

RPIA General Meeting Minutes – November 29, 2021

The general meeting of the Ryan Place Improvement Association was held at St. John's Church on Monday evening, November 29, 2021, with President Tim Keith presiding and Sarah Geer as secretary. A quorum was established and the meeting was called to order at 6:37pm.

Board Members in Attendance: Tim Keith, Sarah Geer, Ryan Scharar, Chris Gee, Douglas Cooper, Barbara Forshey, Jason Jones, Jen O'Connell, Ryan O'Connell, John Belknap, Jake Neal, Chris Ebert

Others present included: Ryan Terry, Brian Holland, Darrel Auvenshine, Mary Beth Ebert, Terri West, Addison Conley, Randy Sabbagh, John Shearer, Emerico Perez, Red & Jenny Sanders, William Welder, Fernando Peralta, Ruth Karbach, Ramon Romero, Sondra Hay, Cade Lovelace, Pete Munoz, Edna Munoz, Chas Skelly

Report Summary/Notes

- Board Outstanding/Regular Business
 - Tim spoke on behalf of the safety committee and encouraged the board to consider underwriting expenses for their campaign.
 - **Jason Jones moved to authorize spending up to \$1,850 on Lights, Camera, Action Campaign. Ryan O. seconded. Motion passed.**
 - Tim provided an update on the upcoming Jingle & Mingle event for which more than 100 tickets have been sold. The plan is to provide the beignet bus with RPIA funds and use ticket proceeds to cover other expenses (host stipends).
 - **Chris Gee moved to approve up to \$700 for the Jingle & Mingle event. Jen O'Connell seconded. Motion passed.**
 - Darrel Auvenshine joined from Southside City Church. He shared that his church is involved with homeless outreach initiatives. The church is currently working with the city to develop a tiny home village with 4 tiny homes to use for housing individuals who have already participated in the church's outreach program. Darrel provided design images for tiny homes and the lot layout. The property is gated and will have curfew and on-site manager, and they plan to build on-site. This is a pilot project since tiny homes haven't been done in Fort Worth (no precedent for code). The church is seeking a provisional use permit. They have support from the S Hemphill Heights Neighborhood Association and the Hemphill Corridor Task Force. The church received a \$100,000 matching grant for the project recently and has support from city council (E. Beck). They are open to ideas for community involvement.
 - **Jake Neal moved to pass Oct 18 minutes. Chris Gee seconded. Motion passed.**
 - Jen notified that tax penalty was abated and otherwise our financial report shows routine expenses.
 - **Jen O'Connell moved that RPIA spend up to \$1,305 for fire truck storage. Chris Ebert seconded. Motion passed.**
 - Question: will this fulfill our obligation for storage and are future storage fees with the museum expected? John Belknap confirmed that this satisfies our arrangement with the museum and that we will be transferring the truck to free storage in the neighborhood in early 2022.

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- Business for the General Meeting
 - Board Elections
 - On behalf of the Nominating Committee, Cade Lovelace presented the following slate of officers:
 - Secretary: Sarah Geer
 - VP: Cade Lovelace
 - Infrastructure: Douglas Cooper
 - Communications: Ryan Terry
 - Public Safety: Jason Jones
 - CCRP Tour Co-Chairs: Chris & Allison Gee
 - CCRP Tour Chair-Elect: Keri Keith (& Tim Keith)
 - **Terri West moved to accept the slate as presented. William Welder seconded. Motion passed.**

 - The following street directors were nominated via the caucus process:
 - Ryan Place Drive: Blake Villa
 - S. Adams: Javier Rodriguez
 - College & Cantey: Terri West
 - 8th/Stanley/James: John Belknap
 - Lipscomb/Alston/Page: Casey Creager
 - 5th Ave: William Welder
 - Elizabeth Blvd: Brian Holland
 - **Terri West moved to approve street director names as reported from caucuses. Jen O'Connell seconded. Motion passed.**

Guest Speakers

- Elizabeth Beck
 - Wingstop zoning case was voted down in zoning commission and expect it to be voted down by council. Recommends we get more proactive with that parcel so that we can head off similar efforts.
 - Road & curb & gutter improvements coming for Elizabeth Boulevard, running it through the historic landmark commission.
 - Resident Question: What about sidewalks? Handled separately. Noted safe routes to school program.
 - Reminded RPIA that redistricting is going on and encouraged residents to join meetings and share feedback.
 - Resident Question: What is the timeline for redistricting? The process will wrap up in April.
 - Dec. 7 presentation to city council re: projects under recent bond
 - Download My FW app – best way to report issues with street lights, roads, etc.
 - Email: District9@fortworthtexas.gov

