



Charlotte Community Association, Inc.

"A Community That Cares"

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES September 11, 2023 Roger Robach Community Center

Attendance: CCA Board of Directors: 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, there were approximately 23 people in the audience.

CITY OF ROCHESTER UPDATES

Rochester Police Department (RPD) – Capt. Nathan Cornell and Crime Prevention Officer (CPO) Jay Blanchard reported that there are now two CPOs where there used to be five. The 30-day report for Charlotte shows that there was 1 prohibitive use of a weapon; shots heard on Portside Drive at the Port, but an investigation was negative for anyone hit. The NYS Office of Cannabis Management was discussed at the last PCIC meeting. There is only one shop licensed by NYS to operate in the City of Rochester at this time to sell cannabis products; it's on East Ave. across from Wegmans. The Giddy Up shop on Lake Ave. in Charlotte is shut down because they were operating without a license. The Office of Cannabis Management has a website where citizens can learn more information of they wish.

There was a speeding detail on 8/31 in the 2600 block of Lake Ave. that resulted in 42 speeding tickets out of 64 total tickets issued. Vehicles going above 55 mph were stopped and issued tickets; 2 of those vehicles were going 85 mph.

Stolen vehicles issue is still a problem, although the numbers are decreasing. There are no particular trends in Charlotte. A multi-agency task force is investigating the issue.

Juvenile arrests are happening with a recidivism rate of 15%. Slow progress is being made to address the problem. Citizens should let their elected officials know how they feel about this issue.

Rochester Fire Department (RFD) Engine 19 – Capt. Scott Daly reported that Marine One has responded to 30+ calls, including 2 drownings. Engine 19 responded to a fire in the high-rise building, and they continue to complete required inspections. Capt. Daly took a question from the audience about the slow response of EMS. He said that while RFD is fully staffed at this time, and they do go out on EMS calls, the ambulance companies are understaffed and so are hospital staff at the receiving end. The community could address their concerns to the city about the shortages and resulting slow response times for EMS.

Northwest Neighborhood Service Center (NSC) – Kelvin Knight reported that RPD has new funding to clear out homeless encampments and to assist people in relocating. He also said the city will be issuing new surveys on the rise of COVID cases and the lack of access to pharmacies. There is a new park at High Falls (lower portion). Call the NSC to request new totes for garbage and recyclables.

City Council NW Representative – Jose Peo reported that he is aware of the concerns over EMS. COVID restrictions caused staff shortages for EMS providers as well as nursing staff. Jose met with AMR, the current service provider under contract with the city; they provide services based on their contract. The



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mayor approves such contracts, and it is up to the mayor to decide when changes need to be made. City Council is meeting tomorrow with Mayor Malik Evans and RPD Chief David Smith; it'll be the first time they've met since before the pandemic.

Jose inquired about the recent activity in the former Piehler Pontiac lot on Ridge Rd. W. at Lake Ave. He learned that the city is remediating the soil on the site so that the property can be sold for development. This was news to him because the site was supposed to be the location for the new RPD Lake Section headquarters. The City had placed a big sign on the property a few years ago stating this, but it's now been removed. (Ed. Note: Should CCA write a letter to the mayor about this??)

Other miscellaneous:

- A \$400K grant to help victims of crime will be administered by the NYS Office of Victim Services.
- RCSD now wants RPD to provide officers in schools at the open and close of each school day and at athletic events. \$787K was requested to fund this service.
- \$44K approved to support Pathways to Peace.
- Charlotte Library now has a 3D printer.

NEIGHBORHOOD UPDATES / COMMUNITY CONCERNS – OPEN SESSION

Charlotte-Genesee Lighthouse Historical Society – Fred Amato reported that they have a new book scanner and three new computers. They continue to give class tours and presentations. They participated in the U of R Wilson Day.

Ontario Beach Park Program Committee (OBPPC) – Fred Amato reported that ROC the Riverway is coming up on 10/6-8; it's a city-wide event, but all activities in Charlotte will be held on 10/8 only. Activities include boat cruises, lighthouse tours, pumpkin carving at the beach.

Charlotte Business Alliance (CBA) – Barbara Lake reported that the name has changed from Charlotte Business Association and that the Alliance now has 501(c)4 status. They are working with Megan Morsch of Highland Planning as the new Street Liaison, and they are involved in planning for the concession stand at Ontario Beach Park. Barbara also reported that Lindy Litwak is the new liaison for CCA and will be reporting on CBA activities at meetings in the future.

Miscellaneous Concerns:

- Ontario Beach Park cleanup: 3 employees are working only 24 hrs/wk; concerned that this is not enough to keep the park clean through the off-season. Is this a new policy change? (Ed. Note: CCA board member Patti O'Brien said this has been standard practice for years and is not new.)
- *Welcome to Charlotte* sign on Denise Rd. is damaged and also needs weeding. (Ed. Note: Patti O'Brien said that the CCA is aware of the situation but cannot afford to repair or replace the sign at this time. She will report the need for gardening to the Beautification Committee.)

BOARD REPORTS

Treasurer's Report – RoseMary Shaw reported for the month August that income was \$50 in memberships, expenses totaled \$63.94 for phone answering service, PayPal fees, and web maintenance. As of 8/31 the treasury balance was \$8,756.

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RECENT COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES / HIGHLIGHTS

Nominating Committee – RoseMary Shaw reported that tonight's meeting is the LAST CALL for Board of Directors Candidate Nominations to be included on the Fall 2023 elections ballot. To be eligible, nominees must be at least 18 years of age and a paid member of CCA for at least 30 days. The board allows 3 seats to be occupied by non-residents of Charlotte; 2 are currently filled and there is 1 more seat available. Nominations received from the floor at the meeting were for Jose Peo for Vice President (nominated by Michelle Cacia; and John Kabrovski for Director (nominated by Barbara Lake), and Jon Cahill and Valerie Delvecchio for Directors (nominated by Jose Peo).

Safety & Security Committee – Tony Micciche responded to the earlier-stated concern that the new police station at Ridge Rd. and Lake Ave. is not going to happen. He said that he echoes the concern. When he ran for mayor in 2017, he asked for police precincts in every service center in every quadrant of the city. The current location of the NW Service Center and police station are inadequately located to effectively serve the Charlotte neighborhood. He strongly suggested that citizens send your opinions about this issue to the mayor.

Youth Engagement Committee – Patti O'Brien reported that the CCA and Northwest Service Center will be hosting a Charlotte Community Outreach event on 9/13 at School #42. It's entirely free. The CCA is cooking hot dogs and providing other refreshments, and the city will provide resource booths including the Children's Librarian from the Charlotte Library, as well as appearances by RPD and RFD with the Engine 19 fire truck. Patti will also be attending the Opening Day at School #42 to assist students and parents in finding their room assignments.

COMMITTEE UPDATES / VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

9/13/23 Charlotte Community Outreach Event – 4:30 pm, School #42
9/18/23 Board of Directors, 6:30 pm, 75 Stutson St.
10/2/23 General Meeting, 7 pm, Robach Community Center

8:00 pm Adjournment

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