



Charlotte Community Association, Inc.

"A Community That Cares"

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

May 1, 2023

Roger Robach Community Center

Attendance: Board of Directors Tom Bruce, President; Lindy Litwak, Vice President; Sue Roethel, Secretary; RoseMary Shaw, Treasurer; Tony Micciche, Director; and Patti O'Brien, Director. There were approximately 36 people in the audience.

Meeting Protocol: Review of expectations

CITY OF ROCHESTER UPDATES

Rochester Police Department (RPD) – Lt. Rich Waldo: Thirty-day crime report for the neighborhood shows that there were no robberies or burglaries; 5 larcenies; 7 stolen cars. Annual National Night Out Against Crime event scheduled on August 1st. For RPD recruitment, 21 new recruits just graduated and are in field training now; they will be on solo duty in 12 weeks. Another new group of 9-10 recruits will start training at the end of May, and another group of up to 25 more will start training in the fall.

Rochester Fire Department (RFD) Engine 19 – Capt. Scott Daly: Marine One fireboat is in the water; it went out on 5 rescue calls in April. National Boater Safety Course will be held May 26-27, with a fair at the marina on May 27. Currently conducting hydrant inspections and building inspections. RFD responded to several major motor vehicle accidents on Lake Ave.

Northwest Neighborhood Service Center (NSC) – Anna Keller: She is aware of concerns about 3420 Lake Ave. and will ask Kelvin Knight to provide updated information next month. Any concerns about this property or others that might constitute a code violation should be reported by phone to 311. She provided information about the schedule of events at the Public Market for Summer 2023. Submissions for the City's Garden Contest will be accepted through July 19th.

City Council NW Representative – Jose Peo: He presented a signed petition to the mayor to bring the NW RPD substation to W. Ridge Rd./Lake Ave. Scooter rental program in process. Legislation to approve \$134K for 2 more investigators of crime cases involving non-fatal shootings. Legislation passed making it illegal to tether an animal with a lead under 5 feet long and to leave an animal outdoors in temperatures less than 32 degrees. He said the group Voices of Verona brought this anti-tethering initiative to Council. Legislation also passed to provide \$15K support to Harbor Fest.

Police Accountability Board – James Smith: City is looking for input from community through an online survey; flyers with instructions to access survey was provided. Audience asked about salaries of PAB staff (answer is that salaries vary and it's all public information).

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Port of Rochester & Charlotte Vision Plan (March 2023)

Presented by Sue Roethel, Chair of CCA Community Development Committee and Charlotte Development Collaborative

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The 2018 Charrette report and 2023 Vision Plan are posted on CCA website under Community Development. Process has been taking shape for 25+ years. Residents, business owners, elected officials, and other stakeholders from Charlotte and Greater Rochester Region have been involved for decades with visioning workshops and intensive committee work; some charter members are still involved today. Newly published, comprehensive Vision Plan (54 pages) is a distillation of the ideas brought forth during the community charrette held in 2017. The Plan includes background history of Charlotte, identifies priorities for development, and presents many recommendations for the specific geographic area and focus areas that were studied in the charrette.

For those who wish to comment on the Vision Plan, a community discussion will take place at the CCA General Meeting on June 5th.

NEIGHBORHOOD UPDATES / COMMUNITY CONCERNS – OPEN SESSION

NYS Senator Jeremy Cooney's Office: Amanda Santacrose reported that they are still talking with CSX about removal of the unused railroad tracks; they can take the issue up to the federal level. There is funding in the state budget to help the Rochester Broadway Theater League (RBTL) purchase and refurbish the Auditorium Theater. There is a line item in the budget for "least restrictive means," which addresses the bail release issue. The full proposed budget will be available online in a week or two under the NYS Legislature retrieval system. In answer to a question about the senator's stance on teen car thefts, Amanda said that he supports accountability. If the youth is <16 years old, the case goes to Family Court, and if >16 years old, the District Attorney has 30 days to see the case.

Bridget Monroe introduced herself as a candidate running for **City Council NW District**. There will be a meet-and-greet event on May 11th at Hose 22. She will be included in the Democratic Primary election in June.

Frank Keophetlasy introduced himself as a candidate running for **City Council NW District** and will also be included in the Democratic Primary election in June.

