



Charlotte Community Association, Inc.

"A Community That Cares"

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES February 6, 2022 Roger Robach Community Center

Attendance: Tom Bruce, President; Lindy Litwak, Vice President; Sue Roethel, Secretary; RoseMary Shaw, Treasurer; Tony Micciche, Director; Patti O'Brien, Director. In addition to the Board of Directors, there were also approximately 18 people in the audience.

Meeting Protocol: Follow agenda; keep comments brief and succinct; be respectful of others.

CITY OF ROCHESTER UPDATES

Rochester Police Department (RPD): Officer Vinny Agnone gave 30-day crime report. There have been seven stolen Kias and Hyundais in the NW sector; juveniles are stealing them. The vehicles are newer models (2015-2021) that don't have a chip and are easy to steal. There was one robbery at the 7/Eleven at Stonewood Ave. It happened in the early morning and there was a witness; suspect was arrested. Concerns were expressed from the audience about the recent serious accident on Lake Ave. and the continuing problem of high traffic speeds. Officer Agnone will ask traffic enforcement about recent statistics. U.S. Marshal Charles Salina introduced himself and said he is here in Rochester to work with RPD address the high crime rate in the city.

Rochester Fire Department (RFD) Engine 19: Capt. Scott Daly reported that Engine 19 responded to a structure fire and several rescues on the Riverway Trail system, plus regular incoming calls for help. He reminded people about the "adopt a fire hydrant" program where homeowners can shovel out hydrants to keep them clear of ice and snow. There will be a national search to find a replacement for the retiring Fire Chief. He was asked by the audience to advocate for having fire boat protection experience among the qualifications for Fire Chief candidates.

City Council NW Representative: Jose Peo reported that Council will be voting on \$3.5 million funding to fix sidewalks north of Rt. 104, which will include Maplewood and Charlotte neighborhoods. He also said that Monroe County has funding available to help with festivals, and he urged organizations to utilize that funding. A question from the audience asked about the contractors (i.e. LaBella) that the City pays to report on the subsurface soil conditions at the Port and, in particular, a 3,400 page document on the topic that was created by a group of non-engineers. In response Jose said that the Mayor, not City Council, determines what contractors the City hires. Council can ask who responded to an RFP but cannot choose who is chosen for a specific project. He reminded everyone to check his Vote for Peo website and sign up for his app to receive City Council updates. Speak to Council sessions are encouraged for people to address City Council on any topic of concern. Those sessions are not streamed live, but perhaps they should be.

NEIGHBORHOOD UPDATES / COMMUNITY CONCERNS – OPEN SESSION

Charlotte Village Historical Society: Dorothea de Zafra Atwell presented on this new organization that has been working for four years to be a bridge between the organizations that already exist. They have 501(c)3 status as a non-profit, and they are eager to work with the CCA and other groups. Their board members are all Charlotte residents; they shared a brochure explaining who they are and what the



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organization is about. Some of the initiatives they want to do include resurrecting a walking tour of Charlotte and partnering with other groups such as Ganondagan.

Electronic sign for announcements: A question from the audience was raised about this. **Brian Labigan**, former CCA President, said the firehouse has a sign that has never been lit. It was paid for with federal funding that the City was awarded through a grant about 10 years ago. No one seems to know who is responsible for programming and maintaining the sign. City Councilman Jose Peo has asked about it before and will investigate again with the Department of Environmental Services.

Zombie businesses: The audience had many concerns about this topic. **Jose Peo** said that LDR Charpit will not reopen as it was, but the building will become a Perri's Pizza. Tropix is supposed to reopen this year. Jetty at the Port will not reopen, but it appears that the space will be leased to a new entity. That unidentified entity has applied for a liquor license in that location. Jose Joe's may not reopen. A brunch business may be going in where Brothers Chicken and Waffles is. A laundromat is going in the plaza on Lake Ave. at Latta Rd. where Pontillo's Pizza is.

Ontario Beach Park Program Committee: **Fred Amato** reported that Winter Fest had a good turnout early but not late in the day. It was very cold, so the weather was a factor. OBPPC has been working with Tropix to move the summer Jazz Concert Series there.

Charlotte-Genesee Lighthouse Historical Society: **Fred Amato** expressed concerns about the intention of the new Charlotte Village Historical Society. He said that the Charlotte-Genesee Lighthouse Historical Society started in 1984 and has several museum collections on the lighthouse history, Village of Charlotte history, and maritime history of the area. He talked about their responsibility to use and maintain the lighthouse under a lease with Monroe County. The Society also conducts presentations and tours, and they have a gift shop.

BOARD REPORTS

President's Report: **Tom Bruce** reported that the CCA had a booth at Winter Fest and that it was great. Also, the board had an introductory meeting in January with the Charlotte Village Historical Society to learn about how the two groups can work together toward common goals for Charlotte.

Vice President's Report: **Lindy Litwak** reported that distribution of the door hang tags as a membership drive is now 85% completed.

Secretary's Report: **Sue Roethel** reminded everyone that all meeting minutes (General CCA Meetings and Board of Directors meetings) are published on the CCA website, usually within the month after they happen.

Treasurer's Report: **RoseMary Shaw** reported that we have one new sponsor—Eric Bourgeois. We received two gifts from ROC the Day (annual United Way fundraiser for non-profit organizations) totaling \$148. We have joined the membership of the Charlotte Business Association and Charlotte-Genesee Lighthouse Historical Society. The ending January balance in the CCA account is \$9,080.92 plus an additional \$261 in escrow from the Community Foundation NeighborGood grant.

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RECENT COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES / HIGHLIGHTS

Youth Engagement: Patti O'Brien reported that the JROTC from NE College Prep High School @ Charlotte Campus presented the colors at the Bill's game in January. The High School is also seeking a venue for their prom. The Abelard Reynolds Elementary School No. 42 is planning a Spring musical. Patti is now volunteering in the Kindergarten classrooms.

Communications: RoseMary Shaw reminded everyone that she maintains the CCA Facebook page. She can post announcements or information to be shared with the community; send to her at infocharlottecca@gmail.com.

Safety & Security: Tony Micciche reported that he keeps up with all police and public safety entities. Please contact him with any concerns and/or to volunteer to work with him on this committee.

COMMITTEES/ VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Beautification
Communications
Development
Fundraising
Governance
Membership & Outreach
Nominating
Programming
Safety & Security
Scholarship
Youth Engagement

UPCOMING EVENTS

2/20/23 Board of Directors, 6:30 pm, 75 Stutson St.
3/6/23 General Meeting, 7 pm, Robach Community Center

8:25 pm Adjournment

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