

March 14, 2012 RBCC Membership Meeting Minutes

Su Harambe, President opened meeting 7:00pm

Dorothy Driver Hutchinson, Secretary, did not have a copy of the minutes of the February meeting to read. Gave a verbal report and will read the minutes next meeting.

JoAnn Dechant, Treasurer, gave the treasury report.

Executive Board Meeting Report-Su Harambe

Made a plan for how to select projects that RBCC will work on for 2012

Discussed Neighborhood Safety Issues, need to re-establish a community group focused on Safety Issues since RBNA appears to be inactive right now.

Old Business:

1. Kathie Weibel delivered the Friday South Recycle Committee report. Friday South is now in 4th place with a recycling number of .44. Su Harambe reported that the Flash Mob Recycle event went well, about 30 members attended Feb 11 at corner of Rainier and Henderson, walking in crosswalks with signs, hula hoops, costumes, etc. Chris Wagner handed out recycle info flyers to people in their cars.

2. Disaster Preparedness- Office of Emergency Management is establishing a HUB at Rainier Beach Methodist Church as the communication center for our neighborhood in the event of an emergency. This is the 1st such HUB in Southeast Seattle. Chris Wagner will continue to keep us posted re: meetings and educational opportunities for both individual and community emergency preparedness.

Committee Reports:

Finance Committee: No report

Membership Committee: Reorganizing/refining sign-in process for RBCC Membership Meetings is underway. Sandwich signs will be painted and placed nearby meeting site announcing meeting dates. Jenifer Pritchard makes flyers and has available for handing out to neighbors the week prior to meetings.

Social Committee: RBCC Picnic date is set for August 8 at Ber Sheva Park where access to restrooms is better than Hutchinson Playfield, the site of August 2011 picnic.

New Business:

Neighborhood Safety: People reported on the Neighborhood Walk About that occurred 7:00pm March 5. It was well-attended: 200+ people walking with Southeast Seattle Precinct officers, Assist. Seattle Police Chief Nick Metz, Daryl Smith from the Mayor's Office, and Seattle City Councilmember Bruce Harrell. Also, people who attended the Seattle City Council Public Safety Committee meeting on March 7th reported about the meeting and the tone of the public comments and guest panel's responses. It was decided that Su Harambe would contact a spokesperson from Southeast Seattle Crime Prevention to attend a regular RBCC meeting and help us create suggestions and plans we can propose to the Public Safety Committee and Southeast Precinct to help reduce and eliminate the violent activity in our neighborhood.

Rainier Beach Art Walk: The 2nd Annual Rainier Beach Art Walk is scheduled for Sept. 15 2012. RBCC will commit volunteer hours to the event as we did in 2011.

2012 Project Planning

Artisan in Residence: Mary Magenta is now an Artisan in Residence at Kubota Gardens. She will be establishing Art Club/Workshops six weeks this summer for Grandparents, age 55+ and their Grandchildren, ages K-5. She will be campaigning for contributions to pay for art supplies and encouraging applicants for the workshops.

Motioned and seconded to support the Safe Walk to Schools Program Jenifer Pritchard is working on. (Cross Walk at Kubota Garden likely a long term project).

We broke into small groups to discuss the different criteria for the traffic roundabout at 51st and Roxbury, getting the lots on 57th approach to the neighborhood cleaned up, and graffiti removal on fences at Ryan Street near freeway exit for Rainier Beach neighborhood. Clean up and graffiti removal may become Bridge to Beach projects in April with assistance from City of Seattle if we can get proposals to the coordinator in time. We will continue discussion to next RBCC meeting and vote on projects at that time.

(Participating in Rock n Roll Marathon-tabled unless member wants to lead a team to work at the event. Pilgrim Bus Shelter not doable due to insufficient ridership now that metro schedule/route has changed. Shakespeare in the Park for Kubota Gardens may get scheduled for 2013 summer season if we can get a small and simple grant to pay the Seattle Park Department for use of the park).

Seward Park Gate Restoration-a speaker came to introduce a local special group that has obtained grant funds to restore a gate that was built at the entry to Seward Park in the 1930's. The original gate was a Japanese design, representing Seattle's historical close ties with Japan. A piece of the original gate has been discovered and a grass-roots organization has been established to re-build the gate. RBCC will write a letter of support for the project.

Meeting Adjourned 8:45PM.

March Executive Board Meeting is on Tuesday March 27 at 7pm
April Membership Meeting is Wednesday April 11 6:30pm.