

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES December 2, 2024 Roger Robach Community Center

Welcome & Call to Order: CCA 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; Jon Cahill, Director; also there were approximately 25 people in the audience.

Moment of Silence: Honoring RFD Lt. David Sidorenko of Engine 19

CITY OF ROCHESTER UPDATES

Rochester Police Department (RPD) – Crime Prevention Officer Vinny Agnone reported that there was a burglary at the sports bar on Stonewood Ave. An ATM machine was opened and an attempted stolen vehicle. Capt. Gabriel Person took questions from the audience about vandalism to RTS bus shelters (he will investigate), and about a private party at the Robach Center that got out of control. He said that the persons involved had disbursed by the time RPD arrived on the scene. He said that the County should notify RPD when private rentals such as this are booked so that they can be better prepared to respond to trouble calls if needed.

Rochester Fire Department (RFD) Engine 19 – Lt. Lucas Faulkner reported that they responded to 99 calls, including 3 fires and 57 medical emergencies. The rescue boats are now winterized. Training will soon begin for ice water rescues.

Northwest Neighborhood Service Center (NSC) – Administrator Anna Keller introduced her Assistant Administrator Yari Jusino. They reported that the Flower City Work Camp has a team of seven youth volunteers and three adults ready to do minor home repairs such as painting, plumbing, electrical, fencing, gardening, etc. Homeowners can also apply for furnace and hot water tank installations; call the Service Center at 585-428-7620. Citizens are invited to take an online survey evaluating all four quadrant neighborhood service centers. The new Acting Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Services (DES) is Kabutey Okanasey.

City Council NW Representative – Bridget Monroe was asked about the Irish Immigrant Memorial project that's been proposed for installation at Ontario Beach Park. This is a County issue and not City.

NEIGHBORHOOD UPDATES / COMMUNITY CONCERNS

Charlotte-Genesee Lighthouse Historical Society – Virginia Kobylarz reported that their annual Christmas Wreath Sale will be on December 7-8 from 1-4 pm.

Holy Cross Church – Doug Escher reported that their "Ignite" program for kids is active; it focuses on youth and families. Virginia Kobylarz said that the Lighthouse Society and Holy Cross work together.

CCA Scholarship Program – Brian Labigan reported that the Edward Watson Scholarship Fund will offer two scholarships in 2025 of \$1,000 each. Any graduating high school senior who is a resident of Charlotte is eligible to apply, regardless of what school they attend. Application materials will be available through school counseling offices until the deadline of June 30, 2025.

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Charlotte Youth Athletic Association (CYAA) – Brian Labigan reported that the baseball program runs from May-July and is open to all kids ages 4-16. There are no residency restrictions.

Annual Tree Lighting Event at Engine 19 Firehouse – Brian Labigan reported that the event will take place on Friday, December 6 at 6:30 pm. Lights are installed on the small tree in front of Engine 19. The All In Brass Band (youth) from 75 Stutson St. will perform, and CCA will provide refreshments. All are welcome to attend!

Irish Immigrant Memorial Project – Suzanne Phillips reported that she attended the open public meeting held by Monroe County Legislature President Yversha Roman. She learned that the project is not far along in the approval process, and that a group of Charlotte citizens are circulating a petition to stop the project from being approved for installation at Ontario Beach Park as proposed.

BOARD REPORTS

President's Report – Jose Peo met with Patrick Meredith, Director of Monroe County Parks Department, about lighting up Ontario Beach Park with white festival lights during the Winter months. The light poles within the park are not equipped with outlets to plug these in. However, the light poles on the east-west sidewalk along the parking lot are equipped with outlets. A budget proposal is needed to get this started, if not for this year, maybe next year. On another topic, Jose said the CCA needs new branding, starting with a new logo. He posted on the CCA Facebook page an AI version to get the conversation started about this initiative. Also, he wants to reboot a CCA newsletter that can serve to inform people about neighborhood happenings as well as to increase memberships and sponsorships. He reminded everyone that right now is membership renewal time.

A question from the audience asked about ideas for the railroad depot building on N. River Street. This issue has been addressed by the Charlotte Vision Plan. The City owns the property, and Gibbs Marina manages it. They want to convert it to a restaurant, but the railroad tracks prevent access to the building. CSX will not release the land or remove the tracks.

Vice President's Report – Tom Bruce reported that the NW Rotary Club wants to support CCA with a sponsorship.

Treasurer's Report – RoseMary Shaw provided the monthly status report for November: beginning balance \$13,147; ending balance \$13,753. She presented the CCA Budget 2025 that the board approved. Operational and committee expenses will not change much. New capital expenditures are included to replace three Welcome to Charlotte signs, plus a new CCA banner for use at all events. Income from additional sponsorship is expected to offset the increase in expenditures. Overall, the budget keeps us in the black. The Annual ROC Day of Caring is tomorrow, December 3; donations to CCA are welcomed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS / VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Beautification Communications



Community Development Finance Nominating & Governance Programming – Monthly committee meeting is Thursday, December 5 at 6 pm at Vine and Tap. Youth Engagement

Adjournment

UPCOMING EVENTS

12/6/24	Holiday Tree Lighting, 6:30 pm, Engine 19 Firehouse
12/16/24	Board of Directors Meeting, 6:30 pm, Tropix
1/6/25	General Meeting, 7 pm, Robach Community Center
1/20/25	Board of Directors Meeting, 6:30 pm, Tropix
2/1/25	Lakeside Winter Fest, noon-4 pm, Robach Community Center, Ontario Beach Park
2/2/25	Polar Plunge, noon, Robach Community Center