

CLEVELAND PARK CITIZENS ASSOCIATION  
MINUTES  
Board of Directors Meeting, May 1, 2018

In attendance: Ruth Caplan, Phil Eagleburger, Elizabeth Ferenczi, Ann Hamilton, Alice Kelley, John Korbel, Margaret Lenzner, Susie Taylor, Jennifer Ward and Barr Weiner.  
Absent: Mark Rosenman.

Ruth Caplan called the meeting to order at 7:15 pm. The **Agenda** was approved.

**Minutes** of the March 6, March 12 and April 3 (as amended) Board meetings were approved unanimously.

There was discussion of possible problems with email delivery to members of **meeting notices**, including the slate of directors and officers to be voted on at the Annual Meeting that was sent on April 22. Jennifer Ward and Susie Taylor said they had heard that some new members had not been notified. Ruth will ask Sarah Handwerger to confirm that all new members are on the email list and Jennifer will make available names of those who said they weren't contacted. Ruth said that only about 50% of emails from CPCA are opened but she was told that is an unusually high rate for a non-profit. It was agreed to send follow-up emails to members re: the Annual Meeting on May 22.

**Treasurer's Report.** Barr Weiner provided the financials as of May 1. It was noted that actual revenue as of May 1 is the same as was reported on April 2, although Jen said that 30-35 new members had signed up in April. Barr said he will review PayPal receipts, adding that many members pay by check. Since Sarah has been unwell, it's possible that not all recent dues payments have been deposited and/or recorded.

*Note: After the meeting, Barr reported \$733 posted by PayPal as of May 1, reflecting 26 new members.*

**Membership Meeting.** Alice Kelley and Elizabeth Ferenczi were congratulated for the superb and successful May 22 meeting. They reported that about 50 people attended this membership/community meeting. The administrator of DC DOEE's **RiverSmart Homes** program discussed how residents can use city resources to implement landscape improvements to address storm water runoff. Alice will draft a message encouraging potential new members who signed in will be encouraged to join CPCA. Alice and Elizabeth were congratulated for this superb and successful meeting.

**Eaton School.** Ruth reported that Pam Korbel and Mark Levenstein, a John Eaton parent, have agreed to be liaisons with the Board re: anticipated John Eaton school redevelopment.

**Leaf Blowers.** Ruth said that Council Chair Phil Mendelson has announced that he will hold a hearing, on a date to be announced, re: Councilmember Cheh's Bill, the "Leaf Blower Regulation Amendment Act of 2017", which would ban use of gas-powered leaf blowers in DC after 2021. CPCA's Board passed a Resolution supporting this legislation

in 2017 and the Resolution was approved by the membership on September 10, 2017. It was agreed that Ruth will testify consistent with the Resolution on behalf of CPCA at the hearing.

**New member outreach** was deferred to the June 5 Board retreat.

**Resolutions.** Two Resolutions were discussed. In order for members to approve them at the May 22 meeting, they must be submitted to the membership by May 7.

1. Ruth introduced Mark Rosenman's proposed **Resolution In Support of the Rental Housing Affordability Re-establishment Amendment Act of 2017** which would close a loophole that now allows landlords to raise a unit's rent above the rent-controlled limit after a subsidized tenant, who received voucher assistance to pay higher rent, vacates the unit. Mark had emailed this Resolution to the Board on April 28. Questions and discussion ensued. Margaret Lenzner pointed out two other Bills before the Council that are also intended to protect affordable housing: Bill 22-441 to provide new funding to protect elderly and disabled tenants in rent controlled apartments from dramatic rent increases, and Bill 22-442 that requires the city to update and maintain for public access current data detailing all rent controlled units. Alice pointed out that vouchers are a hot topic for many neighbors, in light of recent issues re: unstable voucher recipients who may not be getting wrap-around services that they need, as demonstrated at a recent ANC3C meeting and a meet-and-greet with Mary Cheh, Ann and others said they don't know enough to advocate with confidence for a position on this proposed Resolution. The Board took no position on the merits of the Resolution and voted unanimously not to distribute it for members' approval.
2. A Resolution re: proposed amendments to the **Comprehensive Plan's Framework Element** was approved by a Board majority (5-3) on March 12, 2018 after lengthy discussion. This Resolution "urges the Council to reject the proposed legislation and to instead ensure that the standards for land use decisions will be clear, predictable, and legally enforceable." The Board decided to submit this Resolution to the membership for approval at the Annual Meeting on May 22.

**Annual Meeting.** The Annual Meeting will be held on Tuesday May 22 at the Cleveland Park Congregational Church, 3400 Lowell Street NW. At the 6:30 business meeting, the Comprehensive Plan Resolution and the slate of officers will be voted on. The nominees submitted by the Nominating Committee, and emailed to the membership on April 23, are:

President, Ruth Caplan  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, Jennifer Ward  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Alice Kelley  
Corresponding Secretary, Ann Hamilton  
Recording Secretary, Margaret Lenzner  
Treasurer, Barr Weiner

At-large: Phil Eagleburger, Elizabeth Ferenczi, John Korbel, Hans Miller, and Mark Rosenman.

After the business meeting, there will be a panel discussion of OP's proposed changes to the Framework Element of the Comprehensive Plan. The panel will include Earl Williams, President of the Federation of Citizens Associations; Parisa Narouzi of Empower DC; Nancy MacWood, chair of ANC3C; and Cheryl Cort, Policy Director of the Coalition for Smarter Growth. Ruth said she hopes to get a representative from the City Council's Committee on Housing & Neighborhood Revitalization. Jen thanked Ruth for her efforts to find a fifth panelist; several suggestions were offered.

Notice of the Annual Meeting is front and center on the CPCADC.org website and was emailed to members on April 23. Ruth has been working to resolve email delivery problems; some (new?) members said they hadn't received notice of the Nominating Committee's appeal for nominations although notices were emailed on March 13 and 28. Ruth will send a new meeting reminder.

**Library.** Phil Eagleburger reported that Jill Bogard of Friends of the Library (FOL) invited CPCA to contribute \$15,000 of the \$50,000 that is requested for the "reading garden" at the new Cleveland Park library, which is scheduled to open on June 16. It was noted that, in 1953, CPCA bought the land that the library was built on for \$35,000. After discussion, it was decided to defer a decision until the Board Retreat on June 5.

The all-day **Board Retreat** is scheduled for Tuesday, June 5 at Margaret Lenzner's. Ann Hamilton agreed to organize topics and assignments. She suggested that we become familiar with the By-laws and talk with other citizens organizations to learn others' problems and solutions.

**Website.** The list of items on Ruth's agenda for the Homepage and Board assignments were not reviewed but were endorsed.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Margaret Lenzner, Recording Secretary