

CLEVELAND PARK CITIZENS ASSOCIATION
MINUTES

Board of Directors Meeting, January 9, 2019

In attendance: Ruth Caplan, Phil Eagleburger, Ann Hamilton, Alice Kelley, John Korbel, Margaret Lenzner, Hans Miller, Mark Rosenman, Jennifer Ward, and Barr Weiner.

Absent: Elizabeth Ferenczi.

Ruth Caplan called the meeting to order at 7:10 pm and circulated the agenda. Minutes of the December 5 Board meeting were approved with minor corrections.

Treasurer's Report. Barr Weiner presented the current budget and noted that, while revenue is still low, the account has a healthy balance. On his suggestion, it was agreed that he will move reserve funds to an interest bearing account and possibly some to 6-month certificates of deposit.

Community Meetings. Ruth said she has already posted to the CP listserv announcement of the **January 17 safety and crime prevention** meeting featuring Samantha Nolan re: Community Watch and 2D MPD Commander Melvin Gresham. Christopher Dyer may also join the panel to discuss the DC rebate program to compensate residents for costs of installing security cameras. Noted **environmentalist Rafe Pomerance** is scheduled to speak on **Thursday, March 21**, with possibility of change to March 14 or March 28. Alice Kelley described plans for an all-day **sustainability/climate fair on Saturday, April 13** that will occupy all the CP Library's community rooms with 12-15 participants. Alice is coordinating with the library staff for joint programming and promotion, and welcomes suggestions for schools and other organizations to participate. She noted that April 13 is also Rock Creek Conservancy's clean-up day.

Membership. Ruth reported on current membership renewals since she mailed solicitation letters to non-renewers in early December. She noted that voting rights terminate for any who have not renewed by December 31. Currently, there are 290 paid-up members of which 244 are in household memberships. Memberships of 106 in 53 households and 21 individuals have lapsed. The 35 members who have renewed since December 7 include 12 who paid dues online and 23 by mail.

Membership Committee. Ann Hamilton reported that she met on November 27 with Elizabeth Ferenczi, Margaret, Ally Bernstein, Ellen Herr and Nina Shiffrin to discuss how to increase membership especially among Connecticut Avenue corridor apartment residents. A prime issue they discussed was the relative cost of household *vs.* individual dues. Ann plans to follow up later this month.

Nominating Committee. Ruth said that Pam Korbel, who chaired the Nominating Committee for several years with excellent results, has chosen to not serve again. Jen Ward and Ann suggested some others who might serve on the committee. It was agreed that Ruth will ask Elizabeth to chair the committee this year. The Chair is to appoint two to four members.

Since the Annual Meeting at which directors are to be elected is tentatively scheduled for May 16, Ruth noted that the current Bylaws require that the membership be notified of the appointment of the Nominating Committee chair by February 21, *i.e.* 12 weeks before the election; and that the committee's slate of officers and at-large candidates must be presented to members by April 16.

Bylaws Committee. There was considerable discussion of key revisions proposed by this committee (Ann, Barr, Margaret, John, Hans and Jen) that were emailed to the full Board on January 7 and presented by Ann in email and at the meeting. The Board agreed to the following:

- Section 1.01: Change name to Cleveland Park Community Association.
- Section 1.02: Modify revised text to make it aspirational, saying “. . . and to try to represent the community’s interest . . . “
- Section 2.06: Delete from revised text “Board may waive the annual dues. . .”
- Section 3.01: Increase number of at-large directors to up to nine (9).
- Section 7.01: Establish 10% of membership as quorum required for voting.
- Section 7.03: Allow votes of one or more members of a household (*i.e.*, residing at the same address) to vote by proxy signed, dated, directed and cast by one member of the same household membership who is present at the meeting.

Mark Rosenman questioned the proposed deletion of Section 3.08, the provision to remove a Board member. Discussion focused on how Board members should be nominated and elected, and whether and how to stagger terms. It was agreed that staggered terms are desirable, with half the Board elected each year for two-year terms. But how the officers are to be chosen -- whether the Nominating Committee’s slate should specify candidates for officer positions or if the newly elected Board should select officers – was not resolved. Ruth pointed out that, since CPCA has no fulltime staff, the president and other directors must be prepared to do a lot of work, and the members should know what to expect from the officers they are electing. Hans and Barr were charged with emailing two alternative texts to be voted on by the full Board.

It was agreed that the revised Bylaws should be approved by the membership by February 21 so that they will apply to the Nominating Committee and elections this Spring.

Ruth announced that the next Board meeting will be on Wednesday, February 6.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Margaret Lenzner, Recording Secretary