



Minutes of PHNA Board Meeting

LaSalle School

October 21, 2010, 7:00 p.m.

ATTENDEES:

Board Members:

Julia Healy, President

Dan Healy, Area 6 Rep

John Hammer, Area 1 Rep, Membership

Virginia Hammer, Secretary, Membership

Shannon Hickman, Area 5 Rep, Treasurer

Todd Hunsinger, Vice-President, Chair, Safety Committee

Laurie Lieman, Webmistress and Yahoo Listserv

Gene Solan, CANA Rep

City/County Elected Representatives, PHNA Committee Members, University/College Representatives, PHNA Members, Others:

Doug Bullock, Albany County Legislature; Leah Golby, 10th Ward Common Council Rep.; Anton Konev, 11th Ward Common Council Rep.; Tom Gebhardt, Univ. at Albany; David Mankad, College of St. Rose; Sarah Reginelli, City of Albany; Karen Johnson; Eileen Manning; Ken Baker; Jill Harbeck; Nancy Benedict

1.College of St. Rose student, Mike Buccaferro, informed the group of a pre-Halloween Trick or Treat in the college dorms being planned for area children October 27 by student members of the Council for Exceptional Children. Mike asked us to publicize the event.

2.Two representatives of the CDTA, Ross Farrell and Onicela Cedena, addressed the group re the initial stages of the proposed restructuring of bus routes in the Capital District. Decisions on which routes will be added, subtracted, expanded, etc. will be based on many factors. Needs and priorities are currently being gathered through meetings with stakeholders; visits to neighborhood meetings, tenant meetings, having interns ride buses and conduct surveys. These will determine such things as how many transfers underserved riders must take; distances people must walk to bus, etc; what improvements people are looking for. When the data has been collected and tabulated, plans call for large meetings: Arbor Hill, South End, Uptown; a plan will be designed and brought back to the large meetings; after one more level of review, it is hoped the final plan will be in place by May 2011 and the first round of service change, the City of Albany, will be implemented by August 2011.Crosstown service: length of, and number of routes, senior-friendly routes, shelters were among the issues of interest to this group.

3.Introduction of Attendees

4.No Minutes of September meeting with District Attorney Soares and Police Commissioner Krokoff.

5.Treasurer's report- \$1,200 balance

6.Membership Committee – 142 paid members

7. Security -Officer Rick Romand of the APD reported a number of larcenies during the month; reminded people to remove valuables from cars (GPS, phone, etc); lock cars, doors, secure windows. The APD has implemented a method of reducing time to write appearance tickets from 1 hour to 5-7 minutes.

Todd Hunsinger has spoken with Lt Tremblay re his part in Neighborhood Engagement Unit. Todd plans to meet with Mayor re removal of berm in Ridgefield Park. Neighbors want it gone; a hiding place for youngsters engaged in troublemaking.

8. Zoning- Leah Golby gave a progress report on the 4 story building –College of St. Rose dorm on Madison –looks like several buildings attached - looks like 3 story with gabled roof a la Center Square- attractive- parking on Yates- will have a store and café – occupancy: 220 beds, parking for 177.

9. Madison Ave Traffic Calming Project- Virginia Hammer reported it has passed Common Council after 6 years! \$750,000 will have to be raised, of which the first \$100,000 will be for a study. The College of St. Rose announced a donation of \$10,000. Funds may be donated to an escrow which will be administered by Leif Engstrom. Doug Bullock moved, M.A. Schrank seconded a donation of \$100 from the PHNA; discussion followed; the motion passed.

10.Halloween Neighborhood Cleanup- Students will assist per David Soares. UAlbany will also publicize the event as will PHNA on Website and Yahoo Group. City will provide supplies.

11.Tom Gebhardt Of SUNY – reported that e-mails are going to all students telling of expectations for behavior for Halloween; Business owners are participating in Midtown Neighborhood Watch; students guilty of infractions in neighborhood are being dealt with.

12.Report of Nominating Committee: (Julia Healy, Dan Healy, Marggie Skinner)

President: Todd Hunsinger

Vice President: Dan Healy

Secretary: Maryanne Schrank

Treasurer: Shannon Hickman

Slate adopted unanimously

Shannon Hickman thanked Julia Healy for her service as President.

13.Citizens for Public Transportation representative, Mrs. Nancy Brewer of Delmar, offered a public comment in support of the CDTA restructuring initiative.

14.Common Council Member Anton Konev announced the deadline to apply for one of 3 vacancies on the City Human Rights Commission. He also mentioned an effort in City Hall to save some of the cuts due to budget shortfalls via public/private partnership; the Albany Fire Department had presented their budget; he spoke with James Barba of Albany Medical Center re hiring more city residents .

15.Albany County Legislator, Doug Bullock, reported: Mike Breslin wants to close the nursing home but Doug Bullock believes it will remain open (opined the Ann Lee could be sold); Mike Breslin is calling for a 14% property tax increase (alternative could be savings that would be realized by moving offices to 112 State St from Russell Road.

16.Gene Solan-CANA Representative- announced the 11th Annual Neighborhood Works will occur December 4. The theme will be Code Enforcement.

Respectfully submitted,

X

Maryanne Schrank
Secretary