

# RPCA General Meeting

## Minutes

Tuesday, March 27, 2018

- I. **Call to Order**
- II. **Approval of Minutes from Last Meeting**
- III. **Open Items (*Additional Comments*)**
  - a. New Resident Welcome Packet Update
    - i. *Cliff/John Geiss exhibited the New Resident packets (one year RPCA membership; coupons for local businesses; Jerry Blum, Cliff Helmcamp and John Geiss, others will identify new residents, and alert RPCA leadership for delivery of the packet*
  - b. Update on the traffic calming application submittal/ideas for next steps (pursue with Ellen Cohen or others, need a city official to accelerate it at all)
    - i. *Still neighborhood support for pursuing the initiative*
    - ii. *Cohen Ambassador Program – John Geiss will attend in April and can present the RPCA’s application for the traffic study*
    - iii. *Continue to utilize HPD non-emergency number, parking violations, Harris County Constable’s traffic control office for reporting speeding/parking issues in the meantime*
  - c. Capital Improvement Project updates: 1800 Portsmouth rebuild?
    - i. *Project NSR 468 1700 Portsmouth St rebuild was scheduled for 2017*
    - ii. *City replied to John Geiss’ inquiry as to its status: Additional surrounding streets need to be rolled into a larger Paving and Drainage Study and will be added to future capital projects*

- d. Traffic: prepare for cut through traffic from Shepherd Dr. once rebuild begins. Be prepared to place 311 calls/request increased police patrols if it becomes an issue.
- e. Area wide minimum lot size application/city balloting update
  - i. *Blockfaces that remain to receive Minimum Lot Size/Building Line protections: 1700 Lexington, North and South; 1900-2000 Lexington, South; 1800 Portsmouth, North*
  - ii. *Minimum Lot Size/Building Line protections remain in force for 20 year; the first blockface designation occurred in 2007 – keep on our radar and start planning for the renewal process early (no auto-renew program yet, but it will be less onerous than the initial petition process was)*
  - iii. *Might be better to pursue establishing Minimum Lot Size/Building Line protections for the blocks currently without it, rather than pursue the area-wide Minimum Lot Size Application (e.g., may be diminished protections with the area-wide application; what happens if the measure fails on an area-wide basis for some reason -> what impact, if any, does that have on the blockfaces that already have the protections?)*
- f. Treasurer's Report: \$5255.04

#### **IV. New Business (Additional Comments)**

- a. Spring Block Party: Sunday, April 15th. 5-7 PM on 1700 Block of Lexington
  - i. *Arranged for a Bounce House to be placed just inside the Erwin Chew Park*
  - ii. *Obtain some small gift cards for multiple prize drawing winners*
- b. Volunteer/committee opportunities:
  - i. Deed Restrictions Committee: need volunteer(s) at the general meeting to bring to 5 active members.

1. *Brian Kilpatrick – Chairman; Members: John Geiss (existing member), Larry Wood, Rebecca El-Hakeem, and Kevin McDaniel (new members – Thank You for your service on this important issue!)*
- ii. Need 1700 Block Lexington Block captain
  1. *John Geiss will handle the roll, until we find a volunteer from the 1700 Lexington Block*
- iii. Super Neighborhood representative: Ruth Adams has attended in past.

Additional volunteers? Post meeting schedule on the WordPress website/make people aware if they want to attend.

  1. *Larry Wood will try to attend on a regular basis – Thank you, Larry!*
  2. *Can report back on matters that require RPCA input*
  3. *Others are welcome to attend (last Tuesday of the month, Cherryhurst Park): <http://www.houstontx.gov/superneighborhoods/24.html>*
- c. News on Montrose TIRZ?
  - i. *Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone; meetings at St Stephens*
  - ii. *Montrose TIRZ is brand new (no projects/funding yet); opportunity for RPCA to steer utilization of funds?*
  - iii. *Affordable housing requirements – TIRZ to subsidize?*
  - iv. *More information to come; any/all are welcome to get involved:*  
*<http://www.houstontx.gov/ecodev/tirz/27.html>*
- d. Improvements to WordPress website/invitation for Yahoo group mailings - deed restrictions, repost to website. ([richwood\\_place-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:richwood_place-subscribe@yahoogroups.com))
  - i. *John will post the cleaned-up digital version of the deed restrictions*



- v. *1900 Portsmouth abandoned property – partially finished construction/new build on west end of 1900 block is an eyesore/being used by homeless – keep making complaints to COH/311/Builder/bank to try and remedy – likely will have to be torn down and rebuilt*

## **V. Adjournment**

*The General Meeting was held upstairs at Star Pizza; we had ~22 attendees from the neighborhood.*