

CLEVELAND PARK CITIZENS ASSOCIATION
MINUTES

Board of Directors Meeting, March 6, 2019

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

Absent: Elizabeth Ferenczi and Jennifer Ward

Ruth Caplan called the meeting to order at 7:08 pm and circulated the agenda. Minutes of the February 6 meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report. Barr Weiner reported that there were no significant changes in the past month.

Rock Creek Conservancy. Alice Kelley reported on the grant application that CPCA filed in partnership with the conservancy for renovation of Melvin Hazen Park. We will learn in May if DC approves the grant. Alice said this is a great opportunity for community engagement.

Nominating Committee. Ruth referred to the report, previously emailed to the Board, from the committee chair, Margie Siegel. Margie has contacted every current Board member to ascertain their interest in serving next year. The committee (Margie, Bob Ward and Margaret Lenzner) has identified needs such as tech and social media expertise, and has reached out to ANC commissioners for candidate recommendations. Ruth said that she had posted to the CP listserv announcement of the Spring meetings along with encouragement for new members to join, especially in light of new leadership opportunities.

Annual Meeting. To give the Nominating Committee more time to complete its work, and since Margie will be away mid-May to early June, it was decided to schedule the Annual Meeting for **June 13**, and to keep the library meeting room reservation for May 16 for a possible meeting.

Bylaws Committee. Ann Hamilton reported on plans for the March 11 membership meeting for approval of the amended Bylaws, and on member concerns about some provisions, especially the proposed name change to Cleveland Park Community Association.

Ruth said the history of "citizens" associations as White organizations in segregated Washington is reason to change the name. Mark Rosenman pointed out that legally changing CPCA's name could be complicated, difficult, cumbersome and expensive. Alice suggested that the question deserves a full meeting to educate members about "citizens" and historically Black "civic" associations.

Hans Miller recommended that the name change be omitted from the Bylaws amendments presented for approval on March 11. Margaret's motion to present the Bylaws without name change was unanimously approved with the understanding that the topic would likely be brought to a vote at the Annual Meeting after discussion among the members.

It was recognized that proposed amendments that impact the June election are most critical (staggering terms, increasing number of at-large directors), and should be retained. We agreed to put off Board discussion of possible alternative voting procedures and dues structures.

Membership/Community Meetings. Margaret circulated promotional flyers for the **March 28** meeting featuring Rafe Pomerance and for the **April 13** Sustainability Fair. She will also send them as attachments in email. All were asked to encourage attendance.

There was discussion of a possible meeting on **May 16**. Topics that were discussed included community inclusiveness such as the historical segregation of citizens and civic

associations, and implementation of DC's rental voucher program that has raised concerns in our community. Ruth, Mark, Alice, Barr and Margaret are the planning group.

Social Media. Ann outlined the challenge of designing and implementing ways to foster communication among members, ranging from reactivation of our existing CPCA listserv to adoption of a paid platform. It was generally agreed that this should be left to the new Board, and that simple means now available should be promoted in the meanwhile.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Margaret Lenzner, Recording Secretary