



RNA Community Meeting Agenda

February 24, 2025

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

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83025276168?pwd=WUIZZXZKKys1aEdCTlQ1ZEtlEo0dz09>)

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

Welcome

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

Our agenda:

1. Reports from Baltimore City Police Department and our standing committees (the Park, Parking, and Development)
2. Special guest Comptroller of Baltimore City, Bill Henry
3. Reports from our ad hoc committees (Nominating)
4. Election of Board
5. New Business

Report from BCPD (BPD)

Officer Strand joined the meeting, standing in for Officer Cordoza. She reported minimal crime in the area over the last 30 days. She recommended residents reach out to BPD for support in getting issues resolved if responses to 311 reports are not timely, noting that responses are often expedited when coming directly from BPD.

Questions or more information can be requested at RNABaltimore@gmail.com or Raul.Rivera@baltimorepolice.org.

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. He also shared that the students from St. Ignatius are continuing to help out with park cleanup and planting trees.

Parking (Jeff Brown)

Jeff noted that while there have been lots of delays for last several months, signposts started to be put in two Fridays ago for blocks awaiting residential parking permit signage. RNA didn't get



a lot of notice, so some residents were concerned they might get citations before all permits were secured and displayed. There has been no evidence of this happening yet, but for any questions or concerns reach out to Jeff at rpp@rnaparking.org. Additional blocks that are adjacent to current RPP blocks may petition to opt in at this time. Watch for additional info on RNA's social media or get in touch.

Development (Rich)

Rich noted that there have been no material updates since the last RNA Community Meeting. Jeff Dewberry will be the point person on Development going forward.

Special Guest (Baltimore City Comptroller Bill Henry)

Bill Henry greeted residents, saying he was happy to run unopposed last year for a second term. He's excited to check in now with communities to discuss the role of Comptroller and answer questions. Bill shared that contrary to much public belief, the Baltimore City Comptroller is not actually in control of City money/funding; since the 1960s most funding is under Mayoral control under the Department of Finance. Today, the Comptroller is more of a "Watchdog" to provide oversight to the Mayor, audit decisions and programming, etc.

Bill offered some Q&A time:

Q: What's something you're concerned about currently?

A: Procurement "P" Cards are credit cards owned by the City Agencies. P-Cards are still under Dept of Finance; there is concern that some things are getting paid out twice, on both the Dept of Finance and Accounts Payable sides

Q: Is P-Card spending being audited?

A: Not currently. Maybe need to do an official audit

Q: Perspective on BGE bills in the news lately? Is it because City conduits switched to BGE in the last year or two?

A: Senator Bill Ferguson gave a nice description at the recent District 46 Town Hall. TLDR; there is an impact from the conduit situation but more directly related to the state of the energy market and how BGE gets their power.

Q: How do we get out of the cycle of lack of funding (e.g. RPP sign posts)?

A: In the past, different Departments (both working for the Mayor) would point fingers; now Comptroller can jump in and bring issues in Departments to light. Procurement has been a dumpster fire, but there is hope that the new director is starting to figure things out. That's another thing Comptroller is barking about, City has been unable to provide a list of past Emergency Procurements.

Q: We heard there were issues with technology when you took office. Are there still things you need?



A: We have digitized the Board of Estimates process, an estimate comes in and gets processed digitally and is available for public review online. We also got OpenCheckbook up and running. In order to complete this, we got money to digitize BoE records back to 2010 and we would like to get back to 2000. We believe that would satisfy the majority of searches. This term is mostly focused on systems, rather than digital/analog tools. Focus is on processes and who the decision makers are.

Bill closed, thanking residents for the conversation and Rich for his service as RNA's President for the last few years.

Nominating Committee (Rich)

The Nominating Committee of Jeff Brown, Becca Charlton, and Rich Badmington presented two nominees at last month's meeting: Liam Durfee and Laurie Scudder.

The bylaws state that: "RNA always shall have five, seven, or nine Directors as determined from time to time by the Board." and "At the February Community Membership Meeting, all Members in good standing may vote, in the manner determined by the Board of Directors."

All members of the current Board, with the exception of Rich, would like to return to the board, so, the seven individuals nominated for election tonight are:

Jeff Brown, Becca Charlton, Jeff Dewberry, Liam Durfee, Connor Eagleson, Jackson Fisher, and Laurie Scudder.

Election (Rich)

Rich briefly reintroduced the new candidates and asked if there were any questions. Hearing none, and given that nominations are closed and we had seven nominees for seven seats, Rich asked the room to approve the full slate by unanimous consent. Hearing no objections, he welcomed the newly elected Board members and thanked them for their service.

He noted that the bylaws stipulate that the new Board shall elect officers, which will take place immediately following this meeting.

New Business

Jeff La Noue from South Baltimore Gateway Partnership (SBGP), which has supported several grants in the local area, noted that SBGP funded the new soccer/lacrosse goals out in Riverside Park. He shared that in the near future they will be using Enhanced Services funding to start cleaning the south side of Key Hwy, and also the portion of Key Hwy adjacent to the I-95 ramps North/South near the cruise line.

He recommended neighbors reach out to RNA with ideas for grant proposals to take advantage of additional funding.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.



Riverside
Neighborhood
Association

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Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca Charlton

RNA Secretary

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