

# Charlotte Community Association

## GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Monday, October 3, 2016, 7 pm

The Roger Robach Community Center, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

### 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

Meeting called to order by President Jonathan Hardin at 7:01 pm. **Board Members in Attendance:** Jonathan Hardin, President; Sue Roethel, Secretary; Donna Bour-Purdy, Director; Mary Chambers, Director; Tommy Borrelli, Director, and Gini Weslowski, Director. **Excused:** Patti O'Brien, Treasurer. There was a quorum of the board to conduct business and about 32 people in attendance.

## CITY OF ROCHESTER UPDATES

- 1. Rochester Police Department (RPD):** Lt. Jeff Koehn reported the following:
  - Attempted robbery and assault at 3841 Lake Ave.; domestic incident;
  - Robbery by 3 suspects at 350 Boxart St.; 6 people total were involved; camera footage was unclear so unable to provide description of license plate and suspects;
  - Car break-ins first floor break-ins at Lake Vista Apts., window screens removed.
- 2. Rochester Fire Department (RFD):** Lt. Jim Russell of Engine 19 reported that this is Fire Prevention Week. On 10/5 they will conduct fire drills at the schools and high-rise apartment buildings.
- 3. Northwest Neighborhood Service Center (NSC):** Bruce Wilder provided these updates:
  - Banners arrived for section of Lake Ave. corridor that the City is able to provide; they will be installed next spring;
  - Clematis St. water problem - Town of Greece is having engineers look at the problem;
  - Cemetery fences need repair; plans are underway to do the work;
  - Promenade on east side of Terminal Building usually closes from October to April; will investigate whether it can remain open.
- 4. City Council NW Representative:** Molly Clifford reported the following:
  - Commissioner of Neighborhood & Business Development, Baye' Muhammad, will present an update to the community at the November CCA meeting; he will talk about the next steps for the Port of Rochester development. He is also attending the Harbor Merchants Association meeting on 10/19;
  - River Romance event on Friday, 10/7 includes ribbon cutting for the Lighthouse Trail;
  - Mayor Lovely Warren will have an open coffee chat on Saturday, 10/22, 8-10 am at LDR Char Pit;
  - Next City Council agenda includes a vote on a new home ownership program for rehabbing vacant houses. It's a pilot program partnering with an agency that will work with local banks for provide funding up to \$25K for rehab projects. Pilot covers 5 houses;
  - Bike share program – Phase 1 underway in downtown area; Can the CCA advocate for Phase 2?
  - Controversial E. Main St. project has not been approved yet.;
  - CYAA concession stand funds approved and project is out to bid; deadline is 10/22.

- Recycling toter program is expanding; City electronics recycling is Saturday, 10/15 at Sahlen Stadium;
- Molly's monthly open coffee chat is the first Saturday of every month, 10 am at LDR Char Pit.

## GUEST PRESENTERS

**Wakili Moore, Principal, Leadership Academy for Young Men**

**Van White, President, RCSD Board of Education**

**Mike Schmidt, Chief Operating Officer, RCSD**

President White said that the RCSD Board of Ed has seven members who are elected at large. When he started on the board, 39% of students graduated from high school. The graduation rate has now improved to 50%. He said parents have the primary responsibility, not school administrators, to turn things around.

The University of Rochester's takeover of East High School has been very successful so far. East High has an upperhouse and a lowerhouse principal, and there are 10 students per adult in the classroom. The pipeline for students comes from School #33 (6<sup>th</sup> grade). RCSD is negotiating for SUNY Geneseo to take over an elementary school (#19). Best practices are exciting. President White suggested that we could invite the Deputy Superintendent at East High, Shaun Nelms, to report on his school's best practices and their successes.

Principal Moore reported that the Leadership Academy for Young Men (LAYM) is now in its 6<sup>th</sup> year. With 630 students in grades 7-12. He believes the school has great staff and students who want to be there and are engaged. He said that out-of-school suspensions don't work. Instead, the staff uses a "restorative" approach to keep the students in school. As a result, out-of-school suspensions have reduced from 400 last year to zero so far in September.

The LAYM philosophy is to keep three promises for success:

1. The students deserve a safe school with safe, caring, active supervision.
2. We are a competitive, fun school—in class, with clubs and in sports.
3. Our programs are academically challenging.

The LAYM has a graduation rate of 60-62% (2015) but only 9-10% for young men of color. Principal Moore referred to a report called "The Finish Line," which tracks data on the school's successes. The School Board visits the school every Friday morning to talk about "The Finish Line" report. The students' growth from instruction has been huge, and there are good indicators for graduation.

