

CARAG
Calhoun Area Residents Action Group
Annual Meeting Minutes
15 September 2009

Board Members Attending: John Darlington, Jeff Forester, Brendan Jordan, Anna Matthes, Maren Nowicki, Aaron Rubenstein (President), Scott Schiefelbein, Howard Verson

Welcome and Introductions: Aaron Rubenstein

CARAG's Annual Neighborhood Meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. outside in the Public Outdoor Performance Space (POPS) at Bryant Square Park (BSP). Members of the current CARAG Board introduced themselves. It was noted that this year's Annual Meeting would precede the Potluck. Rubenstein announced that over 350 NRP Phase II Planning Surveys have been returned so far; the deadline for submission has been extended to September 15. Survey forms were also available for completion at this meeting. While 70% of NRP Phase II funds must be directed toward housing-related programs, the remaining 30% may be directed toward other activities such as transportation projects, crime prevention, community beautification and other neighborhood priorities. CARAG is seeking neighborhood input via the Survey as to how all the funds should be spent. Toward this end, "topic tables" were set up nearby for neighbors to speak with CARAG Board members during the Potluck.

CARAG Year in Review: Aaron Rubenstein

On behalf of the CARAG neighborhood, Rubenstein extended thanks to several groups and individuals: CARAG Board members who have served over the past year; Scott Engel, for his nine years of service as CARAG Executive Coordinator; members of CARAG committees and volunteers; and to those who were instrumental in getting the Uptown Market up and running.

Treasurer's Report: Anna Matthes

Matthes noted that the Operations Report showed a balance of \$11,060.14 in bank accounts and \$10,920.31 in asset accounts as of August 31. The proposed CARAG Annual Budget for FY 2010 starts on October 1 and is modeled on those of recent years in terms of categories listed under Income and Expenses. A handout showed projected Income and Expenses for FY 2010 as compared to CARAG spending for fiscal years 2007, 2008 and 2009. The proposed budget presented in the handout was unbalanced, reflecting a projected deficit of \$256.00; the need to bring the budget into balance was noted. Matthes mentioned that the 2010 CARAG Super Sale line item under Income showed \$0 for FY 2010. In previous years, expenses related to the Sale have been paid out of the CARAG NRP account and income generated from Sale participation fees has been directed to the CARAG Operations account. For FY 2010 the income generated from Sale participation fees would remain in the NRP account in order to offset Sale expenses. In previous years Chilly Chili Fest expenses have been paid for out of CARAG Operations funds, with all proceeds directed to the Joyce Food Shelf. For FY 2010 some expenses would be deducted from the proceeds, with the remainder going to the Food Shelf. Motion, Seconded to approve the proposed CARAG Annual Budget for FY 2010 "as is", using reserve funds to meet projected expenses. Motion passed unanimously.

Executive Coordinator Scott Engel briefly discussed the proposed NRP Spending Budget for FY 2010, which totals \$39,300.00. The NRP handout depicted projected costs for FY 2010 as compared to actual spending for fiscal years 2005, 2006, 2007 and 2008 and budgeted expenses for FY 2009. Motion, Seconded to approve the NRP budget for FY 2010. Motion passed unanimously.

Matthes discussed the CARAG Operations Spending Budget for FY 2009, which to date shows that total expected income less total expected expenses comes to \$155.79.

Uptown Neighborhood News (UNN) Financial Report: Jill Bode

Bode reported that the UNN Balance Sheet shows assets of \$5,392.27 and liabilities (accounts payable) at \$1,102.39, with equity totaling \$4,289.88 as of August 31. The September issue of UNN is expected to show a net profit of \$1,020.73 (approximate). However, total net loss for FY 2009 amounts to \$1,195.50. Previous years' revenues continue to help cover operating losses.

CARAG Board of Directors Elections: Aaron Rubenstein

Rubenstein noted that nominations for CARAG's Board of Directors were taken at August's CARAG Meeting, but were still open at tonight's Annual Meeting. Candidates Zack Farley and Julie Cohen were nominated in August. Current CARAG Board members seeking re-election were John Darlington, Jeff Forester, Brendan Jordan, Anna Matthes, Aaron Rubenstein and Howard Verson. Lisa Ganser, though unable to attend the Annual Meeting, asked that her name be put forward for nomination. Motion, Seconded to accept the entire slate of nine candidates by acclamation. Motion carried unanimously.

City Candidate Introductions (Presentations)

Candidates running for 10th Ward City Council and the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board District 6 were invited to introduce themselves. City Council candidates Dan Alvin (Independence), Meg Tuthill (DFL) and Kim Vlaisavljevich (Independent) gave brief presentations. District 6 Park Board candidates Brad Bourn, Meg Fournay and Steven Jecha also spoke briefly. It was noted that with ranked choice voting, voters will be able to cast their votes for up to 3 candidates for each position.

Closing Comments: Aaron Rubenstein

Those who will serve on the CARAG Board of Directors for 2010 were asked to stand for a round of applause. Rubenstein extended thanks to the band, "The Wrong Omar", for providing the music and to Jill Bode and Mark Hillyer for providing table decorations for the Potluck. Further announcements followed:

- The annual Household Hazardous Waste Collection is scheduled for Saturday, September 26
- The last Uptown Market for this year will be held on Sunday, September 20
- The CARAG Architecture Walking Tour will take place on Saturday, October 3
- The next CARAG meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 20

Adjourn

Motion, Seconded to adjourn the Annual Meeting at 7:25 p.m. Motion Approved.

After CARAG's Annual Meeting, the traditional Potluck supper was held outdoors with live music provided by "The Wrong Omar" performing in the BSP Public Outdoor Performance Space (POPS).

Minutes recorded and submitted by Maren Nowicki