

MINUTES FOR RANA BOARD MEETING

Monday May 14, 2018

626 Blacker Avenue-6:30pm

The meeting was called to order by Risher at 6:36pm.

In attendance were:

Risher Gilbert, Suzanne Dipp, Mika Cohen Jones, John Moyer, Robert Ardivino, Cathi Banda, Tom Casey, Denise Krocker, Flip Lyle, Kate Gannon Moore, Renee Rios O'Donnell, Rosanna Patton and Larry White.

Absent:

Emily Brockhoff, Jimmy Spier, Victor Urbina, Lynn Westbrook.

1. Review & Approval/Amendment of Minutes of April

- With a motion made by John and a 2nd by Tom, the meeting minutes from April were unanimously approved with the caveat that the list of responsibilities for the annual meeting picnic would be amended based on Mika's list.

2. Treasurer's Report & system for payment of gardener –John Moyer

- Anyone with outstanding receipts from annual meeting/picnic expenses was asked to submit them for reimbursement ASAP.
- RANA agreed to continue to use Bob Brannon's gardener to upkeep Upper Tom Lea Park for \$75/month.

3. Resolution for Weststar Bank on Association Bank account signatories-Risher

- Risher read the resolution for Weststar Bank.
- Four officers: Risher, Suzanne, John, and Mika will have signing authority for RANA checks.
- With a motion made by Renee and a 2nd by Flip, the resolution for Weststar Bank was unanimously passed.

4. Discussion of best day, time & location for Board Meetings each month-Suzanne

- Meetings will continue to be held the 1st Mondays of every month at 6:30pm. There was general agreement to keep the meetings as close to one hour as possible.
- There was general consensus to make meeting topics more public and to make the board more accessible to the neighborhood.
- Based upon conversations Suzanne had with facilities in our area, a proposal to hold a few (quarterly) meetings per year at the Presbyterian Church, a space that can accommodate up to 100 people, was also generally agreed upon. September 4th was set as the first in that series of open meetings. There will likely be a time limit (2-3 minutes) set for any neighbors who want to address the board/neighborhood at that time.
- The location of all other meetings will rotate to the houses of board members who are willing and able to open their homes for this purpose.
- Mika will send out the board meeting agendas to the RANA e-mail list prior to each meeting.

5. Report on Website from Communications Committee –Kate

- www.rimareaneighborhood.org is now up and running as the official RANA web page. Mika will share this web address as well as our Facebook page (Rim Area Neighborhood Association) with the RANA e-mail list.
- The PayPal/donation button still needs to be finalized. Neighbors will be able to pay for their membership online once it is completed. This committee will coordinate with the treasurer to make that happen.
- Suzanne made the point that we need to collect e-mail addresses for all adults that are represented in household memberships. Efforts will be made to revise and improve our e-mail list.
- Our association e-mail address will be administered by the President and Secretary of RANA. The communications committee will make those links.

6. Update on Roundabout status-Suzanne

- Suzanne is currently working to decrease the amount of signage associated with the roundabout on Rim, and lights and reflectors will be placed in key locations before the roundabout is opened.
- The roundabout will also house a piece of art that can be changed out every three years or so.
- Applications from emerging artists living between Juarez, El Paso, and New Mexico who are interested in being the featured artist will likely begin to be

accepted sometime in the Fall, with an official “unveiling” likely in November or December.

- Suzanne will share a write-up of the roundabout process and status with the Communications Committee so that it can be posted online and shared with the neighborhood at large.

7. UTEP Parking survey & tentative meeting with UTEP –Mika

- 58 neighborhood residents completed the parking survey. The results showed the parking issue to be extremely complex and controversial, with many neighbors expressing a variety of advantages and disadvantages to various forms of restricted parking. Mika will continue to analyze and communicate the results.
- There is a tentative meeting with UTEP scheduled for Monday the 21st from 6-7pm in the large conference room on the 2nd floor at City Hall. There was general agreement that RANA should have a presentation/ppt ready to present at the time of the meeting.

8. Wildflower Rim Project & Sign topper prototype status-Robert

- There are wildflowers blooming in Upper Tom Lea from the previous attempt at seeding.
- There was general agreement that Robert should continue to plan and pursue options for seeding wildflowers all along Rim road’s border. If the project takes off, it will likely require substantial money for seeds and some form of irrigation/water.
- Mika will send photos of wildflowers to Kate to include on the RANA website.

9. Feedback on Kern Place Farmer’s Market held on Sunday April 29th-All

- RANA will support the market one more time with a \$100 contribution for the May market, as promised.
- The board posed a series of questions about the market’s funding and the sustainability of the market to which Risher will try to find answers before the board decides on allocating further support.
- Suzanne offered a tent sign with pockets that can hold membership forms for the next market event.

10. New City Review Committee members-Risher

- The City Review Committee meets every month or two (depending on issues that arise) on Wednesdays at 10am at City Hall.
- RANA members of that committee do not have a vote but can help cast the vision of things that are important to the neighborhood/guidelines set out by the Overlay.
- Flip Lyle volunteered to serve. Suzanne suggested a set of requirements for volunteers and recommended a list of neighbors who she felt would be qualified to serve. Flip, Suzanne and Risher formed a committee to discuss this further. Committee members would serve a one year term and would be committed to meeting with the city staff and to being educated on the NCO.

11. July 4th Parade- preparation & committee assignments and review checklist of tasks-All

- The board agreed on the following parade order: Color Guard, cars, band, bikes, kids and other pedestrians, fire truck.
- Yard signs will be printed and posted across the neighborhood in people's yards. Word will also be spread via our e-mail list, the web site, and our Facebook page.
- What follows is the list of assignments for the 4th of July parade:

Contact EPHS band to request players for the parade	Robert
Acquire ice cream/popsicles for the parade	Cathi
Acquire permit and policing	Cathi
Create parade flyer and signage	Mika
Print set of yard signs	Victor
Make a media announcement	Kate
*Serve as Grand Marshall	Bob Moore
Color Guard	Risher will ask Eddie
New and louder loudspeaker/generator	Robert
Acquire cars	Larry and others
Ice/drinks	Tom
Buckets for dog water	Juan S.
Coolers	Larry and others
Purchase flags/decorations	John
Fire truck	Suzanne will ask Roger
Face paint and bike decorating	Lynn
Acquire prizes for best bike/body decorations	Cathi
Organize cars on parade day	Robert

12. Request Volunteers for Subcommittee on trash along Rim and in Arroyo-Tom

- Tom will head subcommittee on trash and will come back to the board with a proposal for taking care of neighborhood trash.

13. Petition for sidewalks on Virginia Street by Tennis Club & Arroyo protection-Mika & Robert

- There is a petition on Change.org for placing a walkway on Virginia to create safe travel through the arroyo and to and from the Tennis Club. Neighbors were encouraged to sign it if so inclined.
- There is a meeting scheduled for Sunday (details pending) to address this issue (as well as the Phase II Robinson plans). There was general agreement that representatives from RANA should attend.
- The board agreed to write a general letter to the city in support of an ecologically sensitive solution to a safe walkway on Virginia as well as a reiteration of our desire for arroyo protections. Mika will send draft language to Risher to construct the letter.

14. Approval of fees of Tammy Vasilates CPA for 501c)(3) designation-Risher

- The board approved to pay fees up to \$1500 to Tammy Vasilates to get RANA a 501C3 designation.

15. Other Business

- The next meeting was set for June 4th at Risher's house at 6:30pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30pm.

Submitted by:
Mika Cohen Jones
RANA Secretary