

## DRAFT MINUTES

02/7/12

Ravenna Bryant Community Association Board Meeting  
Ravenna Eckstein Community Center

### Attending- Board Members

Sarah Swanberg  
Tony Provine  
Jorgen Bader  
Virginia Gunby  
Rebecca Nelson  
Mark Muntifering  
Pablo Schugurensky  
Aaron Keating  
Pete Ramels  
Brett Frosaker  
Rebecca Nelson

### Attending – Guests

Jim Rymsza  
Jacob Struikma - Roosevelt Resident and Member of the Seattle Pedestrian Advisory Committee  
Per Johnson \_ Wedgwood Community Council  
Emily Griffin – South RNA  
Mark Griffin  
Glenda Warmoth

### Please fill in names the rest from the sign up list

1. Chair Swanberg- Welcome, Introductions and Announcements

**Cleanscapes:** The Chair thanked Jorgen Bader for preparing a well written and accepted RBCA proposal for the Cleanscapes \$50,000 Award jointly with the Wedgwood Community Council. She said the two Gretchens (last names?) have volunteered to be the Representatives of RBCA and WCC who will work on the overall of Work Plan, for completing this important project as scheduled. They will be reporting back to the RBCA Board on their schedule. Community input and overall Progress.

**CUCAC:** Brett Frosaker is the current RBCA's Rep to CUCAC. He announced that he needs an alternative when he is unable to attend the CUCAC meetings, which discuss local issues U of W reps and Community reps from the surrounding areas. There were no volunteers. There was discussion as whether it should be a Board member or a Volunteer who would report to the RBCA Board. Jorgen Bader said that he would be the alternate if there was no other Volunteer, and was thanked for his offer, and approved as an alternate, until a permanent volunteer is found.

Chair Sarah announced that Andrew Miller had resigned as RBCA's Land Use Chair from the Board. Pablo, a Board member and neighbor from the E. 65<sup>th</sup> area stated that the Board should not dwell on the city's debate and action on the Roosevelt Station TOD issue. He said that there is a need to move on with a Work Plan, and Design guidelines for a Ravenna/Bryant Neighborhood Plan, particularly along certain arterial Corridors.

Pablo suggested that the RBCA should send a card of appreciation to former Land Use Chair Andrew Miller, former RBCA Land use Chair, and Tony Provine produced a card and circulated it for all of Board to sign to A. Miller, in appreciation of his dedication and hours of effort/service for seeking ways to represent the Community issues through constructive participation, during difficult Negotiations with the Developer and the City Council, on the future Roosevelt Station Development/Community issues. Pablo advised that now is he time be ahead of the curve, and learn from the lesson's from the past.

Chair Sarah said that she would like all of the Board to review the proposed Agenda and vote to approve her proposed Board Meeting Agenda, and the Items and time Schedule, by a Board Motion. This change was suggested to keep the Board discussion focused on the items on the Agenda, and manage the Meeting time.

A Motion was made and unanimously approved.

Minutes of the January 3, 2012 RBCA Board meeting were seconded and approved unanimously

Treasurer's Report – Tony Provine, Treas. Stated that RBCA had \$2287.71 plus some checks that need to be deposited. The Chair and the Treasurer stated that the organization would appreciate 2012 payment of Dues from the Board members and friends. No action.

2.) Per Johnson, Vice Pres. and Land use Chair of the Wedgwood Community Council (WCC) discussed a new proposed study of the 35<sup>th</sup> NE Ave Corridor and adjacent Land-use. He reminded the Board that the RBCA had not adopted the "Doughnut hole" south of 75<sup>th</sup> NE when the WCC adopted its "Vision Plan". Per wanted to speak the RBCA Board to find out if their values and interests in 35<sup>th</sup> were the same, and elicit views on the joint proposed plan with RBCA that WCC to work on preparing a **35<sup>th</sup> NE Neighborhood Plan**, for 2012/13. He had a one page outline of the future 35<sup>th</sup>NE Steering Committee's expected Studies and Schedule. He circulated a proposed 3 page Work Plan with the history of the "doughnut hole" and the WCC work on the 2010 Vision Plan, the results of W-Plan Surveys and Policies, adopted in the Vision Plan, that relate to the 35<sup>th</sup> NE area. He announced that WCC is a sponsoring a Community meeting 2/8/12 on 35<sup>th</sup> at NE 68<sup>th</sup> at the Temple Beth Shalom, from 7pm to 8:30pm. Per said that he wants to participate as a "neutral" party and the Schedule planned to complete the process in April 2013. He urged the RBCA to participate with WCC in the process, particularly the 35<sup>th</sup>NE area south of NE 75<sup>th</sup> and vote on the Final product.

