

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

August Minutes

Thursday, August 2, 2007

Rockridge Library

Present: Gloria Bruce, Jennifer Edmister, Stu Flashman, Annette Floystrup, Susan Montauk, Ellen Peterson, Jeff Small, Richard Smith, Ronnie Spitzer, Peter St. John, Danica Truchlikova, Margaret Wahlberg

Absent: Stephanie Upp, Cy Gulassa

Guests: John Gussman (arrived 9:10, left 10:15), Don Kinkead(arrived 7:44 PM).

Meeting called to order at 7:33 PM with a quorum present.

I. Administrative (7:35)

A.) July 12 Minutes

- **MOTION:**To accept the July 12 minutes with corrections as submitted by Susan Montauk, Danica Truchlikova, and Annette Floystrup. *Motion:* Susan Montauk. *Second:* Stu Flashman. *In favor:* Bruce, Edmister, Flashman, Floystrup, Montauk, Peterson, Small, Spitzer, St. John, Truchlikova, Wahlberg. *Abstaining:* Richard Smith, on the grounds that he had not yet read the minutes. *Motion passed.*

- B.) Reschedule board meeting to 7 PM - A discussion followed on whether the board meeting should be moved to 7 PM to avoid late evenings. Suggestion that we move easier informative items up on the agenda, so late arrivals won't miss anything. General agreement that the board should try the earlier start time for a 2-month trial period.

II. Committee Reports (7:40)

- A) NCPC: Susan reported on the workshop on July 19. The NCPC has held three town halls this year, and will go back to regular meetings. Susan urged that people attend and mentioned that elections for officers will be held soon and people are welcome to run.

III. Rockridge News (7:45)

- A.) Don Kinkead is filling in for Cy this month. Articles can be sent to Don's email this month; emails to editor address will go to Don. August 23 is deadline for the next issue, which will come out in September.

- B.) Upcoming and “green” articles: anatomy of a mugging, committee appointments, Out and About in Rockridge, National Night Out, Kitchen Tour, AIDS Ride, Interview with Ronnie, Peralta School Fire Update, RCPC school grants, 4th bore updates, new bird on the block, FROG September Picnic, Potter mania, street trees, Safeway’s meeting on September 11.
- C.) Guidelines: Always include bylines, photo credits, details for meetings, and keep articles on the short side (500-750 words is top end).
- D.) Susan proposed compensating Janet an additional \$250 for this issue only, due to additional workload with Don busy on the Kitchen Tour brochure. The Board agreed.
- E.) The Board agreed to make an effort to turn in articles early to ease burden on Don.

(Committee Reports continued) (8:02)

B) UnderBART – Jeff showed proposed landscaping plans for southeast side of Rockridge BART plaza. New plans would be coming soon for review. A few priorities expressed were better lighting, less/no ivy, more seating, more inviting atmosphere, and creating a direct walkway from the BART escalator to the corner of College and Keith. Jeff also mentioned a few issues with the current design including the concern that the elevated wall might attract skateboarders, the possible need to cut down the fourth tree hanging over Keith sidewalk; and getting the phone company to replace the old phone booths.

Jeff offered to take all feedback to Bob Franklin at BART, and urged RCPC to move forward on plans for a bulletin board perhaps working with the RDA. Gloria and Susan agreed to work with Jeff on this.

C.) 4th Bore Coalition (8:20) - Ellen attended the Fourth Bore Coalition steering committee meeting last week as RCPC representative and was elected co-chair of the committee. The Coalition is starting to line up meetings with officials and start thinking about community education.

Stu reported that litigation is probably going to be needed. The coalition should try to get the City involved, which will have more impact on CalTrans. There is a question about whether the RCPC should financially contribute to the appeal. The board was asked to tell neighbors to contact their officials about supporting a lawsuit, and to copy RCPC on any correspondence.

D.) Traffic, Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety (8:31) – Ronnie announced an upcoming committee meeting on **X date**. (*See attached update sheet on committee work in August 2007 board packet*). The Oakland Bicycle

Master Plan may go to Planning Commission in October. Ronnie recommends that the RCPC take a “not oppose” position as the date approaches. A brief discussion followed about ensuring that adequate and attractive bicycle racks are installed to replace the parking meters being removed on College.

RCPC has also been invited to take part in an AC Transit task force on how to make the 51 bus route run more efficiently.

There is also an idea for a pedestrian/bike safety study.

E. Ad Hoc - The ad hoc committee had not yet met and had no new reports. The committee planned to meet by the end of August.

Item IV. Kitchen Tour (8:41 – Susan and Jennifer)

Susan and Jennifer reported that at least 12 docents were still needed for the tour. They need four to six docents per house. Board members will have other responsibilities during the tour, but can also be docents. Board members were given posters, bookmarks, supplies, and routing for postering and were asked to finish hanging posters in local businesses by August 26.

The board took a break at 8:53 and resumed at 9:02.

Item V. Out and About Festival (9:02)

Ronnie briefed the board on the Out and About Rockridge Festival to be held on September 30. The organizers (who also organized the Temescal Street Fair) are expecting a large turnout of 8,000-10,000 people, much bigger than last year.

The board agreed to have a booth at the festival to sell kitchen tour tickets and promote other RCPC activities. Jeff, Margaret, Annette, Ronnie, and Stu agreed to help with the booth.

Item VI. By-laws revisions (9:12)

A.) Section 9.3 - John reviewed section 9.3 with proposed amendments (*see attached exhibit of proposed amendments to section 9.3*). There was a concern that reviewing state law seems like too much of a burden for the board; it is a possible activity, but should not be designated in the bylaws as a responsibility.

