

River North Residents Association

Minutes of the 1st Quarterly Community Meeting of 2008

1. The Quarterly Community Meeting of the River North Residents Association was called to order at 7:05 p.m. on March 25, 2008 at Erie Café, 536 W. Erie, Chicago.
 - a. Brian Israel, President, opened the meeting, thanked our new hosts, Erie Café, introduced the Executive Committee members and guests Alderman Brendan Reilly, Steve Georgas, Scott Bruner, Mary Lou Eisenhauer, Jacqueline Hayes & Cynthia Hirsch.
 - b. Thank you to Annual Sponsors, now numbering 30+.
 - c. The minutes were presented from the last quarterly meeting. Brian made a motion the minutes be accepted. Frank Krug seconded the motion. All Ayes to accept the minutes.
 - d. Mike Riordan, Treasurer, reviewed the reconciled 2007 budget, and the proposed 2008 budget, including the following highlights.
 - i. Total projected revenues: \$35,724
 - ii. Total projected expenses: \$27,056
 - iii. Total projected year end surplus: \$ 8,649
 - iv. Total projected year end reserves: \$69,926
 - e. Brian made a motion to accept the budget. Frank Krug seconded the motion. All Ayes to accept the 2008 proposed budget, which will be posted online.
 - f. Brian presented the changes to the Bylaws. Frank made a motion to accept the changes. All Ayes to accept the Bylaws changes (posted online) as follows:
 - i. Changes in expense authorization limits.
 - ii. Individuals may remain RNRA members should the homeowner's association for their property elect not to become a member.
 - iii. RNRA boundary changes extending the territory to Division on the North and Rush on the East, except for a small section bordered by Chestnut and LaSalle, to serve an area that heretofore has had no representation under any of the existing resident associations.
 - g. We welcomed 5 new member associations: Huron Street Lofts, 708 N. Wells, Chicago River North Condos, Farallon and The Caravel.
2. 42nd Ward Update was presented by Alderman Brenda Reilly
 - a. Ronsley development was scaled back to the original zoning to include 40 units
 - b. Habitat will landscape the property east of the East Bank Club
 - c. Working to resolve maintenance & security issues in the alley north of Ontario
 - d. Announced the inauguration of a Sunday Farmers Market beginning in Mid-June adjacent to Erie Park
 - e. Update on the Brown line construction
 - f. State & Grand CTA construction project will expand the existing station and rebuild the mezzanine and platform levels. It's the first major renovation since

River North Residents Association

Minutes of the 1st Quarterly Community Meeting of 2008

the station opened in the late 1940s. New elevators, new escalator, granite floors and stairs, and glazed tile walls are among many amenities planned. The station will remain open throughout the project.

- g. Some Grand Avenue bridge repairs have been completed, with continuing problem with locking mechanism and noise. CBOT should be back out by the end of the month to continue to try to repair the problem.
 - h. Continue to follow the RFP for the development of the Fort Dearborn Post Office as it relates to keeping the property more closely aligned with the 2020 Central Area Plan to create as much green space as possible.
3. Public Safety Update was presented by 18th District Commander Steve Georgas
- a. Overall decrease in crime in 2007, with an increase in auto theft crime in 2008. Department is utilizing decoy vehicles to deter and detect crime in the act.
 - b. Entertainment Venue Team is working with special groups regarding ongoing complaints with Buzz night club.
 - c. Re-iterated community involvement is welcome via attendance at CAPS Beat meetings.
4. Hospitality Issues
- a. Jeff Zitnik, RNRA Hospitality Liaison, described a new process in which businesses are asked submit a business plan when requesting a liquor license.
 - b. Brian presented outgoing DBA Director Scott Bruner with a tribute honoring his service to the community.
 - c. Incoming DBA, Mary Lou Eisenhower pledges to make a one-stop shop guideline to promote business responsibility within residential neighborhood to encourage harmonious relationships.
 - i. Passing of the Deleterious Impact helps to resolve problems establishment serving liquor.
 - ii. Institution of the Late Hour Exterior Safety Plan requires establishments to have security plans in place which include exterior lighting, a description of the establishment's operation and means to which people are moved in and out of the establishment, cameras must be turned on and recording between 1:00 am – 6:00 am. These plans must be on file by 3/1/08.
5. Park Capital Improvements
- a. Frank Krug presented updates on Erie Park Capital improvements. Fence along the river has been constructed and we are awaiting warmer temperatures required to install. We are still waiting for approval for the construction of the playground. Once approved, public design meetings will be held and RFPs will be issued for design and then construction. Anticipating project completion some time in 2009. Working in some design for wetland development along the river.
 - b. Michelle Wiedman presented the results of the RNRA DFA survey. Temporary off leash area is finished, and approval is still pending for a permanent

