

## **RBCC Executive Board Meeting Minutes: April 28, 2014**

Meeting called by Su Harambe at 7:30 PM. Attended by: Su Harambe, Sally Li, Don Andre, Sunshine Nimz, JoAnn Dechant, Carol O'Brien, Kim Traverse, Joyce Greenberg, and Kathie Wiebel.

Tool Rental Libraries: Kim visited the Tool Rental Library in West Seattle – at the Youngstown Cultural Arts Center for ideas and insight into what it would take to start one in Rainier Beach. West Seattle keeps all of the tools at the library on site, whereas Kim envisions more of a registry where the tools are lent out by residents of the neighborhood. Next he will be in touch with Sally Bailey with the SEDC who may be able to get us involved in the Columbia City Tool Library when and if they start one in the South End.

Boy Scouts of America: Since the BSA revoked the Rainier Beach United Methodist Church's charter with Rainier Beach Troop 98 because they had an adult gay man for a troop leader – The Rainier Beach Boy Scouts, along with the Cub Scouts, are looking for a new organization to charter and sponsor them in our neighborhood. The parents and children in the scouts have both expressed that they want to continue to be a part of the scouts. Donovan spoke passionately about the need to keep these boys in the organization – as this area has limited resources for children. A number of us were concerned that although the group is trying to be all inclusive, we would be supporting an organization that discriminates against a person's sexual orientation. We voted 7 to 1 to not to sponsor the Rainier Beach Scouts.

Website: Sunshine, Sally, and Joyce will ask for member participation in the Member Meeting Wednesday, May 14<sup>th</sup> to create a committee to improve the website and social media – positioning us for better community engagement and rental of the space.

Building Rental: Su updated us on the building: The curtains on the stage are still problematic and she will have them repaired. We got some free decorations donated by a neighbor on Nextdoor. We agreed we should take down the green string of lights from the main space. The bathroom is finished with new furniture. There have been many improvements to the space and we are ready to advertise on Nextdoor.

Membership Fees: We spoke briefly about membership rates. It was suggested that we either increase our membership rates to something closer to \$30/year like those of Lakewood Seward Park or drop the membership fee all together so we can participate in many of these matching grants and community projects. This would mean a change in our by-laws and will require a vote.

Neighborhood Grants: Sally has been working hard to develop a grant for the Department of Neighborhood Grants to improve our space and improve the community in which we live – we'd like to start with painting the exterior, going after the approved cisterns, and making the clubhouse a green building and an example for what is possible in the neighborhood. The grant will require 3 written bids, and we will have to choose the lowest bid. Sally is also working on determining how our non profit status would qualify us for such grants. If we became a C4 – we could create a C3 charitable foundation with a focus on the neighborhood. This would mean a change in our by-laws and will require more discussion and a vote.

Member meeting May14th speakers: JoAnn and Chris will help us explore the Emergency HUB Drill (May 17th) in more detail. Joyce will have someone from Senior Services speak about aging and making connections. And Sunshine will ask John Hayes to speak on the current crime statistics.

Meeting Adjourned