

CARAG
Calhoun Area Residents Action Group
Monthly Neighborhood Meeting Minutes
Sept 19, 2006

Subject to Approval at the October 2006 CARAG Meeting

Board Members Attending: Jill Bode, Rick Bojko, Cindy Christian, Thatcher Imboden, Ellan Meyer, Bill Morton, Kay Nygaard-Graham, Aaron Rubenstein, and Howard Verson. (Absent: none)

This meeting was preceded by the annual CARAG potluck dinner.

Welcome: The CARAG Board is made up of volunteers who also volunteer time on other neighborhood committees and organizations. Scott Engel, the CARAG community coordinator, can be reached at 612-823-2520. CARAG is a democratic organization; membership and voting privileges are open to residents, property owners, and business owners in the neighborhood.

Election Candidates: Candidates in the upcoming state elections spoke to the meeting. Running for MN State Senate are: Sam Adriaens and Scott Dibble, and for MN State House: Frank Hornstein and Skyler Weinand.

Approve Agenda & Minutes: Motions were passed to approve the amended agenda and the August meeting minutes.

Treasurer's Report: (Cindy Christian) As of Aug 31, CARAG has \$12039.54 in the operations account, \$7106.80 in asset accounts. CD #4416 matures at the end of this month; a motion to reinvest this as a 6-month CD was approved unanimously. FY2007 CARAG Operations and NRP Administrative budgets were presented and approved unanimously.

The *UNW* Checking account balance as of Aug 2006 is \$5488.23; preparation of the August issue resulted in a net loss of \$466.22. A FY2007 *Uptown Neighborhood News* budget was presented and approved.

CARAG Board Elections: A flyer which had been distributed around the neighborhood was read aloud. The anonymously-written flyer disparaged the CARAG board and promoted late-night hours for liquor-serving establishments. There was no further discussion.

Nominations were opened for CARAG Board Elections. Nominations from the August meeting were: Jill Bode, Rick Bojko, Anna Matthes, Ellan Meyer, Bill Morton, Kay Nygaard-Graham, Dan Qualy, Aaron Rubenstein, and Howard Verson. Nominations from the September meeting: Skyler Weinand, Steven Eisenmenger, and Robert Serr. Each candidate was allowed 90 seconds for an introductory speech, and the balloting commenced.

Council Member Remington's Report: (Ralph Remington) Kim Malrick was introduced as Ralph's new aide. City-wide wi-fi access was approved by the council, and will be available by end of 2007. On Friday, Ralph will introduce a height moratorium to slow development in Uptown that will limit approval for any building outside of the existing zoning regulations. For information and to provide feedback on the proposed Southwest Transitway, visit: <http://southwesttransitway.org/>.

Ongoing opportunities include a topical discussion at "Breakfast with Ralph", Monday, Oct 16, 8 AM at The Egg and I, and open discussion on Mondays at Gigi's Cafe, 2-4 PM (call for an appointment). Coming up will be "Happy Hours with Ralph", dates to be announced. Ralph intends to begin a regular newsletter.

Ralph will oppose the nomination of Tim Dolan as Minneapolis Police Chief, as he doesn't think the selection process has been open. Regarding the licensing applications for AfterBar, Ralph stated that he has read the community comments, and will be meeting with the owner of the new restaurant to find some resolution with hours acceptable to the community, stating that "4 AM is not going to happen".

NRP Updates: (Cindy Christian) As part of the conclusion of NRP Phase I, a survey will be mailed neighborhood-wide to evaluate all Phase 1 programs.

Zoning: (Aaron Rubenstein) Two announcements: the AfterBar liquor license request will be heard at the city's Public Safety and Regulatory Services Committee meeting on Weds, Sept 27, 1:30 pm. A significantly scaled-down GRECO development project at Lyn/Lake was presented at the LHENA Zoning and Planning Committee meeting last week. The developers are looking for possible LHENA approval in October; Aaron has invited the developers to meet with CARAG as well.

Thanks to Board Members: Thanks were extended to the members of the CARAG Board, and in particular to those leaving the board as of this meeting.

Board Election Results: With 51 ballots cast, the members of the newly-elected CARAG board are: Jill Bode, Rick Bojko, Stephen Eisenmenger, Anna Mathes, Ellan Meyer, Bill Morton, Dan Qualy, Aaron Rubenstein, and Howard Verson.

Adjourn: Motion to adjourn passed unanimously.

Prior Board Action: In an earlier meeting, the CARAG board approved the personnel committee's annual performance evaluation and FY2007 salary for Scott Engel, CARAG Community Coordinator.