

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

April 2009 MINUTES

Thursday, April 2, 2009, 7:00 PM

Stu Flashman's Residence

Present: Andrew Charman, Stu Flashman, Annette Floystrup, Bill Kaufner (8:05), Don Kinkead, Joan Martin, Doug Patton (8:10), Ellen Peterson, Ronnie Spitzer, Katy Taylor, Danica Truchlikova

Absent: Jon Gabel, Colby Lavin

Guests: John Gussman, legal advisor (7:10-8:20); Puja Sarna & Sean Diest Lorgion, AC Transit (7:10 – 7:35)

Meeting called to order at 7:10 with a quorum present.

Item 1: Guest Presentation – AC Transit changes to Line 51

Representatives of AC Transit Planning Department, Puja Sarna and Sean Diest Lorgion, distributed to Board members copies of the Route 51 Service and Reliability Report. A delay analysis was conducted that measured delays along the route including light signals, left turning cars, double parked cars, pedestrian crossings, etc. To put in service number of buses needed to make improvements is not possible for cost reasons. The study lists a number of recommendations: improving coordination along major routes, moving stop sites past the signal lights, signaling left turns, consolidating nearby stops, removing stop signs, splitting the route, and overlap of lines. AC Transit is seeking input from the RCPC. A discussion ensued about proposed splitting at Rockridge BART station; some Board members suggested that MacArthur station would be more appropriate as it would not split the line in the middle of cohesive neighborhood. RCPC will discuss the report and send an official letter with comments and suggestions; Ronnie and the Traffic Committee will take the lead.

Item 2: Administrative

A) Approval of March meeting minutes

MOTION: Move to approve minutes of March 5, 2009 BOD meeting with correction (Doug Patton hosting the April Town Hall meeting instead of Colby Lavin as stated). *Motion:* Charman, *Second:* Taylor. *Motion carried unanimously.*

B) Approval of Executive Committee decision

MOTION: Move to affirm Executive Committee decision to send a letter to BART regarding the construction noise exceeding the BART construction contract levels. *Motion:* Spitzer, *Second:* Floystrup. *Motion carried unanimously.*

C) Review and assignments of duties for Board elections

Board elections will take place at the Annual/Town Hall meeting on Thursday, April 16 and Saturday morning, April 18. Election Officers on Thursday, 4/16: Danica Truchlikova and

Annette Floystrup. Custodian of ballots: Danica. Election Officer on Saturday, 4/18: John Gussman. Stu will reserve the polling place for Saturday with the librarian.

D) Bylaws amendments

John Gussman explained proposed amendments to Bylaws sections 6.2, 6.5, 8.4 and 8.5.

MOTION: Move to adopt the bylaws amendments as proposed, with the exception of Section 8.4 (d), which will be submitted to a vote of the members at a Town Hall meeting. *Motion:* Taylor, *Second:* Martin. *In favor:* Charman, Flashman, Floystrup, Martin, Patton, Peterson, Spitzer, Taylor, Truchlikova. *Abstained:* Kaufner. *Motion carried.*

E) Discussion on RCPC “back-up” functions

Stu suggested that the Board Executive Committee, RN editor, and Committee chairs to have designated back-ups to maintain smooth functioning of the RCPC. After a discussion, the Board concluded that the Chair already has a back-up (the Vice Chair), and the Secretary and the Treasurer may not need designated backups, however, the incoming board can, if it deems fit, designate an Assistant Secretary and/or Assistant Treasurer. Back-up for the RN editor is a must, Don is talking with Valerie Knight who may substitute when Don would not be available. She will be introduced to the Board at a board meeting.

F) Board Retreat & new Board Red Book training

Board retreat and Red Book training will be scheduled after the election of the new Board members.

G) Kitchen Tour update

Neither Jennifer nor Susan could attend. Stu reported that they have several nice kitchens for the tour. The kitchen committee lost a committee member and they are looking for a replacement with writing abilities to help with kitchen write-ups for the brochure due in August. Annette will join the committee and will attend committee meeting at the end of April. Danica will also help with the kitchen write-ups.

H) Rockridge News delivery

Benvenue/Woolsey area needs a volunteer to deliver this month RN. Joan will substitute the regular delivery person.

J) Consent calendar

a. Update on BOD candidates

One candidate withdrew early; two did not submit candidate statements. There are 6 candidates running for 6 positions.

b. Red Cross Blood Bank noise issue

No further complains.

c. Kingfish Bar

The co-housing condo is on indefinite hold. There is a proposal to re-open the Kingfish bar, no application filed yet.

d. Update on BART retrofit noise issues

Bart is working on improvements to construction noise abatement.

MOTION: Move to approve Consent Calendar. *Motion:* Floystrup, *Second:* Patton. *Motion carried unanimously.*

Item 3: Financial

A) Bookkeeper update

The bookkeeper Craig Garman is on board, the bookkeeping materials were transferred to him. Joan worked with him this month to close the books by April 2 (a very short time) and is impressed by his competence. Joan and Craig will review the Red Book and all policies pertinent to financial and will clean-up all books.

B) Financial statement

Joan reported that we are on budget. PayPal account is open, donation are sitting there and will be transferred when RCPC provides the proof of non-profit status.

