

Regent Square Civic Association: Minutes of September 12, 2011 Board Meeting

*Note: Names in **bold** identify persons responsible for Action Items*

Meeting Called to order by Alina Keebler

Introductions

- Board Members: Kitty Brunkhorst, Nancy Drew, Neal Harrison, Alina Keebler, Kathie Meyer, Tom Montgomery, Arch Pelley, Darrell Rapp
- Visitors: Barbara Danko, Bob Glidden, Virginia Linn, Mag Madle, Jon McCann, Tim Madle, Jonathan Perret, Bill Werner

Minutes Format

- Alina lead discussion on returning to old minute's format because of difficulty in reading minutes.
- Alina motioned, Neal seconded, motion carried. Arch will do September meeting minutes in old format

Charter School (Jon McCann)

- Jon gave update on trailers and said everything is on schedule for their removal in December and lower grades moving to Park Place School campus
- Alina requested article for November newsletter, **Jon** will write article and submit it to Alina.
- Some residents still have concerns about faculty parking on residential streets, particularly during street cleaning days. **Charter School** will remind people not to park on street

Sale of Sunoco Site (Alina)

- Letter sent to Edgewood; no response to date
- Edgewood informed RSCA that GetGo gas station can go on site by zoning
- **Arch** to call Jan Tallerico to see if she can help in getting meeting set up with Giant Eagle
- Alina continues to update list of concerned residents
- Borough Council meeting at Edgewood in September 19, and several Board members indicated they would like to attend.

Business District Tree Project (Neal)

- Phase One TreeVitalize application for Spring planting was submitted – Phase One is along Hutchinson and at corner of Sanders near Typhoon.
- **Neal** to go to Swissvale on September 29 to present plans; Alina and Ann will also attend.

Liability Insurance

- RSCA has Director's and Officers' insurance since July 1

- Board does not have special event insurance; discussion concerned what is risk of not having this insurance.
- **Alina** will contact CTAC to see their recommendation.
- **Arch** will contact Kathleen Schneider

Treasurers Report (Kitty)

- RSCA has spent more this year than they have taken in, mainly because of bike racks.
- **Kitty** and **Nancy** to meet to go over membership details
- **Nancy** to follow up on questions with Margie
- Form 990 needs to be done; **Nancy** will take lead.
- Neal has brought in past records
- Kitty has the copy of the D & O liability policy
- **Jon** to give names of possible bookkeepers for RSCA to hire on hourly basis.

Membership (Kitty)

- 243 residents
- 14 businesses
- Arch reminded all potential Board members that they must be members.

Communications (Virginia)

- October newsletter is primarily nominations article and voting form.
- Open House can be mentioned
- Goal is to have it delivered by second weekend in October (October 8/9)
- November Newsletter
 - Article on Charter School's Park Place construction (Jon)
 - Article on ECS trailers (Barb Danko)
 - Alina said Pittsburgh Filmmakers requested an insert for 3 Rivers Film Festival (they will cover additional printing cost), Neal motioned, Arch seconded, motioned carried.
 - Open House article (Kathie)
 - Sunoco sale
 - Public Safety article (Tom)
 - Bike racks (Andrew)
 - Run Around the Square recap

Public Safety (Tom)

- Meeting was held with Edgewood and Wilkinsburg, (Swissvale got called away on emergency); 8 people attended
- Tom is looking into a November workshop and will have settled by next meeting.
- November 19 is probable date.
- Car break-ins continue to be problem, most are into unlocked cars.

- Street lights are concern and provide great safety measure
- Block watch meetings are very popular in Wilkinsburg

Nominations (Arch)

- Only 3 nominations (Ken Kuligowski, Kathie Meyer, Jon Perret), one person cancelled at last minute
- Need one more nominee, **Arch and Alina** will ask more people.
- **Jon** can give some potential names; they could act as ECS Liaison.
- Arch motioned that 3 nominees be approved and requested that Board give Alina and him approval to find fourth and place on ballot.
- Article is due by the following Friday, Sept. 15

1122 Macon Avenue (neighbors)

- Neighbors came and asked RSCA support in getting something done to 1122 Macon because it is a safety concern and causing neighborhood problems.
- Discussion about when RSCA should step in and what constitutes a nuisance property. Opinion divided about what RSCA should do.
- Building Inspector went to house but report was not available.
- Owner is going to Housing Court this month.
- **Alina** will contact Doug Shields by phone
- Concern from neighbors about repercussions with neighbor
- Decision to do follow up and be informative about process but not submit letter.

Biddle Building Rain Garden (Alina)

- Final Planning Meeting on Wednesday, Sept. 14th
- Installation of rain garden on Sat. Sept. 24th as part of Nine Mile Run Watershed Association's State of the Watershed.

Bike Racks (Neal)

- Bike racks (6) to be delivered to Edgewood Municipal Building
- **Swissvale** to pick up theirs (3) from Edgewood
- **Neal** will ask Andrew to write article for November newsletter. (include delivery/donation to boroughs in article)
- **Arch** needs to follow up on plaque size and cost.

Shady Avenue Magazine (Nancy)

- Nancy would like ideas for Winter magazine article
- Could talk about tree lights

- Deadline is October 3.

Run Around the Square

- Money typically distributed in next calendar year.
- Article on recap for November newsletter.

Three Rivers Film Festival (Alina)

- Event brings visitors/ business into Square, RSCA should support
- Alina is helping to organize volunteers
- **Alina** will write article for newsletter.

Possible Collaboration with Park Place Board (Alina)

- Greater Park Place Neighborhood Association (GPPNA) contacted Alina re. future collaboration to study condition of housing and lots along border between Regent Square and Park Place neighborhoods (Green and Union Streets)
- **All** to think about and discuss at January Board retreat