

RANA BOARD MEETING Minutes
Monday, March 09, 2020
6:30 PM
1143 Rim Road

01. Call to Order

Emily Brockoff, President, called meeting to order at 6:35 PM. Members in attendance were: Bob Brannon, Cindy Carr, Kate Gannon, Lynn Westbrook,, Renee O'Donnell, Robert Ardivino, Rossana Patton, Sajir Haribhai, Tom Casey, and Emily Brockoff. Emily confirmed a quorum was present. Lauren Foster, manager of the NIP Project for the city of El Paso, was a special guest who gave RANA Board Members an update on the NIP Grant.

Members not in attendance were: Cathi Banda, Flip Lyle, John Moye, Larry White, Mary Jane Perkins, and Victor Urbina.

Emily introduced Laura Foster. Ms. Foster informed the board that the street department is not in favor of street sign toppers because they may pose a risk during windy times in El Paso and are difficult to maintain. Instead, the street department is recommending cultural district signage such as the street signs found in Manhattan Heights. The street signs in Manhattan Heights are brown with cream lettering and have a border. Other options include black with off-white lettering. Laura said if we choose this type of street sign, we will save money because the city can fabricate them with their pre-existing templates. Any left-over funds might be used to fund three entrance signs to the Rim Area Neighborhood. The recent estimate to fabricate and install 120 signs is \$94.5K. The original estimate from the city for this project was \$189K. RANA originally received \$94K through the NIP Grant to fund the special new street signs for the neighborhood. Laura will send a digital file with sample street signs through email for us to review.

Discussion ensued concerning use of our logo on the street signs, color of street signs, etc. Some board members suggested we get quotes from outside vendors so we can compare what the street department is offering to what an outside source could offer us. Laura mentioned that the street department has the time to start on the signs now. If we wait for a quote from another vendor, it may delay the project.

Two potential options for the street signs, according to Laura, would be Option 1, which would be a rectangular sign with our logo and text, such as *Rim Area Conservation District*, as a sub-header. Option 2 would be a rectangular sign with text and no logo at the bottom of the street sign.

After Ms. Foster left, board members discussed the street signs with the following action taken:

Robert Ardivino moved that the RANA board choose black and white rectangular signs rather than the brown signs. Lynn Westbrook seconded the motion and discussion ensued. Motion passed with eight directors voting in favor, one against, and one abstention.

Robert Ardivino moved that we look and see what we have on file in regard to street sign ideas before making any further decisions. Originally, Sajir seconded the motion but after discussion that a street sign file review would only delay the project, Sajir withdrew his second and the motion died for lack of a second.

Renee O'Donnell moved that RANA street signs have only text, as a sub-header, and no logo. Kate Gannon seconded the motion. Seven board members voted in favor, one abstained, and 2 voted no. The motion passed.

Robert Ardivino moved that text for the street sign read, *Rim Area Conservancy District* (26 letters). Nine board members voted in favor and one voted no. Motion passed.

Robert Ardivino suggested the board create a subcommittee to work on the font for the street sign. Kate Gannon and Robert Ardivino will serve on this subcommittee and bring suggestions to the board for consideration.

02. Review and approval/amendment of minutes

Renee O'Donnell moved, with Bob Brannon seconding the motion, that the RANA board approve February 3 Minutes with the following corrections:

- NIP Grant amount is \$94 thousand dollars not \$100,000 dollars.
- RANA does not qualify as a 501C(3) according to Tammy Vasilates, CPA.

Minutes were approved unanimously with the corrections.

03. Treasurer's Report

Cindy Carr, treasurer, reported the February ending bank balance is \$12,821.43.

The WestStar Escrow Fund bank balance as of December 31, 2019 is \$184,865.79.

Cindy reported there was one disbursement in February in the amount of \$245.06 to Lynn Westbrook for Vistaprint Mailing expense. A DDA deposit was made in the amount of \$37.43.

04. Special Committees

- a. Communications – Kate Gannon reported she is working on starting a membership drive.
- b. City Review Committee – Bob Brannon reported two new roofs were approved.
- c. Trash Pickup – Tom Casey reported that plans for trash pickup day on Saturday, March 28, are being finalized. The Sergeant Majors' Academy will be helping

with about 30 volunteers. Tom has invested in more trash pickers and will need additional funding to purchase pizzas, paper plates, napkins, etc. Renee moved that we allot \$550 dollars to cover expenses for the trash pick-up project. Bob Brannon seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

All volunteers for March 28 trash project need to meet at 8:00 at Upper Tom Lea Park in the parking lot.

- d. Neighborhood Coalition – Kate Gannon will step down as the primary RANA representative to the Neighborhood Coalition. Coalition meets once a month on Mondays. Cindy Carr will become the primary representative and Kate will be the secondary.
- e. City Plan Commission – Bob Brannon had no update to report.
- f. Slope Stabilization Project – Robert Ardivino had no update to report.
- g. City Parking Ordinance Amendments – Emily reported on a recent meeting with Daniela and her assistant. Also, present at the meeting was Suzanne Dipp, two police officers and Bob Brannon. Daniela advised Emily that RANA will need to provide a parking enforcement person as part of being a parking district. Bob commented that persons parking in our neighborhood readily adhere to the posted parking restriction signs so there is no need for a parking enforcement person, in his opinion.

Robert Ardivino moved that we move forward on restricting parking in our neighborhood without establishing a parking benefit district or hiring a parking enforcement person. Bob Brannon seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

- h. Public Right of Way (ROW) Improvements – Bobby Gonzalez continues to work on a plan to help with traffic control in our neighborhood.
05. Other business – Bob Brannon, Kate Gannon, Sajir Haribhai, and Flip Lyle will serve on the nominating committee and are working on a slate of officers to present to the membership for approval in May.

06. Adjourn
Meeting adjourned at 8:57.