

**Russian Hill Neighbors Board
Meeting
Home of Sarah and Steve Taber
Monday, November 7, 2016**

Attendance

- Present: Emily Harrold, Sarah Abbott, Ian Maddison, Richard Cardello, Helen Doyle, Tracy Jaquier, Judy Junghans, Ian Maddison, Gregory Polchow, Carol Ann Rogers, Tina Moylan, Mike Moylan, Greg Polchow, Sarah Taber, Steve Taber, Phoebe Douglass, Christine Welland
- Excused: Tim Covington, Par Hanji, Joyce Kucharvy, Lucretia Rauh, Matthew Mansfield, Al Greening, Gregg Carr, Laurie Petipas, Jovanne Reilly.

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm by President Emily Harrold.

The business Agenda was preceded by a presentation by RHN Members Anne and Randall Brubaker. The Brubakers are active members of the SFCUU (Utilities Undergrounding) and Anne is a member of the RHN DZLU committee. The presentation focused on a tentative permit 16wr-0025 to erect telecommunications equipment on a wooden pole at 2215 Leavenworth. The Brubakers are requesting support by RHN in protesting this tentative permit. Letters of protest must be received by November 17, 2016. The Brubaker presentation summarized recent actions by the California Court of Appeals regarding San Francisco's right to control the aesthetics of the public right of way as well as other issues (see presentation documents attached.) They also noted that an earlier permit for a nearby location (Leavenworth and Lombard) had been denied on the grounds that the equipment blighted views of Coit Tower. Similarly, if installed, the equipment at 2215 Leavenworth will block views of Alcatraz. Approval of this permit will set a negative precedent for Russian Hill as well as other parts of the city.

Following the presentation and departure of the presenters, the Board discussed the issue and these actions were agreed upon:

- 1) RHN to write a letter to DPW protesting the permit, with copies to the City Attorney, Supervisors Farrell and Peskin, and others as determined appropriate.
- 2) Greg Polchow will post information about this on NextDoor, encouraging letters to be written by residents who wish to protest the permit. A short, sample letter will be provided.
- 3) Similarly, information will be posted on the RHN website, along with a short sample letter.
- 4) Emily will request from Anne Brubaker a full copy of the Court of Appeals ruling and a shortened sample letter.
- 5) Board Members will write personal letters of protest by the November 17 deadline.

Executive Committee Reports

Two presenters were moved up in the Agenda due to accommodate their time constraints.

- Social – Tracy Jacquier.
 - An email report was sent in advance to the Board. There were no questions on the report. The Holiday Party will take place at the Taber’s home on December 11, 4 – 6. Tina will contact Dan Holligan about playing the piano for Carols. The Party will be featured in an upcoming eblast.
 - The idea of participating in the Cable Car Decorating program with funds raised going to support a special event for seniors was discussed. It was agreed that while there could be benefits to RHN’s participation, there was not enough time to prepare this year.
- Treasurer’s Report – Ian Maddison
 - Ian deferred to Finance Committee member Mike Moylan for a discussion of Restricted Funds and recommendations sent to the Board in advance. The recommendations focus on being more proactive and effective in administering funds given to RHN for restricted purposes. Following the discussion, the following were agreed to:
 - Christine Welland will serve as the Board Parks Coordinator.
 - The position of Sterling Park Coordinator will be eliminated. Phoebe Douglass will become a Board Adviser and continue to attend Board meetings.
 - There are two parks with restricted funds that do not currently have active Coordinators – Helen Wills and Ina Coolbrith. Sarah Abbott and Emily Harrold volunteered to explore options for expending the current funds for Helen Wills on needed projects. Carol Ann volunteered to contact the Department of Rec and Parks regarding their “wish list” for Ina Coolbrith parks that the Board could consider funding.
 - Judy Junghans will investigate and report back on whether the small private open space at Broadway and Hyde has been sold and approach the new owner with the original proposal to create a green space (refused by the then property owner.)
 - The restricted Francisco Park funds will remain under RHN oversight. Emily Harrold has been invited to join the Conservancy Board as an individual and will keep the RHN Board informed of opportunities to spend those funds.
 - The Board committed to creating and documenting a process for future solicitation, management and spending of restricted funds.
 - In addition, two motions were introduced:
Moved, Seconded, Carried that the Board create a Parks Committee, with the Committee Chair holding a Board position.

Moved, Seconded, Carried that the Board congratulate Emily Harrold for her election to the Board of the Francisco Conservancy.

- President's report: Emily
 - President Harrold reported on conversations she has had with Middle Polk Neighborhood Association (MPNA) president Moe Jamil regarding a formula retail ban on Polk Street. It was agreed that RHN will poll its merchant members and other merchants in our area to know what they want before we move forward.
 - Saturday, November 26 is Small Business Saturday. Julia of Cole Hardware has organized a Wine Walk and many merchants are offering discounts and promotions. The Board agreed this could be a great opportunity for individual Board members to talk information with our merchants.
 - An important meeting to hear findings of the Lombard Street study will take place on November 17 at Yick Wo School. Emily and Greg will attend, and others are encouraged to do so as well.
 - There will be a second community meeting on Francisco Park on November 16, 6 – 9 PM, at the Betty Ann Ong Center (Washington & Mason).
 - The next Board meeting will be held on Monday, December 5, at Judy Junghans with Greg Polchow co-hosting. It was agreed to invite Supervisor Mark Farrell to attend a Board meeting in early 2017.
 - President Harrold asked that the Board officially approve the election of Christine Welland to Chair of the Membership Committee.
Moved, Seconded, Carried: To approve the appointment of Christine Welland to Membership Chair.
 President Harrold asked that Board members suggest candidates to fill the now vacant position of Board Secretary.

Secretary's report

- **Moved, Seconded, Carried:** To approve the October Board minutes as distributed.

Committee Reports

- Communications: Mike Moylan reported on changes to the design of RHN's website. He had emailed three options for review to the Board in advance. All agreed that they preferred the mix of 1 and 2 columns and white background. It was suggested that when the eblast is sent out, it should have something catchy in the Subject Line to increase the open rate.
- Safety: Tina wants to plan a special appreciation event for Captain Lazar. His immediate family would like to attend, as well as his mother. The idea was supported enthusiastically. Suggested venues include the Norwegian Seaman's Church on Hyde or the Tel-Hi Center.

- DZLU – Richard Cardello
 - The DZLU Committee report was distributed via email for advance review by the Board. There was a question regarding the project at .
- Other –
 - Donations to the SF Center Center at Aquatic Park and Next Village.
Moved, Seconded, Carried: To approve a donation of \$250 to the Senior Center at Aquatic Park (suggested by Judy Junghans).
Moved, Seconded, Carried: To approve a donation of \$250 to the Next Village (suggested by Tina Moylan).
 - Members were encouraged to attend the Holiday Fair at the Norwegian Seaman’s Church on November 18/19.
 - Helen Doyle distributed an information flyer about the Cool Block Program and asked if anyone would be available to attend a day-long program on 11/13. She is planning to attend and will report back on the program.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:35.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Ann Rogers, Acting Secretary