

Richmond Neighborhood Association Meeting Agenda
Monday, November 10, 2014, 7-9 pm
Waverly Heights Church (basement), 3300 SE Woodward
Minutes taken by Elisabeth Varga

The Richmond Neighborhood Association (RNA) monthly meeting was held on Monday, November 10th.

Board members present: Allen Field, Elisabeth Varga, Heather Flint-Chatto, Karen Maczko, Jonathan King, Cyd Manro, Doug Klotz, Jordan Lanz, Megan Light, and Denise Hare (non-voting). Judah Gold-Merkel was a few minutes late.

Board members absent: Sean Barnett, Bonny Bray, Deirdre Merrit, Cliff Hutchinson and Callie Jones.

Others in attendance from sign in:

Announcements:

- Richmond United: Portland Richmond neighbors have formed a group to address the ongoing frustrations of development and bureaucracy in our neighborhood. Please contact richmondunited@yahoo.com for information on how to get involved.
- Japanese Garden Exhibit: <http://japanesegarden.com/events/>
- Denise Hare will approach UDP for Good neighborhood Agreement for their three buildings at 33rd and Division. Doug mentioned that there are two other UDP buildings along Division and Denise responded that she would be happy to include them in the discussions/agreement if there are neighbors in those locations that would like to participate.
- For people who wanted to be involved, please contact Denise.
- Coalition forming to address sidewalk issues with PBOT. For more information, please contact: **Does someone remember the gentleman's name?**

Adoption of September minutes as revised by Denise: Doug made a motion, Jonathan seconded to adopt. Cyd, Karen, and Allen abstained. All others were in support, none opposed. Motion passed.

Adoption of October minutes: Jonathan made a motion, Allen seconded to adopt. In favor: Megan, Jonathan, Allen and Heather. None opposed. Abstained: Jordan, Doug, Cyd, Karen, and Elisabeth. Motion passed.

AGENDA ITEMS:

Citizen's Utility Board of Oregon (CUB)

A representative of CUB presented a brief overview of the organization whose mission is to represent the interests of Oregon's residential utility customers before administrative, judicial and legislative bodies, such as the Oregon Public Utility Commission and the Oregon Legislature. To learn more about CUB, their activities and accomplishments, please visit: <http://oregoncub.org/>

SE Clinton Bike Blvd

Kari Schlosshauer, Richmond resident, mother of two, pedestrian, and bicyclist, spoke about the safety issues affecting pedestrians and bike riders on SE Clinton. Clinton is designated a bicycle boulevard and neighborhood greenway but the street is increasingly being used by aggressive drivers to bypass Division. Kari and some Board and audience members stated that drivers are running stop signs and much of the traffic is coming from the side streets trying to avoid Division or for visitors looking for restaurant parking. Kari requested support for immediate action while working with the City toward a long term solution. Her proposal to reduce traffic volumes and increase safety included requesting temporary traffic diverters from the City and a request to study the effects of temporary diverters while considering permanent infrastructure improvements. Allen stated he tried to speak with Roger Geller, PBOT, about the issue, but traded messages. He explained that the city will likely conclude there are no safety issues but the issue is of "comfort;" the issue is whether the city is meeting its Design Guidelines for the street, but he was not able to talk with Geller to get an explanation of this issue. Allen made a motion that RNA send a letter to the City to study whether safety issues exist, and if so, to propose possible solutions. Cyd seconded the motion. All board members in attendance supported the motion.

Division Design Guidelines

Heather Flint Chatto representing the RNA's Division Design Committee (DDC) put forth a formal recommendation to create design guidelines for Division Street from 11th to 60th. The DDC has been meeting monthly over the past nine months to discuss community concerns regarding the development along Division both in terms of design and impact. The DDC is requesting financial support from RNA and other neighborhood and business associations in the area to continue this work with the assistance of a qualified design professional. DDC will define a draft scope of work to solicit the services of a professional who can provide technical support for the drafting of design guidelines. Total estimate budget is \$10,000-\$15,000, however, DDC was requesting funding of about \$3,500 from RNA. Additional funds would be pursued through other associations and grants. Some board members expressed concern about the amount requested, while others believed it was a tangible deliverable that would be a useful tool for our community while our neighborhoods continue to develop and grow. Three motions were made based on a November 9th memo from the DDC:

- (1) RNA authorizes the DDC to draft design guidelines for SE Division Street areas within the Richmond neighborhood (from 29th to 52nd). Judah made the motion. Cyd seconded. Everyone supported.
- (2) RNA will provide \$3500 to hire a design professional to help develop draft design guidelines. Cyd made the motion. Jonathan seconded. Everyone supported.
- (3) For areas of Division outside Richmond boundaries, RNA recommends the DDC seek similar authorization and funding from other neighborhood organization. Megan made the motion. Elisabeth seconded. Everyone supported.

Comp Plan Issues

The City of Portland is updating its Comprehensive Plan, a long-range 20-year plan that sets the framework for the physical development of the city. At last month's RNA meeting Marty Stockton gave an overview of the Plan and of the issues to consider. Allen raised the issues for discussion:

"Town Center" vs "Neighborhood Center": Currently the City is proposing the Belmont-Hawthorne-Division area to be designated as a Town Center.

Town Centers serve a broad area of the city with some regional function, significant employment, high capacity transit / light rail, with room for 7000 households. Further defined, town centers are highly walkable urban destinations, with relatively high-density housing and mid-rise commercial and mixed-use building typically five to seven stories tall.

Neighborhood Centers are smaller centers that serve adjacent neighborhoods, with frequent bus service, room for 3500 households and low-rise commercial and mixed-use building typically up to three to five stories tall.

Currently there are 3500 – 4000 households in the designated area.

After much discussion with many people preferring the Neighborhood Center designation, Allen made a motion that RNA request Division be designated a neighborhood center. Heather seconded. Doug Klotz opposed. All other board members supported.

Preservation of Historic Resources. Heather made a motion that RNA request an analyses of key historic resources in Richmond for preservation. Judah seconded. All were in favor.

Height Limit on commercial corridor– Currently 45 feet, should it be 35 feet? Discussion followed - should limit be 35 feet with option of up to 45 with amenity bonuses. If a developer provides amenities (such as plaza or outdoor space, use of better materials, affordable housing, etc), the developer may be given the option of going up higher to 45'. This may be a tool to negotiate with developers. Allen wanted to know the menu of acceptable amenity bonuses before making any decisions. Heather wanted more notice to the community on the issue. Allen made a motion for a 35" height limit for buildings with a later consideration of the issue of amenity bonuses. Cyd seconded. Allen, Elisabeth, Cyd, Jordan, Jonathan voted in favor. Heather, Doug, Karin, Megan Judah opposed. Motion failed with tied 5-5 vote.

Retaining the Division Main Street overlay: Heather made a motion that we request that Division Street overlay be preserved and expanding. Jordan seconded. Doug abstained. All others supported the motion.

Neighborhood Notification: Heather made a motion that the RNA request in the Comp Plan process that there be receive increased notification requirements, to include a broader notification area and earlier notification to the community. **Who seconded?** Judah abstained. All other board member supported.

For more information and to comment on the Comprehensive Plan, please visit: <http://www.portlandoregon.gov/bps/57352>

Meeting ran too late for committee reports. Meeting ended after 9 pm.