

Rockland Neighbourhood Association
Minutes - Meeting of the Board of Directors
Virtual Meeting
Wednesday, May 12th, 2021

Present: Art Hamilton, Sandra Jackman, Bob June, Dave Clarke, Dave McWalter, Patricia Kidd, Carollyn Yardley, Brittany Calder, Charlayne Thornton-Joe (council liaison), Gary Pemberton (neighbourhood liaison)

Absent: Chantal Meagher, Pearl Arden

Meeting called to order at 7:05 PM

April 14th minutes

Accepted, Motioned by Bob.

May 3rd minutes

Accepted, Motioned by Pat.

Councillor's Report (Charlayne)

Most of councils' time lately is spent on the homeless issue, clearing people out of parks. Police are not enforcing 7pm to 7am for campers who have housing confirmed but can't move yet. Police will be asking for additional funding to assist bylaw officers with enforcing the camping bylaw. Charlayne is receiving comments on neighbourhood boundaries.

Richardson Bike Lane - Charlayne feels it should stay in the budget but more consultation is needed. Construction is likely to start end of summer in the fall.

The Police Quarterly Report will be at the next council meeting. RNA can bring questions forward. Also to be discussed: liquor primaries and exploring recycling of materials from building deconstruction, diverting these materials from the landfill.

Honourary Citizen Award will be accepting nominations in June.

Neighbourhood Update (Gary)

The May My Great Neighbourhood staff report was distributed prior to the meeting.

Speed reader status: Rollout is far behind, a location is picked but no date set for installation. Charlayne will follow up with Haley in the Traffic Calming office. The speed-reader for Rockland Ave at Royal Terrace was announced to RNA approximately 2 years ago. It would be good to have this before the Richard Street bike lanes are built so we can see the impact on Rockland traffic.

Next community virtual is Wednesday 19th at 12 PM. Topic is 'Placemaking' and will cover the launch of the city's new placemaking toolkit. This includes libraries, community gardening and 'think outside the box' for unused public space. Funding is available.

The neighbourhood boundaries survey is open until June 7th. The city will be passing on high level results to neighbourhood associations to inform their submissions to the City on boundary changes.

Get growing - Seedlings will be available at Government house on May 27th 10 AM to 2 PM

Calendar Review

No action items - Art will file CRA info before June 4th.

VCAN Update

None as Chantal is absent.

Committees Reports:

Land Use (Bob)

Very quiet at this time. Rumours of rezoning along Rockland but nothing solid yet. Also potential rezoning on St Charles.

1557-59 Oak Bay Ave:

New presentation, slightly downsized (6 stories) - no longer an architect involved. LUC had a virtual meeting with the city to discuss this project and the lack of corridor plan. They were informed that there are no supports available from the city on this.

Environment and Woodland Garden (Dave C)

Ongoing work includes much, weeding, caging of transplants, camas is up.

Membership (Art and Brittany)

Currently 105 members - interact transfer is going well. Art will buy a laser printer for membership printouts (printer expense voted on earlier this week by email).

Social (Pearl)

The board discussed the potential timeline for the GH biannual event and contacting GH to advise we are interested in having the event in the fall if possible.

Welcoming (Dave)

No update

Treasurer (Art)

RNA currently has \$35,005 in the bank, of which \$10k funding for the Garden

Communications (Pat)

Historical walking tours have been downloaded into pdfs and Pat is seeking locations for the brochures. One brochure is allowed on Government House Visitors Board, and Pat will put one on her front gate. People can use the QR code on the brochure to have the map on their cell phone.

Charlayne advised that Teale Phelps Bondaroff (the little libraries website owner) volunteered to add the brochures to Rockland little libraries, if permitted.

Pat is developing a monthly newsletter and has been in touch with Gary. She would like to see a traffic report, police report, synopsis of board minutes, also reports from Government House, Art Gallery, Langham Court Theatre etc. She is exploring options for delivery. The board discussed a brief email with a link to the report on the RNA website.

Unfinished Business:

Discussion on funding for Coordinator Position. Is it anticipated to be ongoing? Will this year's allocation be reduced if we don't have the position filled until the fall? Charlayne advised yes it would be reduced. It's likely that the funding will continue, but the city is waiting to see how it works for each neighbourhood association.

New Business:

Rockland/Gonzales Boundary Consultation with RNA Membership

The board discussed how to communicate the potential boundary changes to our members.

If Rockland combined with Gonzales we would be about 7,000 people, which has been reported to be a good size for a neighbourhood association. It is uncertain if Fairfield wants to give up Gonzales. At present, Fairfield Gonzales is approx. 12,000.

Action - Pat to Mailchimp information to members and link them to the survey which is due June 7th. We will also invite members to share their views to the RNA Communications email.

Zoom Event

RNA has been invited to preview the film Us and Them. Art will send us each a copy.

None

8:36 meeting adjourned.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, June 9th, 7 PM by Zoom. Please advise Sandra if unable to attend.