Brett Frosaker asked if Per anticipated many changes from the Vision Plan, or on the zoning in the RBCA's Southeast segment on 35<sup>th</sup>NE? The WCC Vision plan discusses Business "nodes" at 75<sup>th</sup>NE and 85<sup>th</sup>NE.

Pablo, Chair of the RBCA Art Committee, asked about the interdependence of the two organizations, and whether they would be jointly adopting it and/or going separately to the city to seek an Amendment the city Comprehensive Plan? -- Or changes to the Design Guidelines? Would the WCC be working on the North and RBCA working on only the part South part of NE 75<sup>th</sup> within their boundaries?

Tony Provine stated that he did not see us going for the entire 35<sup>th</sup>NE corridor to NE 55<sup>th</sup>. Per's responded that it would be a limited Neighborhood Plan area, not an Urban Village, with local focus, to propose a collection of planning policies and tools. Per replied that he needed to talk further with city Councilman R. Conlin, current new Chair of the Council's Planning Committee and DPD Staff, about how the city/DPD would recognize any final products, as currently proposed.

3. Virginia Gunby, RBCA Transport Chair, briefly discussed the draft 35<sup>th</sup> NE Corridor paper she had prepared and e-mailed to Board, with extra copies passed out at the meeting by the Chair. A one page draft on 35<sup>th</sup> NE Avenue issues/proposals that she suggested needed added input for the WCC's 35<sup>th</sup>NE meeting scheduled for Wednesday, 2/8/12, the next night, at the Temple Beth Shalom at NE 68<sup>th</sup>/35<sup>th</sup> NE, across from the NE Library. The Chair asked Virginia to represent RBCA at the WCC's Wednesday 35<sup>th</sup> NE meeting, due to a conflict, her son having a Birthday celebration then.

4. Mark Griffin, Chair of RNA-South, introduced guests from the Roosevelt Neighborhood Association South. With about 1000 residential population, their boundaries are north of NE 45<sup>th</sup> and South of Ravenna Boulevard, and to the East the I-5 Corridor to Brooklyn Ave, on the West. They are small and feel there are being ignored. Mostly a single family residential/rentals/transient area is separate from the "U" Dist. commercial areas. Its problems are local incidents, such as opposing a Mayor McGinn proposed Streetcar route in their area. Other items were the Library/Fire Station issues, graffiti laws that City won't enforce, so the owner will remove, etc. (Visiting guest Jacob, who is blind commented that the sidewalks in this area are old and not safe for the handicapped.) The Chair of the RNA –South said that they have a Rep. on the North Seattle District Council

5. The future of the RBCA and the Land Use Committee- Chair Sarah wanted comments on whether they should call a meeting of anew Land Use Committee to discuss its future direction and see who comes? The new group could define an RBCA Work Program and on future community land-use issues and its role.

The Chair asked whether the RBCC in the future should split into separate Bryant and Ravenna Community Councils because they have different territorial issues/goals? With 23,000 residents does it preclude focusing in on the revising the NE75th/15th Reservoir into a Park, or other issues like 35<sup>th</sup>NE—or continuing with the Roosevelt Station issues, etc. She asked “Do we have too much to worry about?” Discussion of this topic moved to the need to plan for the RBCA Community Meeting in April, required by the Bylaws, in order to get new direction and input from the Community and to discuss the issues relating to land-use, and /or promote other Projects and to get people involved, to add value to the RBCA's Community efforts?

In related discussion Jorgen stated that changes in the City Tree Code for instance, requires at least two Community groups to be involved and to work for it.

Brett Frosaker stated that we needed to see how things develop at Roosevelt, and if the passion continues or goes away by the summer.

Per Johnson- Commented that his proposed projects are for the long haul. He expects little change will happen for the 10 years. Monitoring the development base and proposed changes needs watching, in order to be prepared to take the lead when something does happen.