Charlotte Business Association: Barbara Lake reported that they are finishing up the new community directory. They held an educational event in April for Minority- and Women-Owned Business Enterprises (MWBE). The next CBA general meeting is May 4th.

Charlotte-Genesee Lighthouse Historical Society: Fred Amato reported that the lighthouse will be open for the season this coming weekend, with new displays that you can read about in the CCA newsletter. Volunteers are trained and ready to go. One of their key volunteers just passed away at the age of 90.

Ontario Beach Park Program Committee (OBPPC): Fred Amato reported that the Jazz Concert Series has started and will be held on first Tuesday of each month at Tropix until the end of October. The Concerts by the Shore Series starts on June 7th and will be held every Wednesday at the Gazebo throughout the summer. Harbor Fest will be held June 23-25; there will be no fireworks, but a tall ship should be coming in.

Charlotte Youth Athletic Association (CYAA): Brian Labigan reported the summer baseball league has been running for 70 years, Mondays-Thursdays. Kids can still be registered on FaceBook.

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CCA Scholarship Committee Chair: Brian Labigan reported that each year there are two \$2,000 scholarships awarded to graduating high school seniors who are going on to college or a trade school. The CCA Scholarship Program awards \$2K to a student who resides in Charlotte and attends any school, public or private. The Edward Watson Memorial Scholarship Program awards \$2K to a student who attends the Northeast College Prep HS @ Charlotte Campus but can reside anywhere, in or outside of Charlotte. Application materials were mailed to all city and private schools, and the information can also be found on the CCA website. Deadline for applications is June 30th. The Scholarship Committee reviews applications and selects winners based on academics, community service, and extra-curricular activities.

BOARD REPORTS

President's Report: Tom Bruce reported that the Board of Directors agreed to establish a new ad hoc committee to investigate the idea of installing an electronic sign on Lake Avenue to advertise community news and events. This initiative is in response to a suggestion made by a community member that Charlotte needs electronic signage to communicate what's happening in the neighborhood. The new ad hoc committee needs a chairperson to execute the charge and plan of work that the board will provide. For Clean Sweep, the All In Brass Band (students from 75 Stutson St.) cleaned the Bill Davis Overlook; Pat and Pam O'Neill cleaned around the Welcome to Charlotte sign on Pattonwood Drive; Tony Micciche cleaned the cemetery at River St. and St. John's Park.

Vice President's Report: Kite Flight is on Sunday, May 7th from noon-4 pm. CCA will again be selling kites, hot dogs, snacks and beverages as a fundraiser.

Treasurer's Report: Balance at end of April was \$7,342.84. Total April income from memberships was \$40 and expenses were \$523.73. Current balance is \$6,867.92.

RECENT COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES / HIGHLIGHTS

Youth Engagement Committee: Patti O'Brien reported that free kites are being presented this week to all students at Abelard Reynolds Elementary School No. 42 and Holy Cross Elementary School. The kites were purchased from a \$1K grant awarded to CCA by City Councilman Jose Peo. Patti also reported that on May 3rd the new garden beds will be delivered to 42 School for the Community Garden being built there this spring. Volunteers are needed to help plant the vegetables and weed the beds throughout the summer.

Barbara Lake reported that, as part of the Peace Project for Mental Health, a Peace Garden will be installed at NE College Prep High School @ Charlotte Campus on May 6th with 200 students participating. The flower garden will have a meditative theme. On May 25th the Student Voice will showcase their work and celebrate with a Peace Walk. This initiative is in partnership with Edison Tech, and is funded by Wegmans, Canandaigua National Bank, and various fundraising events. Barbara also reported that students in the JROTC program will be helping at the CCA's booth at Kite Flight.

COMMITTEES / VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES (continued on next page)

Beautification
Communications
Community Development
Fundraising
Governance

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Membership & Outreach

Nominating

Programming

Safety & Security

Scholarship

Youth Engagement

UPCOMING EVENTS

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| 5/7/23 | Kite Flight, 12-4 pm, Robach Community Center, Ontario Beach Park |
| 5/15/23 | Board of Directors, 6:30 pm, 75 Stutson St. |
| 5/17/23 | Police-Citizens Action Committee (PCIC), 7 pm, Zoom (request link from RPD) |
| 6/5/23 | General Meeting, 7 pm, Robach Community Center |
| 6/19/23 | Board of Directors, 6:30 pm, 75 Stutson St. |

8:25 Adjournment

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