Item 4: Committee Reports

A) Land Use Committee

a. Safeway update

Safeway will present their design on April 29, 7-9 pm, at the Claremont Hotel. Announcement will be sent by e-news. The stakeholders will develop strategy for further action.

b. Red Oak Realty

Planning Commission hearing is tentatively scheduled for May 20. Based on submitted plans the project does not have planning staff support. It appears that RDA's Board will support the ROR application, but it does not represent opinion of all merchants. RCPC will step-up its efforts to mobilize the opposition by leafleting the neighborhood, petitioning of merchants (currently on the way), contacting other community organization with C-31 zoning (PANIL, Laurel Heights district), contacting planning commissioners, Jane Brunner, and the City council members.

c. Rockridge Montessori

The school filed an application with the planning department; assigned planner is Ulla Jonsson.

d. Emil Villa site rezoning

Non-controversial issue. The site is zoned R-50, the rest of the shopping center site is zoned C-30. The R-50 zoning appears to be an error.

e. College Preparatory School Facilities Master Plan

The Head of School Murray Cohen made a presentation at the last LUC meeting. The development plan is projected to take 10-25 years subject to fundraising efforts. The plan does not anticipate any growth in student body, only improvement to facilities. Community meeting scheduled for April 29 will be rescheduled tentatively due to conflict with the Safeway meeting. Proposed May 6 date needs to be confirmed by the school.

B) Schools Committee

a. Library “teen center”

Bill Kaufner reported on meeting called by Jane Brunner and held at the library earlier the same evening concerning establishment of a “teen zone” area at the Rockridge library. The purpose is to give middle and high school students a safe place to meet and study. The library polled the preferences 60 adults and students. Jane Brunner got a grant of \$500K from the City of Oakland as seed money. Bill visited the teen center at the main Oakland library which is very successful and after which the Rockridge teen zone will be modeled. The library hired architectural firm of Nolan Tam. Timeline: complete design – December 09, bids – December 09 – May 10, construction June 10. The Board raised question of supervision considering that the library is already short on staff. Last two years library has had own guard and things did calm down considerably, so the conclusion was that the guard might provide sufficient supervision. The center will be open full time. Bill will write an article summarizing the meeting for the RN.

C) Communication Committee

a. Website redesign update

Colby was not present; Stu reported that the consultant is very busy in his work so there is no new development at this time to report. The committee will submit a website mock-up next month.

b. Articles for May issue of RN

LUC update on projects (Stu); RCPC bylaws amendments (John Gussman), Safeway update (Stu), Kitchen Tour update (Jennifer and Susan), school committee update (Bill Kaufner), AC Transit Line 51 study (Ronnie), election results (Don), Rising Sun Energy Center presentation (Don), BART noise update (Stu), article on Red Oak Realty/office space on College (Annette); Ask-the-Cop.

c. Town Hall Meetings schedule

April – Board election, Rising Sun Energy Center presentation (Doug); May – Oakland budget with Jane Brunner, discussion on stimulus package (Katy); June – Rockridge History (Annette); July – Solar Energy (Joan and Andrew)

D) Traffic Committee

Ronnie submitted the Traffic Committee meeting minutes and reported on the meeting. Some of discussed issues – bike markings on Colby, repaving of Chabot Road, AC Transit recommendations on changes to Line 51. RCPC comments are due April 15. Ronnie asked Board members to submit comments on the AC Transit study to her. City is ready to publish the list of planned BRT improvements, it appears that it will match the list submitted by RCPC’s Traffic Committee.

E) FROG Committee

Fibar (wood chips) at the play area is deteriorating and will be replaced with fresh one. New planting is planned. Frog/City/Caltrans are in negotiation about the extension to the park.

Item 5: Fourth Bore Coalition (FBC)

The meeting minutes were submitted. The coalition needs to resolve its status – it is incorporated as non-profit but is not registered with state. MTC (Metropolitan Transportation Commission)/ Caltrans/Contra Costa Transportation Commission will prepare a corridor study encompassing Hwy 24 from tunnel to Hwy 580. The tunnel bore is “shovel ready”; construction is scheduled to start in summer.

Item 6: Miscellaneous Items

A) Supplementary city services

Doug Patton elaborated his thoughts on the subject. He did not bring the prepared hand-out with statistical data. His idea is based on the assumption that the economic situation of the City would not get better in a foreseeable future and that Rockridge cannot assume it will get services it is getting now. He would organize Rockridge as a Homeowners association with levied fees to supplement the city’s services with private means. There was unease on the Board about some aspect of the plan. Board will take no action now but directed Doug to prepare a more detailed study for record.

B) Oakland Police Officers killed on duty

Annette reported that three of the slain officers, Hage, Romans and Sakai, were familiar faces in Rockridge as they served in the area at various times. They were all good and caring men. The three officers (including Dunakin) open family trusts, the officer’s Hage family requested donations to the California Organ Donation Foundation.

MOTION: Move to approve sending a contribution of \$75 each to the Organ Donation Foundation and the three family trusts, subject to legal verification that contributions to family trusts would not compromise RCPC’s non-profit status. *Motion:* Taylor, *Second:* Patton. *In favor:* Charman, Flashman, Floystrup, Kaufner, Martin, Patton, Peterson, Taylor, Truchlikova. *Abstained:* Spitzer. *Motion carried.*

C) RCPC Archive

Yahoo folder is nearly full, we need to archive some files on disks. Annette suggested we keep also paper copies of all documents. RCPC needs to find a space for permanent storage of archive records. Suggestion was made to develop guidelines specifying which materials and documents need to be stored permanently.

Item 7: May Board meeting agenda items

1. Board retreat scheduling
2. New Board members orientation scheduling
3. Introduction of the bookkeeper Craig Garman
4. RCPC “back-up” positions
5. Introduction of Valerie Knight as RN Editor “back-up”
6. Standard agenda items

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Danica Truchlikova, RCPC secretary.