Pablo suggested that RBCA needed someone for the Land Use Chair and a working Committee, on a specific topic. He suggested the land use study of NE 65<sup>th</sup> N/S Commercial area. He said it needs Community oversight by a cohesive volunteer working group, Tony P suggested that there is a need for a watchdog ahead of time to keep RBCC informed. It is important, or sometimes it is too late to be effective! Need a Chair that would develop Design Policies/Guidelines for a RBCA Plan, and needs lots of work with the Community for interaction/engagement.

6. Next Community Meeting/Newsletter- Chair Sarah wanted to take the pulse of the Board and suggested not meeting on the first Tuesday of the Month, and for Board Meeting dates be revised. She also suggested that the Board revise its meeting place, if the Community Center to the Bryant School Library, was available. No vote, but the consensus from the discussion seemed to be that was that the group currently needed stability and continuity of Meeting time and Location.

Discussion returned to the need to plan for the April 2012 Community Meeting at the Ravenna Eckstein Community Center. A discussion of proposed Community Meeting Topics/Speakers such as *Walking Dogs, TOD/PSRC staff, update by the Roosevelt area Developers, or Sound Transit Station Issues by ST Staff, Emergency Preparedness, Sustainable Seattle, Nest.*

A suggestion was made to break the April RBCA Community meeting attendees down into Groups at circles/tables to discuss their current, high priority Community issues, that RBCA should study. They also agreed that there should be some display tables to spark Community issues/interests. The Board discussion turned to ways for effectively getting the word out on the April Meeting to the Ravenna/Bryant Communities.

Newsletter Schedule/Issues- Rebecca said that the RBCA Newsletter has a “short- shelf- life” so needs to get out to Community quickly. Or it could focus on the Ravenna History and have longer life. Some questioned whether there a need to do a Newsletter every month, or whether the Website was enough info to keep the Community informed? It was estimated that it takes about 3 weeks from start to finish and delivery of a Newsletter to the Community. Articles on issues, written by Board members such as Emergency Preparedness, Historical Buildings/Houses in the Community etc, were suggested, but no final decision was made on who, when or how to complete the next Newsletter.

7 Committee Reports recent North Police Precinct issues-are covered by monthly meetings of the Safety, Crime and Crime Prevention Committee by Board member Mark Muntifering. He stated that the last meeting discussed issues relating to “Identity Theft” at ATM or Credit Card Info and with Debit Cards, used at Gas Pumps, Restaurants etc.. Suggestion such as monthly checking your Credit/Debit charges is important step some people don't do to verify their card purchases. Also it was suggested giving your card a good shake when using an ATM, will help to reduce Identity Theft, which is currently prevalent in our area. There was a suggestion to create a “list-serve” for

RBCA members, and to send out a postcard to members for 2012 to increase outreach to the surrounding Communities with this type of information.

Transportation Committee-WSDOT Wedge- The Board approved a RBCA letter, prepared by Jorgen Bader to the City of Seattle requesting the City take an active role in returning the WSDOT "Wedge"/Peninsula to the Arboretum, from which it was taken for the 1963 520 Construction. V. Gunby, RBCA Transportation Chair stated that at a University Heights Mayor's meeting Monday night, the Mayor, when asked about the Wedge said this issue is going to work out and he was confident of a positive outcome. But Jorgen stated that he had not yet seen any positive action by the City, on this issue. Gunby commented that the City should not have to pay for it, due to the FHWA statements in the SR 520 Final EIS Record of Decision, and that WSDOT will be using new Arboretum land for the new 520, in trade for the return of the "Wedge" Peninsula to the Arboretum.

4.

There was a brief Board discussion about the new Seattle City Council Neighborhood Committee and the Chair Councilmember Sally Bagshaw. The discussion concluded that it appears that there has been a weakening in the role of the Neighborhoods, in City overall decision making. There was a sense from some that there is currently not a friendly Council environment for Communities, even after the large public turnout for the Roosevelt High meeting on the Sound Transit Roosevelt Station.

The RBCC Meeting was adjourned by Chair Swanberg at 9:04 pm.

Draft Written by Acting Pro-tem Secretary, Virginia Gunby

DRAFT