Principal Moore has been submitting articles for the CCA newsletter and made the commitment to attend CCA meetings as often as possible. The school needs donations of uniforms (Note: Six boxes have been collected from the CCA already.) Volunteer mentors are also needed once or twice a month. The LAYM has a band that performs at NFL games, and it has a choir. Principal Moore offered to have them perform for us, perhaps at the annual Christmas tree lighting ceremony. He invited community members to attend open houses and other events at the school to build relationships. He is also taking LAYM students to School #42 and Holy Cross School to build community partnerships.

Principal Moore reported that 20-25 students get off the RTS bus before they get to school, so he stations himself at the School #42 and Dunkin' Donuts stops to help curb that. For safety and security, the LAYM has 1 resource officer (police) and 6 safety officers assigned.

Mike Schmidt said he works with RTS about the bus stops. The School Board paid to have a smart phone app developed that is used at East HS. The app allows a parent to monitor their child's attendance in class, grades, and whether he/she is on track to graduate. The program also offers an incentive to parents for a chance to win a car by signing up for the app.

RCS D has a managed school choice process, so the LAYM uses recruitment of 6<sup>th</sup> graders to attain students each year. The 6<sup>th</sup> graders visit the LAYM in January. There are 125 seats available for new students each year, and all 125 select the LAYM as their first choice.

## NEIGHBORHOOD UPDATES / COMMUNITY CONCERNS

**NYS Senator Joe Robach's representative**, Paula Kosiorek, reported that the senator attended several events at Holy Cross, and he will be attending the Meet the Candidates event tomorrow night. The Parkway wall at Pattonwood Dr. will be finished by Thanksgiving. Free electronic recycling on 10/15, 9 am-1 pm at Sahlens Stadium; 97% recycling rate; proceeds go to charity. Other updates are in the newsletter.

**Monroe County Legislator Tony Micciche** reported that the legislature voted to approve the dissolution of three LDCs, appointments to the Director of Economic Development and Office of Public Integrity, and for improvements at the Monroe County Airport (2-3 year projects). Other updates in the newsletter.

**Ontario Beach Park Program Committee** member Fred Amato reported that River Romance is 10/6-9 and pamphlets are available listing a schedule of activities. The Carousel will not be open due to a sprinkler system upgrade.

**SG Marina** manager Marianne Warfle reported that the marina closes for the winter on 10/31. Slip renewals were sent out, and she expects all of them to return next year. They are conducting a marketing campaign on the north shore of Lake Ontario to generate interest from Canadians.

**POCMA** president Marianne Warfle reported that the Lake Ave. banners will be taken down soon for the winter; they'll be put back up in the spring. She is looking for volunteers to help with the Community Guide. She attended the Harbor Merchants Association meeting; they are looking for collaborations with businesses.

**Charlotte-Genesee Lighthouse Society** president Bob Owens and member Ann Salter reported on the lime washing technique used on the lighthouse tower. Their garage sale fundraiser is on 10/6-8 and 10/13-15 at 10 Latta Rd. (the Historic Custom House). The Marine and Village History group is not meeting this month. The Lighthouse Society is being honored with an award ceremony at City Hall on 11/13; the event is open to everyone.

**Holy Cross** member Jack Foy reported that the church is having a Halloween pasta dinner on 10/29. He also announced that his 92<sup>nd</sup> birthday is coming up.

## BOARD REPORTS

### President's Report:

- Candidates Night on 10/4 at 6:30 pm at the Robach Community Center: Candidates from local elections will present their platform and answer questions from the audience at an open community event.
- Fall Elections: Nominations closed on 9/12, and the only nominations received were from sitting board members, who will all run unopposed. The slate of candidates is: Jonathan Hardin for President; Sue Roethel for Secretary; Tommy Borrelli for Director; and Gini Weslowski for Director.
- Best of Charlotte: First annual celebration and fundraiser will be held on Sunday, 12/4 from 3-5 pm at the Robach Community Center. Award nominations are now being accepted for outstanding Teacher, Police Officer, Firefighter, and Volunteer of the year.

## ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm. Minutes submitted by Sue Roethel, CCA Secretary.

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

- 10/4 Meet the Candidates Night, 6:30 pm, Robach Community Center
- 10/9 River Romance (City event), all-day activities at Ontario Beach Park & Port Terminal Building
- 11/7 CCA General Meeting, 7 pm, Robach Community Center (open Board of Directors meeting at 6:00)
- 12/4 The Best of Charlotte, 3-6 pm, Robach Community Center