, 2008.

Nominating Committee

Nineteen people have voted thus far. An email blast will be sent out reminding RSCA member to vote by November 26. Kathryn Griffin will report on membership statistics so that we will know how many ballots we need to have submitted.

Community Liaison Report – Carole Stanier

A small office will be available on the second floor of the WSCC at the beginning of December. Rent for the space is \$350/month.

The Board of the Environmental Charter School recently had a lawyer speak to them about sending emails as a community organization. Some items of interest that Carole shared included: emails are considered public records and are subject to Right to Know laws; emails should not be used to take official action; and it was suggested that emails should be limited to anecdotal reports. Carrie noted that she would like the RSCA to have an email policy.

The Environmental Charter School will have a Saturday seminar on November 8; and may have additional ones in the future.

The WSCC Holiday Gift Shop will be held this year from December 5 to 11.

Membership Committee Report – Melissa McDonough

The Annual Meeting will be held on December 7 at the Environmental Charter School. The Regent Square portion of "Greetings from Pittsburgh" will be shown at 2:30, with remarks by Nelson Chipman, writer and director following. At 3:15, the Annual Meeting will be held.

Joan noted that sign-in sheets will be posted so that community members can volunteer to serve on committees or projects. Board members were asked to bring beverages and snacks for the meeting.

After discussion, Carole Stanier moved, and Andrew Lang seconded, to assign a \$100 budget for developing publicity for the annual meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Government Liaison Report – Darrell Rapp and Andrew Lang

Regent Square business owners will have the same company install the holiday lights this year. They will document the process so that Swissvale public works might be able to complete the installation next year.

After the October 14 meeting concerning traffic changes in Sanders, it was suggested that if anyone has feedback, s/he should come to the November 5 Swissvale Council meeting to express views in person. It will be a while before any final decision will be made because an ordinance will need to be changed.

A discussion ensued about testifying at public meetings. RSCA Board members need to differentiate between representing the organization versus presenting personal opinions when speaking publicly.

Andrew spoke with Edgewood officials about trees growing in grates on Braddock Avenue. He was told that there is an arborist working on “big tree issues” now and when they are dealt with, the grates will be addressed.

Communications Committee Report

Alana reviewed the articles that will be in the upcoming newsletter.

Business Networking Group

There will be a tree lighting party on December 5.

RSCA Board Retreat

The Board retreat will be held on January 10. Georgia Petropoulos offered to facilitate. Carrie will check into again holding the retreat at Waverly Presbyterian Church.

Carole Stanier moved and Darrell Rapp seconded, for RSCA to pay for lunch for the Board retreat. The motion passed unanimously.

Joan Reefer moved, and Andrew Lang seconded, to approve payment of up to \$100 for room rental for the retreat. The motion passed unanimously.

There will be no monthly RSCA meetings in December or January.

Committee Chairs for 2009

Carrie passed around a list of committee assignments and asked Board members to note their preferences.

Carrie Webber expressed her thanks to Joan Reefer and Alina Keebler for their years of service on the RSCA Board.

At 8:15, Pat DiRienzo moved, and Liz Caplan seconded, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously.