

Charlotte Community Association

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes December 7, 2015, 6:00 pm Robach Community Center

OUR MISSION

To build a stronger community and to enhance the lives of our residents by providing a forum for sharing information, connecting neighbors and stakeholders, and fostering civic engagement while preserving and promoting the heritage of the Village of Charlotte.

Call to Order / Attendance / Housekeeping

Meeting called to order by President Clare Stortini at 5:54 pm. **In Attendance:** Clare Stortini, president; Susan Miller, treasurer; Sue Roethel, secretary; Donna Bour-Purdy, director; Linda MacCammon, director; and Patti O'Brien, director. With six board members present, there was a quorum to conduct business.

Minutes for Approval

Deferred to BOD meeting on 12/10.

Treasurer's Report

November report of income and expenses will be given to members at tonight's General Meeting. The board needs to have a year-end Excel spread sheet with notes showing year-to-date totals for each category.

Action Item: Sue M. will send to all board members the YTD spreadsheet of the full year-end-budget.

President's Report

- Charlotte Village Green plans: This is a fenced-in piece of City property behind Spanish Gardens Apartments. Jim Farr, City's Department of Recreation, asked the CCA board in July what we would like the City to do with the overgrown, unkempt space. We discussed the possibility of cleaning it up and making it into a community garden, but there are logistical problems with that idea. The remote location would make it difficult to keep it watered, and there are huge pine trees that block the sunlight, which would prevent it from being a successful garden. Jim notified Clare that the City has chosen to make it into a grass landscape. The board does not want to pursue an alternative at this time, as long as the property is taken care of. Clare will let Jim know and ask when the clean-up will take place.
- RPD Chief's PCIC meeting on 11/18: Clare attended this bi-monthly meeting and shared her notes and PowerPoint slides with the board. The meetings are to provide updates and include communities in the discussions of topics relevant to all. The PPT slides were about RPD's use of body worn cameras (BWC)—why they're a priority, benefits and limitations, process to approve them, and next steps to seek more community input, develop a policy, select a vendor, police training, community education, and deployment of the equipment. The City Council has

approved \$2M for the BWC program. In addition, RIT has received a grant to conduct an independent evaluation of the program. The PCIC meeting also included a discussion about the RPD's gun buy-back program, funded by gifts from Wegmans and the Rochester Police Foundation. Next scheduled buy-back events are on 12/16 and 12/19 at 244 South Plymouth Avenue.

- Northwest Service Center (NSC) Quadrant meeting on 11/19: Clare also attended this meeting and posted her notes for the board's perusal. Meeting discussions included developing a quadrant-wide tool library, which the CCA board has previously discussed and has decided not to commit to it at this time. Also up for discussion was an information sheet that Mike Visconte of the Lyell-Otis neighborhood has developed that is helpful for neighborhoods that don't have a website or other communication infrastructure to share information easily.
- Mayor's Advisory Council: This is a new group formed by the Mayor's office, with input from the Service Centers. Ron Penders invited Clare to join for the CCA and Marianne Warfle for POCMA. However, the Mayor's office wanted only one representative per neighborhood and chose the businesses specifically instead of the whole community. The board's reaction to this was that the whole community should be represented and not just one faction. Clare will follow up with Ron with our concerns.
- NBD Organizational Review meeting on 12/14: Ron Penders invited a few representatives from each neighborhood to attend this focus group to give feedback to the City on the current effectiveness of the Department of Neighborhood & Business Development. Clare and Sue R. will attend this meeting at the Northwest Neighborhood Service Center.
- MVP Rochester Marathon email: Clare shared an email of support that the CCA sent to YellowJacket Racing regarding the September marathon event that included the Charlotte neighborhood. The email will be used to help promote a repeat for next year's event.
- CCA Attorney: Due to time constraints, this topic is deferred until the BOD meeting on 12/10.
- OBPPC dinner: Due to time constraints, this topic is deferred until the BOD meeting on 12/10.
- Meeting with Molly Clifford: Due to time constraints, this topic is deferred until the BOD meeting on 12/10.
- Bylaws Amendment feedback: Clare received emails from CCA members Bill Brown and Fred Amato, each detailing specific items in the proposed Amendment that they feel need to be either expanded on or eliminated altogether. Fred, in particular, expressed deep dissatisfaction with the proposal. Clare has invited both Bill and Fred to summarize their feedback in the open discussion tonight just before the vote takes place.

Action Items:

- Clare will contact Jim Farr, Dept. of Recreation, to let him know that the CCA supports the City's decision to clean up the plot of land behind Spanish Gardens and turn it into a green space. She will also ask when the clean-up will take place.

- Clare will follow up with Ron Penders about the Mayor's Advisory Council not including representation of the full Charlotte community.

OLD BUSINESS

1. **Beautification Committee Update:** Chairperson Linda Paruta sent a note to Clare stating she was being charged \$450 to hang holiday wreaths that she and others have made with materials purchased already. The committee's 2015 budget of \$1,400 is already spent and is over-budget at this time. They also received a donation in October of \$150 from Tom and Rose Schwartz. The board cannot give the committee any additional funds for 2015. Board Liaison Linda MacCammon will communicate this to the committee and will help Linda P. develop a plan of work for 2016 that includes fundraising ideas. Linda P. should also send a thank-you note to the Schwartzes.

Action Items:

- Linda M. will let Linda Paruta know of the Beautification Committee discussion with the board.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Bylaws Amendment VOTE:** Tonight's agenda includes an open discussion prior to the vote. As we've previously done with the board elections, members have previously received a special edition of the newsletter outlining the proposed Amendment and a proxy form if they cannot attend tonight's meeting to vote in person. Each voting member will be asked to sign in at the door and receive a voting tag. Votes will be counted by Sue M. and Patti and recorded in the minutes.

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 6:51 pm.

Minutes submitted by Sue Roethel, CCA secretary.

Upcoming Events and Meetings

- 12/10 CCA Board of Directors Meeting, 7 pm, Greece Library
1/4 CCA BOD and General Meetings, 6 pm and 7 pm, respectively; Robach Community Center