River North Residents Association

Minutes of the 1st Quarterly Community Meeting of 2008

construction to the area.

- c. Required State playground approval has been requested but is not expected until the first quarter of 2008, at which point public design meetings will commence.
- d. Ohio Park Clean Up is scheduled for Sat, Mar 29th and volunteers are needed to assist. Improvements will include removing old bark mulch and laying down crushed granite, pruning foliage. Work is being done in conjunction with the Alderman's office and Streets and San.

6. Planned Programs & Activities

- a. The successful outdoor film festival will continue this summer with the following movies:
 - i. Tue 6/17 – The Bourne Ultimatum
 - ii. Tue 7/22 – Dream Girls
 - iii. Tue 8/5 – The Great Debaters
 - iv. Tue 8/26 – Happy Feet
- b. 7 Eleven will continue to offer box meals and Brian welcomed newcomer Erie Café as another vendor for picnic meals.
- c. 7th Annual River North Summerfest will be held 6/22. This year's fest will have expended hours from 11:00 am to 7:00 pm, more food vendors, 3 bands and planned activities for children and dogs.

7. Philanthropy - Liaison and ECML Heather Vendel reviewed RNRA's support program and introduced representatives of one of our three sponsored organizations:

- a. Jacqueline Hayes & Cynthia Hirsch from H.E.L.P. (Help Ease Local Poverty) provided a Service Organization Profile and spoke to RNRAs continued support and involvement in their organization.

8. Local Development – Gene Rapaport presented that an update to the RNRA website now includes a downloadable development matrix and interactive map. Updates on the following developments:

- a. Parc Huron at 469 W. Huron – Lennar Development, pre-sale
- b. 501 N. Clark – Friedman Properties- 3 hotel complex
- c. Flair Tower at 214 W Erie – PD approved
- d. LaSalle, Illinois & Franklin – apartment development
- e. Franklin/Illinois – JDL apartment development, PD approved – preserves historic firehouse
- f. Chicago & Kingsbury: PD approved but no plans in place.
- g. Ronsley (Park Kingsbury): pre-sale, will be loft conversion.
- h. 757 Orleans: under construction
- i. Kingsbury & Illinois: PD approved for 46 story tower with 450 units. No plans have yet been unveiled.

River North Residents Association

Minutes of the 1st Quarterly Community Meeting of 2008

- j. Huron Club – 8 E. Huron – 47 unit condo, approved
 - k. 9 W. Erie – eco-friendly condo development, pending
 - l. Clark & Kinzie – Friedman Properties - 700 unit parking lot
9. Upcoming events
- a. CPD Terrorism Awareness Seminar
 - i. Thu Mar 27 – 9:00 pm – Navy Pier
 - b. RNDOA Spring DFA Cleanup
 - i. Sat Mar 29th – 10:00 am – Ohio Place Park
 - c. Beat 1831 CAPS Meeting
 - i. Thu April 3rd – 7:00 pm – Admiral’s Point – 645 Kingsbury
 - d. RNRA Executive Committee Meeting
 - i. Tue April 8th – 7:00 pm – Erie Cafe

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherry Vivar, RNRA Secretary