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- A resident mentioned that there is a missing signs at the intersection of Elizabeth & 8th (missing on the west side). Officer Garner also aware.
- Ramon Romero (State Rep)
 - Under redistricting, all of our neighborhood is now in Rep Romero’s district.
 - Served since 2014
 - Small business owner in Southeast FW
 - Michael Ramsey is Chief of Staff for Rep Romero’s office
 - Local office number is 817-924-6788. Capital office is 512-463-0740. Rep Romero cell is 817-233-5819.
 - Currently hiring district director
 - Focus areas: reentry for incarcerated, criminal justice reform, workforce development/career pathways, power grid improvements, property tax relief
- Fernando Peralta – Chair of Hemphill Corridor Task Force
 - Renaming as Hemphill Collaboration
 - Seeking more input from all neighborhoods along corridor
- Daggett Elementary School representatives
 - Katie King and Marcus Gibbons are the school staff who sponsor the inaugural soccer club for Daggett Elementary. More than 70 students currently participate (3rd-5th graders). Practicing every Thursday and Saturday. They are in need of stand-alone goals at Daggett Park, and they are trying to raise funds for jerseys for students (seeking ~\$250). The club has been a big community-builder for the school.
 - Jen O’Connell noted that RPIA has a standing line item in our approved budget and can direct our funds to this purpose for 2021. And Daggett ES PTA can accept funds for the soccer club (or front office at the school).
- Pete Munoz – Constable for Precinct 5
 - Authority for constable is same as any other police officer. Primary focus is to serve civil process (serving papers/court orders). More of a standard schedule but shifting to include some evening hours.
 - Constable Munoz cell: 817-575-9600
- NPO Report - Officer Garner
 - Package theft is typically a big issue in December.
 - A couple vehicular burglaries with unlocked vehicles.
- Safety Committee Presentation
 - Red Sanders and Jason Jones presented on behalf of the safety committee. After seeking advice from FWPD, the committee is proposing a Ryan Place Safety Campaign called “Lights, Camera, Action” which encourages residents to install lights, install home security cameras, and report any suspicious activity. The first phase of the campaign is to raise awareness via yard signs and digital communications. The committee plans to provide recommendations of potential systems/equipment.
 - The committee provided an informational presentation re: Flock (private company in Atlanta) which makes license plate reading cameras which could potentially be funded by the city via a CCPD grant. Cameras would be integrated with the FWPD system. Each camera would be on a pole with solar panel, and

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there would be signage notifying that video recording is happening. The committee recommends placing cameras at neighborhood entrances/exits.

- FWRPD has ~150-200 Flock cameras installed on major roadways and high-crime areas (high rates of violent crime). Flock cameras are connected to NCIC – FBI system for stolen vehicles.
- If RPIA purchases cameras (through grant funds or otherwise), we would own the data and can determine who has access (could be just FWRPD or could maintain some direct access by RPIA via board policies).
- The committee recommends 8 cameras (2 cameras placed at 4 major entrance/exits). The cost is \$2,500/year/camera. The committee suggests seeking \$56,000 via CCPD grant (7 cameras for 3 years) and recommends RPIA to fund one camera to show buy-in (\$7,500 over 3 years). The committee expects that we would reapply after first 3 years and hope to have data showing efficacy.
 - There is a March deadline for the CCPD grant application.
- Question re: whether crime data is specific to Ryan Place neighborhood boundaries. Committee said yes.
- Question: are yard sign designs final? Yes.
- Question: if they're not on every street, wouldn't criminals just avoid those entrances/exits? Criminals are certainly aware of specific locations, but they are still a deterrent.
- Question: any concerns about hacking the data? No.
- Question: what about technology updates? Yearly membership fee includes hardware and software upgrades.
- Question: who pays for damage to cameras/poles? Maintenance? We would need to confirm with Flock.
- Question: would RP be considered a high-crime area? Sgt Webb said no.
- Question: does FWRPD real-time crime crew have capacity to monitor more cameras? Yes, only concern would be capacity to respond. Department will prioritize camera alerts in neighborhoods/HOAs.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Geer
Secretary