

RNA Community Meeting Minutes

June 30, 2025

7:00 p.m. at Salem Lutheran/Riverside Third Space (Hybrid: in-person via Zoom https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83025276168?pwd=WUIZZXZKKys1aEdCTIQ1ZEtlaEo0dz09)

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

Board Members absent: Laurie Scudder

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. He welcomed our two new board members to their first community meeting since March's election.

Our agenda:

- 1. Reports from standing committees (Treasurer, Park, Parking, and Development, etc.)
- 2. Special Guest Councilman Zac Blanchar
- 3. New Business

Public Safety

Sgt Rivera joined to provide an update from BPD: larceny, auto theft, shoplifting have increased, otherwise crimes are down in the area. He recommended residents consider getting package boxes for deliveries and clubs for their cars. He noted that authorities need \$1500 minimum in combined charges to charge porch theft as a felony. Please submit reports and share any videos that the police could use as evidence in a criminal case against local package thieves.

Resident questions:

Q: What to do about groups of adolescents doing drugs in the park?

A: Call 911; not 311. Could also call over to Digital Harbor to request resources if you believe they are high-schoolers in need of assistance.

Q: Are larcenies clustered in a specific location?

A: They're spread out across the neighborhood and nearby surrounding area.



Special Guest - Councilman Zac Blanchard

Zac shared details on the Housing Options and Opportunities Package which was introduced recently to increase options for housing across the City. This package includes 5 bills that work together towards the following goals:

- lower the cost of housing (ownership and renting)
- reduce homelessness
- help seniors age in place
- grow the city's population
- put the city on the path to lower property taxes

Councilman Blanchard took questions from residents in the room on the bills and the plan for implementation. Some noted concerns included trash pickup and parking.

Q: Regarding the package described above, what's relevant to Riverside?

A: Variances are currently hard to come by today; expect these will be easier to get. There is the potential for more basement apartments. And parking could be affected, although it isn't expected to be very impactful in this neighborhood.

Riverside Park Update

The first concert in June was successful in spite of a late breaking storm that cut it a bit short. The next concert is Sunday, July 13 at 5pm.

The pool is open and has been busy especially with the hot weather. While it is scheduled to be closed on Mondays, they have been opening on Mondays when they are Code Red due to weather. We're working with BCRP to minimize staff parking in the park.

As it is party season, we're also trying minimize pavilion renters illegally parking in the park.

BCRP is experimenting with the new field irrigation system and work continues to regulate the water amounts. The field house work is complete and final reviews are being completed. We are working to get hours on the public restrooms that are in the field house; BCRP will handle the locks.

- Q: What about the broken swing at the playground?
- A: A ticket has been submitted to replace/repair.
- Q: What are days/hours of operation for the inner harbor splash pad?
- A: We will need to reach out to the City to confirm.

Parking

The 300 block of E Fort just became eligible for our Residential Permit Parking (RPP). The 400 block of E Randall is working through the eligibility process for permit parking.

Q: What blocks are in the RPP area currently?

A: Mostly the blocks from Light east to Battery, especially around Fort and Randall, but also down Johnson.



New Business

None noted.

Adjournment

The next meeting is scheduled for July 28. The meeting was adjourned around 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca Charlton

RNA Secretary

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