

RNA Board Meeting
Monday May 8, 2023
Central Christian Church, Portland, OR

Audio recording:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/14bFRiCuicZy1IjP8KEI9XDutWkFt8We1/view?usp=sharing>

Meeting called to order at 7:03 PM by the Chair when quorum present.

Concurrently to the meeting elections for Board positions took place. Ice cream donated from Salt & Straw was distributed to those coming to vote.

Minutes taken by Simon Kipersztok

Ground rules and RNA purpose read by the Chair.

Land Acknowledgement read by Simon Kipersztok

The Chair introduced Board members

Members present: Claire Cofsky, Brian Hochhalter, Debby Hochhalter, Simon Kipersztok, JoAnne Knowles, Ann Sandvig. Allen Field, Heather Flint-Chatto, and Richard Bruno were outside overseeing the Election.

Members absent: Kamal Belkhayat, Madeleine Anderson-Clark, Hope Townsell

Others Present:

_____ moved, _____^{2nd} to adopt March 2023 minutes. Adopted by unanimous vote with one abstention by Ann.

Announcements:

1. Connie Shipley from Portland Royal Rosarians invited the community to their Milk Carton Boat Race on 6/25 to take place at The Casting Pond in Westmoreland Park, SE starting at 10 AM. More information at the Rosarians Facebook page.
2. The RNA Instagram account is up and running @richmondNAPDX.
3. Debby: The abandoned properties in 1810 and 1822 SE Cesar Chavez started being demolished. Two other sites scheduled for demolition and subsequent new construction in Hawthorne Blvd. will start soon.

Old Business: none.

Crime/Safety: No PPB officer present.

Agenda Items

1. **Candidates to the Board presented their statements.**
2. **Board retreat:** Debby explained: Paul Leistner, Ph.D., noted for his expertise on neighborhood association issues (doctoral dissertation was on history Portland's

neighborhood association system) and mediation/facilitation skills offered to facilitate a board retreat.

Motion: Brian moved to proceed with a meeting guided by Dr. Leistner at a time, place, and format TBD. Seconded by Ann. Voted unanimously in favor. Debby to contact him and make more definite plans.

3. **Neighborhood Boundaries** – Debby had sent to the Board a draft email requesting Boundary Commission to respect current NA boundaries in drawing the new district boundaries. **Motion:** Brian moved, Simon second, to send the draft letter to the District City Commission and SEUL. Vote passed unanimously.

4. **HBBA** – the RNA has traditionally supported the HBBA mission and the Hawthorne Street Fair (HSF).

Motion: Ann moved and Simon seconded to pay \$100 for the RNA annual dues in the HBBA and have a table at the HSF. Voted unanimously.

5. **Summer movie at the Sewallcrest Park** – The movie “Hidden Figures” is scheduled for projection on Sunday 8-19. The RNA has contracted the City of Portland to manage the screening. The contract with the city requires a \$1,000 payment fee by early June. Allen will request a \$300 contribution from adjacent neighborhoods (HAND and Sunnyside). It is hoped that they will contribute such that the total cost to the RNA will be \$400.

Motion: by Claire and seconded by Anne to allocate \$1000 for the event. Voted unanimously.

6. **Give Lively** – Allen explained the donation platform Give Lively specific for non-profit organizations. Other NA are using it (Kerns.) The platform could be used by the RNA at sponsored events. The donations are to be deposited in the RNA’s fiscal sponsor account held by SEUL. Each donation carries a small service charge (2.5%?) from the platform owner on the amount donated.

Motion: Allen moved and Brian seconded to authorize applying for a “Give Lively” platform. Voted unanimously.

Committee/Liaison Reports

- **Treasurer** – Simon circulated to the Board an account summary for April. The RNA has >\$23,000 in three accounts.
- **Richmond cleanup** – scheduled for 5/20. Flyers have been circulated, information was posted on the website and the last newsletter.
- **Richmond newsletter** – Allen is working with Christine, the newsletter editor, to put together an articles, publication and circulation calendar.
- **Community spaces and Sewallcrest Park** – no new information.
- **SEUL Rep.** – Allen explained that SEUL, starting in April, is banning in-person public attendance, for the stated reason “to maximize social distancing.” Plus, the Zoom webinar format they switched to prevents the possibility of the public providing any type of comments or ask questions, and you can’t properly observe everyone who is in the meeting or speaking. SEUL is relying on Civic Life’s 2020 COVID meeting recommendations, though the WHO, Federal and state governments have declared the pandemic to be over and lifted all restriction. SEUL has not responded to his questions asking how long this ban will stay in effect and what metric they will use to determine

when social distancing is no longer necessary. Board members suggested writing a letter to Comm. Ryan and Civic Life

Motion: Brian moved and Ann seconded to send a letter to Dan Ryan and TJ McHugh, with a CC to SEUL, stating the RNA objection to SEUL's ban on in-person public attendance. The motion passed unanimously with only one abstention by Debby

- **Land use:** Heather and Clause reported: Anna Shook, Portland Housing Bureau, responded positively to the RNA Board request to extend the Peaceful Villa Environmental Assessment public comment review period from 15 to 30 days. She shared that she is not planning to hold a public hearing for this project, as requested by the RNA board.

Heather posted on the RNA website the results of the Mach 17 Peaceful Villa open house on-line survey results.

City's PortlandMaps shows that Home Forward submitted for a Peaceful Villa (PV) Redevelopment building permit. Home Forward did not notify members of PV Community Advisory Committee of the building permit submittal nor posted the submittal on their website home page.

They plan to sending a survey to other LUTC chairs soliciting their input on how their committees are organized, committee members appointed, frequency of their committee meetings, etc.

- **PDX Main Street Design Initiative** – Heather indicated that she in partnership with an artist organization and received a \$5000 grant to add solar panels on top of a mobile art gallery. This is the kiosk pilot program #2 that she is involved in.

Other committees had no reports.

The meeting was concluded at 8:43 PM.