

CARAG
Calhoun Area Residents Action Group
Monthly Neighborhood Meeting Minutes
AUGUST 22, 2007

DRAFT: Subject to Approval at the September 2007 CARAG Meeting

Board Members Attending: Rick Bojko (Vice President), Stephen Eisenmenger (Secretary), Aaron Rubenstein, Howard Verson (President), Jill Bode and Anna Matthes, Bill Morton, Ellan Meyer, Dan Qualy

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.

Crime & Safety. Tom Thompson/Marie Przynski- MPD (Update) Crime overall is down, more burglaries in apartment buildings. The CARAG Stroll Patrol will be shaking apartment doors, City Ordinance requires 4 or more units must be locked. It's helpful to keep an eye out for your neighbors and knowing your community. Politically, Hennepin County was going to provide temporary lighting on 31st and 29th and extra police, but now they are not following through on their promise. Call your City Councilperson and County Commissioner to request that Hennepin County follow through on their promises. Hennepin County has over 1300 foreclosures and criminals are utilizing those structures for illegal activities. StarTribune.com has a good map so you can find out which properties are under foreclosure in your neighborhood.

Introductions & Announcements (Howard Verson)

Approve Consent Agenda, Howard Verson (Vote)

- Meeting Agenda
- Approve & **Sign** Minutes

CARAG Board Nominations (Vote) All current board members nominated themselves except for Stephen Eisenmenger, Jill Bode and Rick Bojko. Nominations were made for Aaron Rubenstein, Howard Verson, Anna Matthes, Bill Morton, Ellan Meyer and Dan Qualy.

Treasurer's Report: (Jill Bode) CARAG has \$13,868.11 in the bank account and \$7,106.80 in asset accounts. Total balance as of (JULY 30?) 6-30-07 is \$20,974.91. The Uptown Neighborhood News Profit for the month of July was \$64.78 (Approved)

NRP Updates, Scott Engel

- Proposed FY2008 Budget (Update)
- Phase II Participation Agreement (Update)
- Committee Updates (Update)

CARAG By-Laws Review, Rick Bojko (Discussion) The CARAG Constitution & Bylaws Revision Working Group has worked on the seventh round of changes. Draft #7 presented with a As Proposed document and a draft with the changes highlighted and a clean copy of a proposed constitution and bylaws. Contact Rick Bojko for questions, rjb5@cornell.edu, the current constitution and bylaws are posted at www.carag.org. There will be a motion called at the September CARAG meeting to end discussion. If that motion is approved, the changes would go to a vote at the October CARAG Meeting.

Motion to approve As Proposed bylaws and constitution were accepted as read. Unanimously approved.

Uptown & Lyn Lake Business Association, Bill Morten (Update) Lyn Lake didn't meet. Uptown Business Association has been moving and grooving with their new cracker jack Executive Director.

Zoning Committee Report, Aaron Rubenstein

- New Dance Studio Parking Variance, Colleen Day (Update) Planning to buy Al's Plumbing building and open a dance studio. Has been operating one in Northfield. Lives in CARAG.
- Calhoun Square has a new owner. Sounds like they will engage with the community on their plans.
- Uptown Small Area Plan meeting has been moved from September 20th to September 18th which is the same night as the CARAG Annual Meeting. (Subsequently, plan meeting date was changed.)

- Restaurant Miami (Vote) Aaron's letter opposing 2 a.m. closing, with Kay Naygaard-Graham's changes except the two sentences and replacing behave with function. Approved, 16-1.
- Committee Updates (Update)

Prior Board Action – Board reviewed and unanimously approved the Personnel Review for CARAG Staff person Scott Engel. Board Members present were Stephen Eisenmenger, Rick Bojko, Bill Morton, Howard Verson, Anna Matthes and Aaron Rubenstein.

Community Input & Announcements

Uptown Small Area Plan is available online and this is entering the final phase for public input.

Adjourn (Vote) Approved.

Upcoming Meetings & Events

*Next CARAG Neighborhood Meeting Tuesday, September 18, 2007 7pm @ Bryant Square Park (potluck @ 6pm)