

RCPC ROCKRIDGE COMMUNITY PLANNING COUNCIL

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING NOVEMBER 2008 MINUTES Thursday, November 6, 2008, 7:00 PM Rockridge Library

Present: Jason Burke, Stu Flashman, Jon Gabel, Bill Kaufner, Colby Lavin (7:25), Joan Martin, Doug Patton, Ellen Peterson, Ronnie Spitzer (7:15), Katy Taylor (7:08), Danica Truchlikova

Absent: Annette Floystrup

Meeting called to order at 7:02 with a quorum present.

Item 1: Administrative

- A) Approval of October meeting minutes.

MOTION: Move to approve minutes of October 2, 2008 BOD meeting. *Motion:* Gabel, *Second:* Peterson. *Motion carried unanimously.*

- B) Appointment of Secretary

Katy Taylor's six months term expired. Board thanked her for a job well done. Danica Truchlikova is nominated to serve from November 2008 till April 2009.

MOTION: Move to appoint Danica Truchlikova as Secretary. *Motion:* Martin, *Second:* Gabel. *Motion carried unanimously.*

- C) Consent Calendar Reports

No reports were filed.

Item 2: Communications Items

- A) Oaklandnorth small group meeting

Oaklandnorth is a project sponsored by the UCB Graduate School of Journalism. They are interested in exchange of ideas with the RCPC; part of the exchange is granting permission to reprint RN articles. Also NCPC is negotiating with them to cover their meetings. Till the new RCPC site is running, a crosslink between their site and the existing RCPC site would be OK. A meeting with Oaklandnorth to be scheduled. To attend for RCPC: website committee representatives and Don Kinkead. (Jon Gabel will be out of town the last two weeks of November.)

- B) Website redesign

Jon Gabel asked for comments on the pages in .zip file he e-mailed to the Board. Not all members reviewed them (some could not open the files). Coding is proceeding. The goal is to create more pages and written contributions to content are needed. Jon asked the board to start contributing. Stu commented that we should check with merchants if any store pictures are shown on thumbnail pictures. Next website committee meeting is on Thursday, November 13, at John Gabel's house.

C) New RCPC-branded Merchandise

Katy asked for feedback on new RCPC logo proposal. Danica commented that the design is too stylized. Ellen agreed and also did not like the people in the logo, which was seconded by others. The graphic designer, Tony Kay, is doing this work pro bono, so there is limit how many re-designs we can ask for. The Board agreed that the current logo has merits but it may be improved by being more stylized or iconic while keeping the overall character.

D) College Avenue Halloween Parade

Kathy reported on the Halloween parade, which was not a real parade but rather a low-key “organic” event primarily for small kids walking with parents. There was entertainment provided by a singer, a storyteller and a dance troupe, and generally all who attended had a good time. However, College Avenue was not closed, and the event stretched through whole College. The ideas for the next year: do not call it parade, but College Avenue Halloween stroll; coordinate with carnival at Claremont Middle School; make the stroll area more compact.

Item 3: Financial

A) RFQ for financial consultant

Joan proposed that we advertise for a business manager/bookkeeper position. Susan’s term expires in December and a wider pool of applicants may be beneficial.

MOTION: Move to advertise the position of RCPC Business Manager in the Rockridge News.
Motion: Patton, *Second:* Gabel. *Motion carried unanimously.*

B) Constant Contact renewal

Current contract is expiring. Options are monthly extensions, 6-month, or 12-months contract. Financially most advantageous is 12-month contract.

MOTION: Move to extend Constant Contact contract for 12 months. *Motion:* Truchlikova, *Second:* Gabel. *Motion carried unanimously.*

C) Financial Statement

2008 budget is underspent. Joan opened PayPal account for donations to RCPC. Discussion on extent of fundraising: to have a war chest for possible appeals will be prudent.

D) Proposed budget 2009

The proposal was placed on the web late and Board did not have time to review. Doug proposed that we have two budget options; one downscaled to reflect the current economic situation. The discussion and budget approval postponed to December BD meeting.

Item 4: Executive Committee bylaws

The discussion centered on how much power the committee should have on issues which arise between board meetings and on which the Board did not take position yet. Website poll of Board members may be a solution. The bylaws approval postponed to December BD meeting after the draft is revised.

Item 5: Kitchen Tour date

Susan Montauk and Jennifer Edmister, co-chairs of Kitchen Tour Committee, proposed Sunday, September 20, 2009 for the next Kitchen Tour to avoid conflict with other fall tours. They will come to the next Board meeting to make presentation.

MOTION: Move to approve September 20, 2009 date for the next RCPC Kitchen Tour. *Motion:* Patton, *Second:* Peterson. *Motion carried unanimously.*

Item 6: Committee Reports

A) Land Use Committee

a. Safeway

Stu reported on the third stakeholders meeting attended by Annette. The stakeholders were broken into small groups each discussing their preferences and concerns for the new store. The size of the store is the major issue. Next meeting is November 12, with Safeway presenting their position on stakeholders' proposals.

b. Hauser/Creekside

The hearing on EIR by Planning Commission scheduled for November 19. The Land Use Committee unanimously recommended that the Board oppose the project that requires seven CUPs/variances and sets a bad precedent.

MOTION: Move to oppose the Creekside project based on the Land Use Committee's recommendation. *Motion:* Patton, *Second:* Martin. Oppose: Gabel, Truchlikova, Paterson, Martin, Kaufner. Do not oppose: Flashman, Spitzer. Abstain: Taylor, Lavin, Burke. *Motion carried.*

Board enters Executive Session at 8:40. (*moved by Burke, seconded by Taylor*)

Discussion of Board position options considering the architect's memo to Stu.

Board ends Executive Session at 8:55. (*moved by Gabel, seconded by Peterson*)

c. Rockridge Montessori

Colby Lavin reported on his meetings with the school and the direct neighbors. School owns the house next-door, currently not used for school, and proposes to add the second floor and join the house with the school. Currently school has 97 children, with expansion the number will increase to 197 children. Charles Kahn is the architect. The school has a history of expanding in spite of neighbors' concerns. The main issue is traffic, primarily residents on Kales street complain about cars driving though their street to drop-off and pick-up the kids. Montessori will make a presentation at the November Town Hall meeting. Board postponed any action until after the presentations. In the meantime Colby to contact Kales street residents to get better understanding of the scale of their opposition.

d. Red Cross Blood Bank

A singular neighbor, Tamara Leisen, still insists that the vans are idling and make noise with night deliveries. Colby talked to Blood Bank and they listed changes made to their delivery operations. Board agreed that Colby will check with other neighbors on the street whether they

have any complaints, and ask Tamara Leisen to document her complaint by a video, or photos with hours indicated, and photos of license plates of delivery vans. After that the Board will decide if they're any other actions to be taken.

Item 7: Fourth Bore Coalition

The hearing before judge Roesch ended on November 5. He will render binding decision within 2 weeks to 2 months.

Board enters Executive Session at 9:20. *(moved by Patten, seconded by Martin)*

Discussion of Board options for future action.

Board ends Executive Session at 9:40. *(moved by Truchlikova, seconded by Kaufner)*

Item 8: Rockridge News articles

Fourth Bore – Ellen

Creekside Hearing - Stu

Report on Town Hall meeting – Ronnie

Rockridge Montessori – Colby

Safeway update – Stu

Ideas for organizing home business – Joan

Meeting adjourned at 9:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Danica Truchlikova, RCPC secretary.