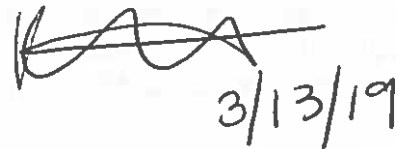


Minutes from RNA Meeting on February 13, 2019

Noel C. Taylor Municipal Building
Room 159 (EOC) at 5:30 PM



3/13/19

Committee Members in Attendance

Kate Lewis, Chair
Charles E. Wilson, Vice-Chair
Ellie Rigby, Secretary
Bill Houck, Jr.
Jamaal L. Jackson
Jackie Moon
Cindy Pasternak
Sunni Purviance
Russell E. Thomas

Committee Members Absent

Russell E. Thomas

Guests

Tonya Pickett – Neighborhood Services Coordinator
Wayne Leftwich – Roanoke City Planning
Joe Cobb – Vice Mayor

Welcome to Members and Guests

Chair Lewis called the meeting to order at 5:37 and welcomed all members and guests.

Reading and Approval of Minutes

Mr. Houck moved to adopt the Agenda. Mr. Jackson seconded. Passed unanimously. Ms. Pasternak had a change in one of the neighborhood names. Mr. Jackson made a motion to accept minutes. Mr. Houck seconded. Passed unanimously.

Guest Presentations

Reports of Special Interest

- **City Plan 2040 – Wayne Leftwich, Roanoke City Sr. Planner**

Currently with working groups. Lots of good conversations over six different groups. All of the groups have developed priorities within their themes that they are trying to translate into policies and actions. The next meeting will be in two weeks. There is a briefing before City Council in March. Wayne will have more to share at the next RNA meetings. There will be public meetings at the six libraries that last weekend in March and the first week in April. Wayne will provide dates so that RNA members can present to the neighborhood groups to get them to attend.

- **Neighborhood Reports - All**

Ms. Lewis

Raleigh Court

Nelson Harris is coming to discuss the history of the neighborhood at this month's meeting

South Roanoke Neighbors

The neighborhood had concerns about the E-Library. Barbara Deurk and Sheila from the library are meeting about finding a better location for the library. The e-library is in the plan, so they are trying to come up with a way to install it that will please everyone. Mr. Cobb stated that it has been part of the Capital Improvement plan for a long time. The libraries would not be punished if it is not installed. That money could be allocated elsewhere.

Grandin Village Business Association

No report

Mr. Wilson

Melrose-Rugby

They worked out an agreement on their community center and they felt that they were overbilled. They got a check from insurance and got that worked out and are looking at how to pay for new insurance.

Loudon-Melrose

No report

Ms. Pasternak

Riverdale Farm

Katie Zawecki talked about the grant money that they received to get people together.

Ms. Purviance

Starview Heights

Mark Powell will remain as president for a few months. They are working on a plan.

Riverland/Walnut

No report

Belmont

No report

Southeast Action Forum

They had a meeting about the renaming Jackson Park to Belmont Park. There were no objections.

Ms. Moon

No Neighborhood Reports

Mr. Jackson

Greater Grandview

They are having a yard sale about how to get funds at Grace United Church. They also talked about how to get more Hispanic people involved in the community meetings. Ms. Lewis asked whether there is a program in the City to translate flyers. Ms. Pickett has been talking to the owners of Farmburguesa about that. They have it at

Youth Services Board

They are having a summit about Summer Employment for youth at Lucy Addison Middle School on March 2nd from 11:30 to 3:00. They have been challenged with how to get information about meetings out, especially at churches.

No Other Reports

Mr. Houck

Deyerle and Old Southwest have both had changes in their leadership.

Greater Deyerle

Ms. Pickett attended their board meeting. Deyerle is pursuing Civil Action concerning the overnight daycare that was turned down by the planning commission. The overnight daycare was discrimination. Neighborhood suing because it would violate zoning ordinances. Neighborhood taking position against her.

Ms. Rigby

MOTA

Meeting on Monday, January 14th. Artist Napoleon Jones-Henderson to get feedback on potential public art for the new Melrose Branch of the library. He was meeting with Hurt Park elementary and

Wasena Neighborhood Forum

Meeting in February. Has a yard sale at the Jesus Saves Church on February 9th.

Mr. Thomas

Fairland (Mr. Thomas no report, absent – Ms. Pickett provided)

Fairland is having a conference on March 2nd. It is free. Register online. Up to 70 people. They are going to talk about their vision and story for the neighborhood. They are also planning on sharing their story about development. On the 23rd of March they are having a Love Thy Neighbor event. They had concerns about the Evans Springs project and trash in the cave. They are still working on the big belly trash can.

Ms. Pickett talked about the Lick Run stream restoration meeting in Gainsboro. Part of the proposal is to take down the bridge that is there. The group said that they did want the bridge because it connects the park which is used in Juneteenth Celebration. There is also a wetland classroom area. They are proposing that they would rather have the bridge.

Reports of Officers – Standing Committees

- **Neighborhood Grant Review Committee – Ms. Lewis**

The RNA will need to vote next month while we await more information from Mr. Holland about whether Wasena will qualify for CDBG funds.

Unfinished Business

- **Gun Buyback Program - Lewis**
The language change did not go through.

New Business

- **Review of RNA Retreat**
- **Relationship with Tonya/Neighborhood Services**
Ms. Lewis asked Ms. Pickett to act as the conduit/liason to the City departments.
- **RNA By-Laws**
Mr. Houck made a motion to change the by-laws as noted. Ms. Rigby seconded. Passed unanimously.
- **Creation of Sub-committees**
Ms. Lewis asked that there be a subcommittee for the President's Council meeting. Ms. Lewis, Ms. Pasternak, and Mr. Houck will comprise the committee. Ms. Lewis met with Mr. Cobb and is trying to get the RNA scheduled with a working schedule with City Council.
- **RNA 2019-2020 Budget**

The last Sunday in April is the open budget meeting. Or have two council members sponsor a reporting and budgeting strategy.

Mr. Caldwell will be coming to our next meeting. And someone from Capital Improvements.

Open Forum/Announcements

- **January 22, 2019 – City Council Meeting**
- **January 25, 2019 – Deadline for Grant Applications**
- **January 29, 2019 – Roanoke City School Board Meeting**
- **February 4, 2019 – City Council Meeting**
- **February 9, 2019 – Wasena Neighborhood Forum Indoor Yard Sale**
- **February 12, 2019 – Roanoke City School Board Meeting**
- **HBCU College Fair – 10-2:00 William Fleming High School**

Adjourn

Chair Lewis adjourned the meeting at 6:47pm.