- **MOTION:** To adopt the document entitled “RCPC Bylaws Section 9.3 (with proposed amendments),” dated June 7, 2007, as written, with the following two changes to item E.2: delete the phrase “or in State Legislation” and change the

numbering of Item E.5 to E.4. *Motion:* Annette Floystrup. *Second:* Stu Flashman. *In favor:* Bruce, Flashman, Floystrup, Montauk, Peterson, Small, Smith, Spitzer, St. John, Truchlikova, Wahlberg. *Abstaining:* Jennifer Edmister, on the grounds that she was not present at meeting at which the RCPC voted to replace the Land Use Committee with the PPRC, and she was not comfortable codifying anything relevant to the former Land Use Committee until the public interface issue is addressed by the board. *Motion passed.*

Other issues to be addressed at a later date include term limits and disclosure.

B.) Other bylaws review - Annette and Margaret met and have proposed revisions to section 1 (*See attached "Report from the Bylaws and Policy Manual Review Committee" in the August 2007 board packet*). They had concerns about security, with the RCPC tax identification numbers and bank account information printed in the bylaws. A discussion followed on balancing security with ease of accessed needed information. The board agreed that some Redbook/bylaw content needed to be reviewed further for security concerns, but that certain information on bank accounts and Yahoo! Groups could be removed.

- **MOTION:** That the following sentence be removed from Section 2, Manual of Policies and Procedures Updated and Reformatted, April 2007, Page 4, ORGANIZATIONAL STATUS AND PERMITS: "The RCPC employer ID number is [number omitted for minutes]," and that this sentence will be only provided as required by law. *Motion:* Margaret Wahlberg. *Second:* Annette Floystrup. *No vote.*
- **MOTION** to table the previous motion without a vote. *Motion:* Stuart Flashman. *Second:* Ellen Peterson. *All in favor. Motion passed.*

Although the bylaws committee had further information to report, it was decided to table further discussion of the bylaws until more time was available at a later date.

Item VII. Project and Planning Review Committee (9:50)

- A) Berkland Church – Peter informed the board that the church has been purchased, and the new owner has proposed living in part of the building and turn the rest into a therapist's office. Peter will continue conversations to follow up.
- B) Trader Joe's – Ronnie has obtained the name of the new store manager. Jeff has spoken to him and recapped six main issues: landscaping, lighting/safety in parking lot, bike parking and pedestrian access, Claremont Middle School students possibly having restricted shopping hours, and concern about overflow BART parking.

Board members mentioned other issues such as delivery on Oak Grove, delivery hours, trash pickup, entrance on College across from Birch Court. Jeff requested that any comments be sent to him and he would follow up once the manager returned from vacation.

- C) City Zoning Update Committee. Ronnie urged everyone to attend the hearing on August 15 if possible. Planning walking tours with commissioners the weekend before to advocate for walkable, mixed-use along Claremont. The City wants to change Claremont to C-30, which is more automobile oriented; this is a major change. The RCPC will put out a flier to respond.
- D) Safeway – Rockridge shopping center meeting is going to be on September 11. Kirk Peterson presented to the PPRC; he will be architect for façade of the building at College and Claremont. A traffic study is expected to be undertaken in September, and Safeway would like to have presentation to community in September or October.
- E) Poppy’s – Peter and Richard are going to see the case planner. Poppy Fabrics and the vacant lot next to it will be redeveloped.
- F) Hauser – The RCPC negotiating committee met with Hauser architects re: Global Video/Creekside on August 1.

The board went into executive session to discuss Hauser negotiations. The executive session ended at 10:25.

Richard noted that more attendance is needed at Planning Commission meetings to represent RCPC – next meeting is August 15.

- G) Kingfish – Stu gave report on Planning Commission meeting. The Planning Commission had decided to approve the Kingfish/cohousing project and exceed the Planning staff’s recommendation of C-30 to recommend a “best fit” of C-45. Stu has filed an appeal, as has STAND. These two appeals will be heard together. (*See attached appeal document in August board packet*). The board suggested the appeal be posted on the public RCPC website.

Item VIII. Website committee (10:32)

Annette gave an overview of website planning. The new website will have open architecture that will allow committee chairs to upload information about meetings, etc. It was suggested that committee chairs keep blogs to attract repeat visits. There is a issue remaining of who will run the site overall. Peter, Jeff, and Susan have agreed to meet and work with Annette and the web designer. The board agreed that this website committee would meet on August 16, and that every member of the board contribute their ideas, needs, likes/dislikes to Annette

by August 9. The committee planned to consolidate feedback and will report back to the board with sample website for comment.

Item IX. Other business (10:40?)

- A) Committee Chairs – Ronnie announced that there is a need for a Schools committee chairperson. Jennifer might be interested after the Kitchen Tour.
 - B) General meeting hosts/topics – The September general meeting will be about Green Kitchens, and the October meeting may focus on Safeway. Exact topics and hosts to be determined.
 - C) Training session – dates that were floated were August 20, 23, 25. Weekend of September 9. Speakers would be on C-31 (Richard), nonprofits/legal requirements (John), City Procedures (someone from Claudia Cappio's office)
 - D) Voice mail – There was a suggestion to rotate the duty of checking the RCPC voice mail among board members. Susan suggested that, since many calls were in reference to the kitchen tour it would be best for her to take it over through October.
- MOTION: To adjourn the meeting. *Motion: Jeff. Second: Ellen. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 10:49 PM.*

Respectfully submitted by Gloria Bruce, RCPC Secretary.