

Rockhill Gardens Neighborhood Association

Board Meeting Minutes: April 9, 2008

6:30 pm at the Waldo Branch Library

Board Members:

Present: Martin Tennant, Patrick Tuohey, John Ritchie, Ronda Sprick, Kristen Williams, Sarah Blasi, Janie Weeks, Christine Ritchie

Absent: John Cigas

Others Present:

Captain Scott Caron, KCPD; Captain Robin Houston, KCPD; Officer John Trainor, KCPD; Officer Chris Young, KCPD; Susan Mikkelsen

Proceedings:

Meeting called to order at 6:30 pm by Martin Tennant

- The Board recognized the election of the new RGNA Board of Directors: President Martin Tennant, Communications Director Patrick Tuohey, Crime Prevention Director John Ritchie, Events Director Ronda Sprick, Finance Director Christine Ritchie, Marketing Director Kristen Williams, Property Management Director Sarah Blasi, Public Affairs & Development Director John Cigas, Special Needs Director & Family Network Liaison Janie Weeks.

Crime Prevention

- John Ritchie asked the officers present for recommendations on improving communication between the Board and the Kansas City Police Department, especially regarding crime statistics;
- Captain Caron remarked that crimes statistics have been difficult to compile due to several computer technical problems within the KCPD; he advised the Board of progress in developing a web-based crime reporting tool that will overlay with Google maps;
- Officers Houston and Young recommended that neighbors be alert to unusual or suspicious activity in the neighborhood and that residents call police with specific information such as license plate numbers and descriptions of people and activity and that they leave contact information so that officers may follow up should they have additional questions; and
- Officer Trainor committed to providing the Board information about the vehicle that destroyed the RGNA marker at 72nd Street and Holmes Street.

By-laws

- Patrick Tuohey requested that copies of the RGNA by-laws be made available to post on the RGNA website; and that the Board then convene a task force to suggest by-laws revisions at a future Board meeting.

Block Captains

- Patrick Tuohey asked that the Board recruit block captains from the RGNA to (1) aid in distributing association newsletters and other communication and (2) help identify new home owners to the Board. Block captains could also be useful should the Director of Crime Prevention decide to form a neighborhood watch.

RGNA Newsletter

- Board members discussed options in printing and distributing future newsletters. It was generally agreed that resources are best spent on printing newsletters rather than in distribution. Patrick Tuohey assures that newsletters will be delivered in a timely fashion each month. RGNA resident Susan Mikkelsen offered to look into alternate printing options for the Board.

Events

- Ronda Sprick announced June 21 as the date for the 2008 RGNA block party. It will run from approximately 5pm to 9pm. The Board discussed locations and generally agreed to Campbell Street between 74th and 75th Streets. Ronda will seek permission from homeowners in that area, and will convene a task force to deal with the specifics of the block party.
- Board members discussed interest in a neighborhood Garden Walk and asked that the next newsletter include a call for homeowners to participate.
- Janie Weeks indicated the RGNA all-neighborhood Garage Sale will be June 6 and 7—the same dates as those for bordering neighborhoods.

Finance

- Christine Ritchie distributed a year-to-date budget and asked that directors be prepared to submit budget requests for 2009 at the next RGNA meeting. Previous years' budgets are available on request.

Membership

- The Board has no Membership Director. Martin Tennant asked that a call for volunteers be placed in the next newsletter.

Property Management

- Sarah Blasi updated the Board on what was needed to rezone RGNA homes to single family residential from their current zoning of multi-home residential; seven Board members volunteered to help complete visual surveys of homes as necessary before seeking rezoning;
- The Board approved an expenditure of \$500, should it be necessary, to pay fees to have the home on 7440 Holmes rezoned from commercial to residential; and
- Blasi also reported on initial efforts to rebuild the RGNA marker at 72nd Street and Holmes Street and on other property management endeavors.

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm.