



Charlotte Community Association, Inc.

"A Community That Cares"

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

August 5, 2024

Roger Robach Community Center

Attendance: Board of Directors: Jose Peo, President; Tom Bruce, Vice President; Sue Roethel, Secretary; RoseMary Shaw, Treasurer; Tony Micciche, Director; Lindy Litwak, Director; John Kabrovski, Director; (Absent: Jon Cahill, Director). Additionally, there were 20 people in the audience, plus RPD and RFD personnel

Moment of silence and remarks shared in remembrance of Anthony Rosati, beloved CCA Member and past Board President, who passed away recently.

CITY OF ROCHESTER UPDATES

Rochester Police Department (RPD) – Capt. Gabriel Person, Deputy Chief of Operations, reported these crime stats for the month: 5 burglaries (boat in the marina with owner asleep onboard; home on Harding Rd.; home on Cheltenham Rd.; garage on Lenriet St. (off Dewey Ave.); garage on McCall Rd. (off Dewey Ave.); 1 robbery on Lake Vista Ct. (domestic case); 5 stolen vehicles (Harding Rd.; Lake Ave.; Lake Ave.; Merle St.); 1 domestic violence/weapon call on Britton Rd. Reminder that tomorrow is National Night Out Against Crime, and RPD will be visiting neighborhoods.

Q&A: Yes, RPD is still short-staffed; a new recruitment test is coming up in September. Regarding 3 burglaries reported by the new principal at School 42, Capt. Person was unaware of them; he will ask Lake Section Captain Nathan Cornell to respond. Yes, PAC TAC is still going strong in many neighborhoods throughout the city. RPD will do a training session if a group of people are interested.

Rochester Fire Department (RFD) Engine 19 – Lt. Tom Hodges reported that Engine 19 has been very busy with increased number of calls in the summer months. He said that Marine One (the 38' fireboat) has been busy too. Their building inspections are halfway completed at this time.

Northwest Neighborhood Service Center (NSC) – Anna Keller reported that applications for the annual Rehab Grant Program are now being accepted for the next two weeks. On August 27th, 10 households from the NW will be selected by lottery. To qualify, a household must be below 80% of HUD family income (in Rochester, that's \$42,800 for a 1-person household). Lead Grants are still available too. Regarding a boat that was abandoned at 85 Stonewood Ave. and then caught on fire, the burned boat is still there. Anna was asked to arrange to get it removed.

City Council NW Representative – Bridget Monroe reported that the River St. Realignment Project is still being negotiated for 503 River St. A developer has been selected for the Marina Overlook Site; the lease is in negotiation, and public input has been and will continue to be part of the process. Vanguard is still inspecting sidewalks, and any poor workmanship will be repaired in 2024. A public forum will be held on 8/27 at 6 pm at the Edgerton R-Center at 41 Backus St. regarding the proposed Good Cause Eviction legislation currently being considered by City Council. City law requires landlords to have a local property management firm responsible for handling tenant complaints.

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NEIGHBORHOOD UPDATES / COMMUNITY CONCERNS – OPEN SESSION

Businesses: **Valerie Medurski** introduced herself as a new resident and business owner (contractor) specializing in water damage remediation. She expressed concerns about property owners who hire unqualified people to do repairs; it is a real problem that is happening everywhere.

Schools: **Deborah Washington** introduced herself as the new Principal and **Vaughn Collins** as Vice Principal of Abelard Reynolds School 42. The school has 500 students. Principal Washington has worked for RCSD for 25 years and is also a Charlotte resident. Vice Principal Collins previously worked at the Leadership Academy for Young Men, which is now closed but was housed at the former Charlotte High School campus. Regarding the former Charlotte High School campus, it has been housing the Northeast College Prep High School, but that school, too, has moved out of the building. In the Fall 2024, it will house a new middle school with 600 students. Regarding maintenance of the basketball court and bike rack at School 42, Principal Washington has been told that RSCD is not responsible for the park next to the school. Perhaps this is an issue that the community can follow up on. Principal Washington was asked if she can request installation of an electronic sign in front of School 42 to announce school and community events (a sign similar to what other schools have); she said she would look into it.

Charlotte-Genesee Lighthouse Historical Society: **Fred Amato** reported that the lantern room repairs are almost completed, and other restorations will happen once funding is available. The Society had a booth at an event at Genesee Country Museum. They also welcome school field trips for students and would be happy to set something up with School 42.

Ontario Beach Park Program Committee: **Fred Amato** reported that the weekly Concerts by the Shore Series is going well; the season will extend to 9/4 to accommodate the make-up for a rained-out concert. The carousel is open 11 am – 7 pm and is not kept open longer during the weekly concerts. The monthly Jazz Concert Series at Tropix will continue next week and into Fall; a schedule of events is on the OBPPC website.

Holy Cross Church and School: **Doug Escher** invited the community to an event on 9/15 that will showcase local historical displays and memorabilia. The elementary school is planning a field trip for students to tour the lighthouse.

BOARD REPORTS

President's Report: The CCA is still looking for help to plan community events, serve on committees, etc. Active engagement is necessary to keep the momentum going. He also said that the board is investigating the purchase of a new "Welcome to Charlotte" sign to replace the vandalized one on Denise Rd. The metal signs, such as the one on Stonewood Ave., are expensive to purchase and to insure. The board is waiting for a quote from The Signery (business on Stonewood Ave.) before we can proceed. A question came up from the audience about what is the city's responsibility, if any, for signage. They do have "Welcome to the City of Rochester" signs, but they are not decorative, whereas the CCA signs are decorative. Also, a new outreach to area businesses is underway to recruit sponsors in support of the CCA.

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Treasurer's Report: New sponsors for 2025 are Abundant Grace Church and Lake Avenue Methodist Church; we are grateful for their support. Membership renewal starts now for 2025. For the month of July, the beginning balance was \$11,923 and ending with \$12,200.

Communication Officer's Report: Since we have discontinued our newsletter, we rely on email blasts to our members and posts on Facebook and other social media to keep the community informed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS / VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Beautification

Communications

Community Development – Still waiting for the city's announcement of their selected developer for the Port of Rochester Marina Overlook Site RFP

Finance – Rollout of Sponsorship drive and Membership renewals underway

Nominating & Governance – The Annual Board of Directors nominating and elections process is now underway. Nominations are now accepted through 9/9 for President, Secretary, and 3 Director seats, each serving a 2-year term from 1/1/25 through 12/31/26. Vote by eligible paid members will be on 11/4 at the CCA General Meeting. Also, the committee is currently reviewing the CCA Bylaws for revisions and will make a proposal to the board that will be voted on by eligible paid members on 11/4 at the CCA General Meeting.

Programming – Annual National Night Out Against Crime picnic; Fall Bonfire event on 9/21

Youth Engagement – The Scholarship Committee has reviewed applications and selected an awardee for 2024. Winner will be announced at the annual Scholarship Awards Ceremony on 8/7 at 7 pm, just prior to the Wednesday night Concert by the Shore.

8:18 pm Adjournment

UPCOMING EVENTS

8/6/24	National Night Out Against Crime Annual Picnic, 6:00 pm, Ontario Beach Park
8/7/24	Edward Watson Scholarship Award Ceremony, 6:45 pm, Ontario Beach Park Gazebo
8/19/24	BOD Meeting, 6:30 pm, Tropix
9/9/24	General Meeting, 7 pm, Robach Community Center (NOTE: 2 nd Monday due to holiday)

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