



RNA Community Meeting Minutes

April 28, 2025

7:00 p.m. at Salem Lutheran/Riverside Third Space (Hybrid: in-person via Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83025276168?pwd=WUZZXZKKys1aEdCTlQ1ZEtlEo0dz09>)

Board Members in attendance: Jeff Dewberry (President), Jeff Brown (Vice President), Becca Charlton (Secretary), Connor Eagleson (Treasurer), Jackson Fisher, Liam Durfee (virtual), Laurie Scudder

Board Members absent: Connor, Jackson

Welcome

RNA President Jeff Dewberry called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., welcomed residents and on-line participants, and introduced the RNA Board members in attendance.

Our agenda:

1. Reports from standing committees (Treasurer, Park, Parking, and Development, etc.)
2. Reports from our ad hoc committees (Placemaking)
3. New Business

Public Safety

BPD joined and shared that from their metrics, crime has decreased across the board. There were a few larcenies from auto and thefts in the area. One resident asked a question regarding a shooting on Saturday night, which BPD said was being investigated.

Treasurer's Report

Connor noted that he has been working with RNA committees to complete current grant expenses.

Friends of Riverside Park committee report (Jackson)

Jackson reported that planning for the summer concert series is ongoing. Concerts will be on the second Sundays of June-September at the gazebo. They're a great time for residents and friends to socialize with live music. There will be a food truck and ice cream truck, and RNA will sell beverages. Cooper's Chowhound, Littel Havana, and Miss Twist for the first concert in June.

New plants have been planted at several park entrance areas thanks to plants from MANTS. Looking into additional street trees along Key Hwy with the Forestry division and the City Arborist. If you have street trees that need trimming, please submit a 311 ticket or ask for assistance. Some residents have trimmed their own and hurt the trees.



“Red” Field House: Expect fencing to come down any day, likely this week. Awaiting details from BCRP on who will lock and unlock the bathrooms and storage areas and when.

Riverside Park Pool has been filled and BCRP is working to get the filtration tested and running for the upcoming season. If you see anyone besides BCRP workers in the pool area before Memorial Day, please call 911.

Additionally, he has been in contact with homeless services regarding a couple people spending nights in the park. Health and Human Services has been out recently in response.

Placemaking (Rich)

While behind schedule, the street banner fabrication order is in. While banners are being printed, awaiting final location approval from the City. The committee is awaiting final approval of locations from the City. We have submitted a \$5K grant proposal for the current cycle, which includes 8 new/additional banners and a proposal for funding outreach in order to start a new business council within Riverside.

Development (Jeff D)

Jeff noted that there have been no material updates since the last meeting. We are awaiting updates on work at the Harborview docks.

Jeff met with a developer who may be interested in developing Lot 7, next door to Little Havana. We don't have any details but will advocate for the neighborhood when there is some movement.

Parking

Jeff B announced that parking enforcement recently went to 24/7 enforcement. They are now using vans with license plate readers. We expect enforcement to be on an upward trend between this change and recent hiring. Next up for the residential parking permit program is the 300 block E Fort, 400 block E Randall. Anyone interested can email rpp@rnaparking.org.

300 block E Fort petitioned in, but some of the block is Childtime and otherwise unable to be marked, although it will be part of RPP. 400 E Randall is next. 1700 Battery also wants to be added although they don't have parking spots, but they want to be part of the RPP area. To keep it contiguous, we'd also recommend 100 block of Heath St. If you know someone who is willing to lead the petition on behalf of the block, please reach out. 24x7 enforcement now and working on additional automation options with plate readers. Anecdotally, enforcement is up as well, both here and in the stadium zones nearby.

New Business



Cadeen Grant, Enhanced Services Director from the South Baltimore Gateway Partnership (SBGP) shared a few updates:

- There is a nonprofit capacity building workshop this week, for anyone, don't have to live in or represent the district. This is a virtual opportunity.
- EdgiRewards Program live over the next few months to catch invasive species in Baltimore waterways. Check out their website for more info.

I <3 SoBo Day is this Sunday at BMI from about 9am-12pm.
There are a couple spots left for Domino Sugar tour on May 21.

There are still residents planting plants privately in the park. 1800 block Covington and ivy along the new field fences on the 1800 block of Johnson St.

Our May meeting will be a social rather than business meeting, at a local restaurant.

Adjournment

Jeff noted that neighbors should be on the lookout for a social in May, date/location TBD but it will be local! The meeting was adjourned by 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca Charlton

RNA Secretary

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