

## RPIA Board Meeting Minutes – August 10, 2020

The board meeting of the Ryan Place Improvement Association was held via Zoom on Monday evening, August 10, with President Tim Keith presiding and Sarah Geer as secretary. A quorum was subsequently established, and the meeting was called to order at 7:02.

Board Members in Attendance: Tim Keith (President), Ryan Scharar (Vice President), Sarah Geer (Secretary), Jen O’Connell (Treasurer), Kipp Baker (Communication), Jeff Shroeder (Activities), Jason Jones (Public Safety), Douglas Cooper (Infrastructure), Chris Ebert (Historic Resource), Josh Gardner (6<sup>th</sup> Ave Street Director), Chris Gee (5<sup>th</sup> Ave Street Director), Ryan O’Connell (Ryan Place Street Director)

Others present included: John Shearer (john@academy4.org), John Belknap, Laura Lariviere (laura.lariviere@academy4.org)

### Presentation – Academy 4

- John Shearer from Academy 4 shared details on their programming for 2020-2021. Academy 4 is a mentoring program which serves Daggett ES (and other local schools). They match an adult mentor with every 4<sup>th</sup> grader in the school and mentors typically make monthly in-person visits focused on leadership, character development, and social-emotional supports. Given COVID-19, Academy 4 will deliver programming virtually (via Zoom) including large group assembly time and breakout rooms with two mentor pairs participating. Academy 4 is seeking additional mentors for the upcoming school year. You can contact Laura Lariviere ([laura.lariviere@academy4.org](mailto:laura.lariviere@academy4.org)) if you’re interested or sign up via the website. Several board members already participate (Tim, Jen, Josh) and recommend the program.

### Report Summary/Notes

- President
  - Molberg Plumbing
    - Tim noted that Cory Molberg was unable to attend to provide formal presentation re: the property on 8<sup>th</sup> Ave. Tim has been in conversation with him multiple times but is not clear whether they are determined to move forward with seeking variance or not. Under current zoning, they can’t park the trucks that they want to for their business (would require variance).
    - Sense from the board is we need to see a more detailed site plan (parking, flow of traffic, operating hours, materials storage, etc.) before considering a decision re: any support
    - John Belknap reminded the board that any variance approved would stay with property even beyond the owner that secured the variance.
  - Outreach to Peer Neighborhood Associations
    - Not much to report, no communications since last meeting
  - Park Pavilion
    - Not a lot of movement given COVID-19
  - Triangle Park
    - Still interested in moving things forward, maybe restart planning this fall
  - CCRP

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- Tim shared that the Committee is working on finalizing (contingency) plans – planning for more of a “walking tour” style event focused on 5<sup>th</sup> Ave. Self-guided, no docents. Brochures would still be available with ad sales. The Committee is considering outdoor activities (i.e. food trucks). The event would not be ticketed, but brochures will be on sale.
- Restaurant promotion
  - Tim asked if we should consider an additional printing of curbside menus and maybe profiles of local restaurants/small businesses (in lieu of our traditional September business mixer).
  - When we did this in May, the extra newsletter expense was ~\$400 more than a typical month
  - Seems to be interest/support from the board and we noted that there is a surplus in activities budget.
  - **Jen O’Connell moved to spend up to \$400 to increase pages in the September newsletter to promote local restaurants and small businesses. Chris Ebert seconded. Motion passed.**
- Tim reminded the board that we will hold elections this November. Tim is working on ideas for the nominating committee and encouraged others to think about it.
- VP – nothing to report
- Secretary – nothing to report
- Treasurer
  - Jen distributed an updated budget (attached) to board members electronically on August 10. She noted that this is an odd year for both expenses and revenues.
- Infrastructure
  - Douglas has received updated bids/proposals from 5-Star Landscaping for chicanes maintenance, and he distributed those to the board electronically (attached). The two proposals are virtually the same, the only difference is which plant species are included.
    - Question: would this be a one-time expense? Yes, we’ve already budgeted for monthly maintenance, so this is just about replanting/sprucing up.
    - Board members expressed interest in having vegetation height to block headlights but also in having variety (note the option with salvia *and* muhley grass).
    - A board member noted that the proposed plants are perennial, well-adapted to our climate and shouldn’t require maintenance once established.
    - Question: for anything currently growing in these beds, would 5-star remove them? No, plants already there would stay but 5-star would provide maintenance.
    - **Jen O’Connell moves to approve estimate #1609 for chicane planting and that it be paid out of general funds. Ryan Scharar seconds. Motion passed.**
  - Douglas shared that the streetlight on Ryan Place Drive has been fixed.
  - Question: are there some lights on Elizabeth (near Adams) that need replacement bulbs?
- Membership

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- Jake not present, written report shared that welcome tote bags were delivered to 25 households.
- Communication
  - Kipp shared that the Constant Contact list is pretty clean at this point (not many bounces).
  - Kipp reported ~3,700 hits on our website in the past month.
- Activities
  - Nothing to report
  - Question: Anything to consider for fall when weather gets better? Neighborhood scavenger hunt? Coyote drive-in outing?
- Historic Resource
  - Nothing to report
- Public Safety
  - Nothing much to report, still nudging for update on new NPO
- Street Directors
- Other
  - John Belknap shared that fire truck is still in Dallas, but they've identified an expert for final restoration tasks. If we mobilize \$35,000, we could get the truck in the queue for completion (painting, plating the nickel, new wheels, new decking on the back, etc.). It's currently drive-able but not presentable.
    - Question: do we carry insurance on it? Not currently. In the past we had an antique vehicle policy (liability policy only – for limited use like parades, etc.).
    - Comment: we've already spent ~\$10,000 on the vehicle, but not sure about the board putting forward additional \$35,000 since we don't even have a place to put it (although there have been some exploratory conversations with a nearby church). We would also need to consider security and the associated costs.
    - Comment: maybe we could consider organizing a special fundraiser as a way RPIA could help or a special project for CCRP funds?

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Geer  
Secretary