Minutes for the RNA Meeting

Monday, January 11, 2016, 7-9 pm
Minutes Taker: Tom McTighe

Agenda

Introductions
Board members introduced themselves: Tom, Doug, Kari, Greg, Denise, Cyd, Megan, Jonathan, Jordan, Elizabeth, and 9 neighbors
Erik and Callie arrived afterward

Adoption of November Special Session & December minutes
Doug: Will we be voting on the December minutes as the agenda says? Cyd, no, we haven’t had enough time to review them.

Agenda Consent
No objections, today’s agenda stands.

Announcements
Mark Zahner, a neighbor, shares stats on how drivers and cyclists interacted with the new diverter on 32nd and Clinton St. He observed traffic and counted from 6:30-9am. City knows about 34th, removed two parking spots near Ander’s. Took two from North, added two to South end.

Allen Field, neighbor: Portland Parks and Rec plans to double plot fees for all community gardens. The fees were already increased recently. Allen says if that happens lots of people will drop out of the plot program. PPR may also eliminate movies/concerts in the park. Cyd sent out a survey 15 minutes before the meeting. There’s a meeting at St. Philip Neri Tuesday and Wednesday to discuss the budget. Encouraged attendees to take the survey and attend the meetings to weigh in on the decision.

- Public Budget Meeting Tuesday, January 12 (6-8 p.m.) at St. Philip Neri Paris, Carvlin Hall, 2408 SE 16th Avenue
- Bureau Advisory Committee #4 Thursday, January 14 (5:30-8 p.m.) at 1120 SW 5th Avenue, 2nd Floor, Conference Room C

Crime/Safety Report
No officer present.

Create a vision statement for the RNA Cyd Manro & all
• Cyd: Why a Mission? So we can make sure we’re always on the right track, something we can refer to over time.

• Cyd reads RNA’s Mission

• Cyd reads examples: “IKEA’s MISSION”, “WWF MISSION”, “TOYS R US MISSION

• Board lists values and favorite aspects of Richmond (10 minutes)
  ○ Cyd has board take turns reading from the compiled list of the Board’s values and favorite aspects of Richmond: Kari, Greg, Megan, Cyd, Jordan, Doug, Greg, Elizabeth, Denise, Callie
  ○ Cyd presents his synthesis of the comments, categorized as follows: Residents, Values, Physical Environment, Transportation
  ○ Jonathan and Jordan say their comments were expressed by others
  ○ Neighbor Randall Heeb: Push ourselves to see further into the future. Beyond three years. Transportation might not be an issue in 10 years with self-driving cars
  ○ Neighbor: We need to meet in the middle, resolve extreme positions
  ○ Neighbor: We’re missing aging in place and service.
  ○ Neighbor: “Local” and “cooperation” are important. Choose an aspirational mission.
  ○ Neighbor: Focus on relationships, collaboration, not traffic and carbon issues
  ○ Jonathan: Research about some neighborhoods more effective. Mentions book: “Bowling Alone”, and the concept of “social capital”, says in a real neighborhood, people are socially engaged with each other.
  ○ Neighbor: Focus not just on the hot issues, but on what can we do together.
  ○ Cyd: Proposes forming a committee to look at what we talked about tonight, to create a Vision Statement. Will lead it if no one else wants to. Open to the community? Cyd says yes. Cyd, Callie, and Greg volunteer to form the Vision Committee.

• Board vote
  ○ Cyd proposes we form committee. Denise seconds. All in favor except Doug was opposed and Kari abstained. Jonathan added via friendly amendment to join the new committee. Denise seconds. Doug and Kari abstained, wanted to decide the Vision today at the meeting.

2. Develop measurable goals for RNA in 2016

• Board members present what they want to prioritize 20

• Committee chairs present their priorities 15

• Community presents priorities 15

• Create proposed goals from common ground 15
  ○ Cyd: Goal setting. Has to be measurable. When will we check in about it?
  ○ The Board reads out the things we’d like to accomplish in 2016.
  ○ Issues Board members are passionate about
    ▪ Elizabeth: Website
    ▪ Jordan: Traffic volume
    ▪ Jonathan: More community events
    ▪ Megan: Deconstruction vs. demolition
■ Cyd: Affordable housing
■ Denise: How the city is responding to our concerns
■ Greg: Partner with neighboring NAs. Use our political power
■ Kari: Enough and affordable housing
■ Doug: Missing middle concepts
■ Erik: Carbon emissions
■ Tom: Neighborhood involvement
■ Callie: Talk about other things than housing and buildings

○ Neighbors input:
■ Debbie: Divisiveness within our community is disheartening. Re-building community first step toward health. Lighting improvements, pedestrian safety
■ Mark: Affordable and accessible housing. People with disabilities have to live in high-rises, would be good if they could live in low-rise neighborhoods like ours. Increased respect for other people. Sharing the road.
■ Lisa Miller: Affordable housing
■ Anne from SE Uplift: Aging in place, keeping aging population in their houses
■ Drew: Hunger, people paying rent and utilities, slowly starving. Lots of rentals and turnover, renters are less invested. Shows in recycling. Their brown bins are overflowing. Local recycling improvements
■ Jacob: More self-sustaining, less of a pass-through neighborhood. Board governance skills and improve process.
■ Peter: Common ground, active outreach program, friendlier. Street Stewards, Block Stewards. Empower people to get things done.
■ Randall: Contentious issues, Board should poll and do more outreach, define the NA toolbox. What can the neighborhood do to influence policy and city decisions. Sidewalks are deteriorating. Can’t walk because it’s flooded, overgrown with plants
■ Allen: Continue organizing things like cleanup, block parties, encourage ppl to get together for events...yard sale weekend

○ Cyd: Where is there common ground?
   ● affordable housing
   ● walkability
   ● community building, outreach, group activities

○ Cyd: Takes large pad to middle of room. Goal-defining session.
   ■ Did we miss anything?
   ● Greg: RNA’s process
   ● Kari: tools
   ● Doug, Erik: Carbon emissions
revised list of categories, Cyd has Board vote on which they’ll create a goal for. Votes as follows: Carbon emissions (2), Website (3), Community Building (4), Affordable Housing (3)

- An attempt is made to create a goal around Community Building. List of elements is created with group input: Devisiveness, trust, rebuilding, fun, outreach, events, participation, moderations, collaboration, accessible, delegation, Street-Stewards. 30 minute discussion, mostly about trust.
- Randall: If votes are close, move incrementally, instead of winner take all on close votes.
- Cyd proposes first goal: “Build trust and cohesiveness through events, meetings, and outreach. Success is broad participation and diversity in participants. Deepening of relationships. People feel engaged, are having fun. We will measure this by taking baseline measurement: email list, attendance, surveys.
- Define a baseline in 2 months.
- Unanimous Yes vote. Doug was out of room during last part of discussion, and so abstains.

Meeting evaluation, Board and neighbors
- What did you get out of this meeting/what could improve? 05
  - Would’ve liked to do spitballing with Vision Statement
  - You can’t see people behind you when you face the front of the room
  - I like that we’re actually creating an identity
  - I like that it’s a proactive approach to setting goals
  - 100% of the community got to give their input. (we went around the room and all nine neighbors got to give their input
  - I like that we had something sent out in advance
  - I like that it wasn’t contentious