

RHN Board Meeting Minutes **D R A F T**
Monday, March 2, 2015 @ 6:00 pm

Home of Tina and Mike Moylan
1450 Greenwich between Polk and Van Ness

Co-host Greg Polchow
Timekeeper: TBD

Russian Hill Neighbors (RHN) is a voice for residents and merchants to preserve and advance neighborhood character and quality of life through collaboration, volunteerism, and celebration of community.

6PM

Dinner of Thai food, brownies, mini-cupcakes, wine and sparkling water

Welcome Supervisor Julie Christensen

- Introduction (15 min)
- Q+A (15 min)

7PM

Appointed new District 3 Supervisor of seven weeks, Julie Christensen, was introduced to the Board by RHN President Erica Kwiatkowski. Supervisor Christensen spoke of her involvement with the community and mentioned her prior activism on such issues as advocating for the extension of the Central Subway, Joe DiMaggio Playground and the new North Beach Branch Library.

As a member of the Board of Supervisors, Christensen intends to focus on increasing housing without increasing height limits, with an emphasis on middle-income and senior housing. Other issues of interest include public transportation, population increase, streetscape, homelessness, and keeping the City clean.

Q&A

Lucretia asked about the shortage and elimination of parking, to which Christensen responded, "You can't drive your way out of the problem," advising that other means must be found, including better public transit. Steve Taber mentioned undergrounding (of utilities). The Supervisor talked of funding, safety, the cut once policy, and promised to look deeper into the matter.

Jovanne brought up the plans for Polk Street. Christensen and Steve Taber responded by describing the proposed bicycle path, the elimination of 25 street parking spaces, the addition of bulb-outs, etc.; all of which will be discussed at a critical meeting being held tomorrow (Tuesday 03-03-2015).

Supervisor Christensen closed with talking of her commitment to District 3 and its residents and her willingness to be approachable. She also

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advised that, as an appointee, she must run for election in November (2015) and needs support to mount her campaign.

Executive Committee Reports

Welcome Adam Barrett!

Appoint Joyce and Adam

7:40PM

Potential new Board members Adam Barrett and William Le Ferrand were introduced. Barrett would like to participate where he can be most helpful and remained for the entire meeting. Le Ferrand has a particular interest in finding activities for his two toddler daughters and will advise how he may become involved.

Also introduced was new Board member, Joyce Kucharvy.

President's Report: Erica Kwiatkowski (15 min)

Annual Meeting

7:42PM

Phil Ginsburg, SF Rec and Park, was approached to be the guest speaker and District 2 Supervisor Mark Farrell plans to attend.

Sarah and Steve Tabers' Church will once again be our much-appreciated venue.

The date is to be determined but Thursday April 23 or 30 were mentioned.

Voter file

Erica advised that the previously purchased voter file will be used to disseminate the Annual Meeting notices.

Northeast Neighbors (Sarah and Steve)

7:46PM

Sarah and Steve Taber discussed the concept of organizing the various neighborhood groups in District 3 to speak with a single stronger voice on issues for which we have a common interest. This new umbrella group is establishing by-laws and is getting organized, starting with monthly meetings and a rotating leader. ((Please provide a list of participating organizations.))

RHIA email about a new group

7:55PM

It seems that RHIA (Russian Hill Improvement Association) is also reaching out to other groups to form a coalition to combine efforts, etc.

President Erica will contact her counterpart at RHIA to discuss how we could work together.

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Secretary's Report: N/A Need to Fill
Erica discussed the need to fill this important position and will work on doing so. Richard (reluctantly) agreed to attempt to keep the minutes for this meeting (only).

Treasurer's Report: Ian (10 min)
Ian had sent the financial reports via email, prior to the Board meeting. He commented on the fact the membership is down. We must fill the vacant membership chair position. Letters regarding merchant renewals should be going out shortly.

Committee Reports

Social: Tina and Joyce (10 min)
8:05PM
Tina, Joyce and Par will be coming up with proposed ideas.
Joyce captured many of the food-centric assembly's attention with her talk of arranging participation dinners among our members in their homes. Groups of 6, 8 or 10 people would execute a pre-determined menu. The host would provide the location, wine and coffee. The total cost would be divided amount those attending.

Neighborhood Improvement: Greg Polchow (5 min)
8:13PM
Greg reported on the most recent successful street sweep and will contact DPW about other means of keeping our neighborhood clean. He took a stack of RHN business cards to distribute since his crews often act as our recruiters and representatives to the public. He also hopes to discuss street cleaning with our new Supervisor Christensen. The street sweeps are using scheduled every other Saturday ((verify))

Transportation: Steve (15 min)
8:26PM
Steve T. went into much greater detail regarding the Polk Street Plan and RHN involvement and compromise position. The plan is on the RHN website. A critical meeting will take place tomorrow (Tuesday 03-03-2015) afternoon at 3PM, SF City Hall, Room 400.
The Central Subway extension received a very positive report and enjoys the support of Supervisor Christensen. The ratio of added ridership to cost

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is very favorable. David Chiu is pursuing State capital transportation funds, which could also bring Federal funding.

It is hoped that the service on the SFMTA's 30 Stockton Line will be improved and ride times reduced.

DZLU: Richard (15 min)

8:33PM

Rotating DZLU Chair Sarah Taber reported on DZLU; see her previously emailed comprehensive report. She mentioned the withdrawal of the Request for Rehearing regarding the Broadway trees. Sarah also spoke of the many applications, notices, and neighbor inquiries regarding the many planned wireless antennae proposed for both wood telephone and metal light poles on Russian Hill and beyond. The SFCUU (San Francisco Committee to Underground Utilities under Anne Brubaker) is also picking up the gauntlet to fight these unsightly additions.

The RHN Board approved Sarah's DZLU request for approval to fight these new antennae.

8:48PM

The composition of the new Francisco Park Conservancy was questioned. Steve Kendrick reported that there are seven Board members: one for Aquatic Park, one for RHN, one for North Beach Neighbors, and four for RHIA. It was noted that in the past, it was expected that RHN would have more representation. Steve K. agreed to check into the matter and report at the next RHN Board meeting, including names and affiliations.

Secretary's Note -- Steve Kendrick requested alternate text for the note above is included for reference:

8:48PM

The composition of the new Francisco Park Conservancy (FPC) was questioned. Steve Kendrick reported that there are initially seven Board members. Once the management agreement with the City (currently under negotiation) has been concluded, the FPC board will be expanded, with each of the four founding neighborhood organizations nominating two FPC board members each. Steve K. agreed to report further at the next RHN Board meeting.

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Other

Mike Moylan
Letterhead
Dropbox
Lombard Street ambassador program.

8:56PM

Communications chair Mike discussed the use of the Dropbox as a resource on our website, providing access to our RHN Letterhead, central station reports, the Polk Street plan, etc.

The Lombard "Crooked" Street Ambassadors would be paid staff to improve the situation around our tourist draw by providing safety, reducing auto break-ins, etc.

Broadway Trees Report
Reported under DZLU

9:03PM

The meeting was adjourned.

Attending: Rahul Narang, Al Greening, Steve Taber, Sara Taber, Tina Moylan, Mike Moylan, Gregg Carr, Lauri Petipas, Jovanne Reilly, Ian Madison, Judy Junghans, Richard Cardello, Joyce Kucharvy, Adam Barrett

Not Attending: Helen Doyle, Tim Covington, Tracy Jacquier, Phoebe Douglas, Carol Ann Rogers, Eric Schleelein

Respectfully submitted
Richard Cardello
Reluctant, one-time-only acting Secretary!