

RCPC ROCKRIDGE COMMUNITY PLANNING COUNCIL

◇ 5245 COLLEGE AVENUE PMB 311 ◇ OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA 94618 ◇ 510 - 869-4200 ◇
www.rockridge.org

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING April Minutes Thursday, April 3, 2008, 7:00 PM Rockridge Library

Present: Bruce, Edmister, Flashman (arrived 9:02 PM), Floystrup, Kinkead (non-voting), Montauk, Peterson (arrived 7:42 PM) Spitzer, St. John, Wahlberg

Guests: Karen Carlson (representative of Friends of the Rockridge Library, present from 7:00 to 7:40 PM)

Meeting called to order with a quorum at 7:10 PM.

Item 1: Administrative (5)

- A) Approval of March Minutes – All
 - a. Jennifer will amend the minutes to reflect the correct language on contracts (item 8B).
 - b. Approval of March minutes tabled until such time as we have remainder of minutes from Stuart Flashman.

Item 2: FORL yearly update (30)

Karen Carlson, co-chair of FORL, gave an overview of Friends of the Rockridge Library (for which RCPC serves as fiscal agent). FORL has about 70 members and 11 board members and has existed for 10 years. People give from \$15 to \$1000 to be a member. FORL raise about \$5000 a year which is used for activities such as replacing children's books. RCPC's pledge of \$3500 for furniture never made it to FORL, so FORL will spend about \$4000 this year on repairing and refinishing Moser furniture. They will also buy books on CD and fund an annual summer intern from Oakland Tech to run a summer reading program. They provide garden oversight and oversight of grounds. Challenges ahead are to recruit more members. Also thinking about a teen center to accommodate teens, especially on Wednesday afternoon. They may use part of upper room and move teen collection to 2nd floor but would be a big endeavor because of the sound-proofing and staffing. Susan mentioned that Measure Y money might be an option for staffing, getting additional supervision from Parks and Rec. Lack of air-conditioning is another issue – would cost \$200,000. Ideas include discussing cooking class as a fundraiser. There are 7 people standing for election to the FORL board on April 17.

Item 3: Rockridge News (15)

- A) Article list – Susan-new NCPC, Gloria - RCPC April town hall meeting, Danica - May candidate forum, Ronnie -Traffic Pedestrian Committee meeting and will request East Bay Bicycle Coalition to write an article about bike safety on College. Jennifer-profile of Claremont teacher and announcement of 2nd Claremont community day, Ellen - update on the Fourth Bore
- B) Update – *Rockridge News* is now using new printers who are more hands-on and accessible, as well as less expensive.

Item 4: Financial (15)

- A) Treasurer Report –Susan Montauk reported on the RCPC finances. Some notes: our interest rates on accounts are very low, we have slightly less in cash reserve than usual, and Sally Fitzhugh’s charges are a little higher than usual. We did receive some late payment for a Kitchen Tour brochure ad. In future we will have reports that have show the balance of RCPC’s funds without the fiscally sponsored agencies.

Susan expressed interest in taking on the financial consultant position. A discussion followed about the merits of having an outside contractor for this position. No resolution was reached; the matter will be brought up to the BOD after the April election.

Item 5: Committees (60)

- A) *Web Site* (5) – Margaret announced the decision of the website committee to delay moving forward with a new designer until after the board elections. This will allow the new board to be part of the process, and will allow time to organize the content in the form that the potential designer has requested.

- MOTION: For the board to enter executive session to discuss matters pertaining to its previous website contract. *Motion:* Floystrup. *Second:* Bruce. *Motion passed unanimously.*

The board went into executive session at 8:15 PM and executive session ended at 8:25 PM.

An extensive discussion followed on the merits of the RCPC entering another website design contract, on what course the board should take in redesigning the website, and who would be responsible for content and upkeep. There was consensus that the website is a priority, but that more discussion was needed before a contract could be considered. There was agreement that a discussion on the website and broader RCPC relevance should be part of the May retreat.

A brief discussion of the use of Constant Contact (email system) followed; Margaret will continue to administer and try out the system for communications to the public two or three times a month.

- B) *Schools* (10)-Jennifer reported that there will be another Claremont Middle School community day in May. She will remain the schools chair for the time being, but requested that the BOD look for another interested candidate after the April election
- C) *Traffic & Pedestrian Safety* (5) – Ronnie announced that Jason Patton is coming to the committee on April 21 to discuss the Oakland Bicycle Master Plan. There will also be updates on a neighborhood survey and how the city is responding.
- D) *NCPC* (5) – Susan announced that there is a new chair of the NCPC, Chris _____, and that Karen Ivy is the new secretary and is co-moderating the neighborhood watch group. With Susan stepping off the board, there may need to be a new board liaison who can help write articles. Decision that NCPC yahoo group should and will remain focused on crime and safety.
- E) *FROG* (5) –Ronnie reported that FROG members have been very busy with the Fourth Bore and other matters. Need new members, as current members have kids who have aged out of FROG Park. FROG Park is revamping website (using Vivek Bhatia) and exploring eTapestry and donor management software. There will be public art installed this summer with a public event, and a volunteer clean up on Earth Day.

F) *Fourth Bore* (30) - Ellen gave an update on the Fourth Bore coalition and lawsuit. Stu recused himself from the discussion as the attorney for the 4th bore coalition.

- MOTION: That the board enter executive session to discuss the Fourth Bore lawsuit. *Motion:* Floystrup. *Second:* Bruce. *In favor:* Bruce, Edmister, Floystrup, Spitzer, St. John, Truchlikova, Wahlberg. *Absent from vote:* Flashman. *Motion passed.*

Board entered executive session at approximately 9:20 PM.

- MOTION: That the RCPC direct its representative on the Fourth Bore coalition to vote in favor of pursuing the lawsuit that has been filed in the matter of *Fourth Bore Coalition v. CalTrans*. *Motion:* Edmister. *Second:* Annette. *In favor:* Bruce, Edmister, Floystrup, Spitzer, St. John, Truchlikova, Wahlberg. *Absent from vote:* Flashman. *Motion passed.* Executive session ended at 9:43 PM.

Item 6: Meetings (30)

A) *April Town Hall/Election* – Ronnie(Election)/Danica (10)

- a. Discussion of election procedure and appointment of election officer – need to have people working the election booths. Ronnie will send out a request.
- b. Stu will host the meeting. League of Women Voters will be coming to discuss the June general election. There will also be a NCPC update.

B) *May, June, July meetings* (15)

- a. May meeting will have a candidate's forum and focus on the June general election.
- b. June meeting – website forum (Annette)
- c. July meeting – Safeway (tentative)
- d. September meeting – creeks and birds (Ellen)

C) *May Board Training/New Board Member Training* (Ronnie)

- a. Tentatively scheduled for May 10, approximately 10 AM – 3 PM.

Item 7: Land Use Committee (30)

A) *Update on Projects* – Stu, Peter

Stu capped the updates including the attached “April 2008 Land Use Committee Report.”

Trader Joes/Pharmaca signage: Appears to be resolved. Annette made a comment on the brightness of the signage at Pharmaca.

5175 Broadway: The land use committee received new plans and developed a recommendation that was presented to the board in the attached document, “RCPC Position on 5175 Broadway Project.” A discussion followed on the recommendations and concerns brought up by the committee. There was an agreement to tone down the concern over the interior room and remove the concerns about the exterior canopy and the impervious surface, but keep other concerns. The recommendation is to not oppose but to express these concerns. The Land Use Committee will send a letter to the planning commission.

- MOTION: To adopt the recommendation of the Land Use Committee on 5175 Broadway as modified in discussion. *Motion:* Truchlikova. *Second:* Floystrup. *In favor:* Bruce,

Flashman, Floystrup, Edmister, Montauk, Peterson, Truchlikova. *Abstaining:* Wahlberg (based on not having examined the project plans yet). *Motion passed.*

Safeway: Stu reported on the Land Use Committee recommendation that the board acknowledge the Concerned Neighbors of Safeway College and provide technical assistance. After extensive discussion on the role of RCPC on the Safeway project, it was agreed that RCPC members could participate in Concerned Neighbors of Safeway College, but that they should not simultaneously act as Safeway project lead or liaison for the RCPC, to avoid a conflict of interest.

- MOTION: That RCPC inform Concerned Neighbors of Safeway College that we share their concerns as stated in the meeting of March 18 and that we will offer them technical assistance. *Motion:* Floystrup. *Second:* Montauk. *Motion passed unanimously.*

Land Use Committee structure and membership: Once she is no longer RCPC chair, Ronnie will not be an *ex officio* member of Land Use committee and will need to be appointed to the new committee as a member. The item will have to wait until the new board comes in and can vote to seat her on the committee.

Creekside/Global Video: Hauser wants to bring together the people in the various neighborhood groups on May 1 or May 8 to have a consensus on the design and concern. Suggestion that Ronnie and Jennifer attend as representatives. Ronnie will keep us updated.

- MOTION: To adjourn the April board meeting. *Motion:* Peterson. *Second:* Edmister. All in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 10:38 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Gloria Bruce, RCPC secretary.