

Grove Place Association
Monthly Meeting Minutes
March 17, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 4:10pm by President Kimberly Russell. Thirty members were in attendance, and Kim held 28 voting proxies, creating a quorum under current By-Laws.

Bob Keck, V.P., reviewed the proposed changes to our by-laws, the most important of which was to modify the definition of a "quorum" from 50% of all members to 25% of voting members present in person or by proxy. John Goldman proposed an amendment to define a Super-majority" for such purposes as taking a public position on a civic matter, from 90% of those present in person to 75%. The amendment passed and the changes to our by-laws were then passed.

Megan DeFranco reported on the March Membership Committee meeting. Our current focus is on our information, and we will be working to update and improve our member database. Carlos will be working on a map showing where residence live, and he is also asking that GRA members submit a photograph to him for inclusion in the protected, member's only section of our website. This is encouraged but voluntary. We will also be improving the format and use of our Facebook Page.

Scott Zorn, for the Social Committee, reported that our initial networking event at Unter Biergarten last Wednesday was a huge success. Kim reminded all that the 2019 Music Hall of fame Induction Ceremony will be held on April 28th.

Jim Martin, for the Development Committee, reported on several property matters. The old bakery building sold at auction for \$79,000 plus \$10,000 for the lot to its current owner. The situation with 58 University Ave. continues. No issues have been resolved, but Jim, Suzanne, and Bob K. will be meeting with Mr. Dwyer in a few days to learn what is happening.

For the Arts Committee, Roz Goldman reported no news on the trash receptacle design by Josh Owen, or the open space on Scio Street.

Steve Whitman shared the good news that the Grove Place Jazz Project has begun anew at the Rochester Music Hall of Fame site on the corner of Gibbs and East Avenue. It will run at least until the Jazz festival in late June. The folks at the Hall of fame were very impressed with what they saw and heard.

Treasurer rick McGrath reported no changes to our financial position with a checking account balance of \$5,748.35.

Suzanne reminded all that the next C-4 meeting is this coming Wednesday at 5pm at Grace Road Church in the Temple Building.

Our April meeting will be one week early – April 14th – due to Easter falling on our usual third Sunday.

Jim Dozer, Eastman School of Music, gave an updated presentation on “Arts in the Loop – Connecting Creative Resources to Assist Downtown Revitalization.” Rochester has a thriving fine arts scene. Main Street should be a connector but is currently an inhibitor. January, the effort was named “Arts in the Loop”. During 2017, a review of five cities began: Pittsburgh, Grand Rapids, Minneapolis, Nashville, and Brooklyn. The working group has visited all these cities except Brooklyn. They are designing a symposium to bring what they’ve learned to Rochester. Their executive committee includes representatives from the City, Eastman School, GeVa, RIT, Andy Gallina, Shawn Dunwoody, and Mark Iacona.

Our County Legislator then introduced himself to the group.

Neil Shier gave a presentation on the Joseph Avenue Arts and Culture Alliance. He had many inspiring stories of revitalization through the arts along this old city corridor and also the beginnings of the adaptive reuse of the former Congregation B’nai Israel at 696 Joseph Ave. This group sponsors 21 arts programs annual to a community of 100,000 residents.

During our Open Forum:

John Lovenheim expressed his surprise and sadness over the closing of Hart’s Market. Sandy Mayer and Bob Keck spoke about proxy voting. Book Club meets at Barbara Wager’s home Tuesday at 7pm.

The meeting adjourned at 5:30pm. A reception was held at the Community Room at Charlotte Square.

Respectfully submitted,

Carlos Mercado

Carlos H. Mercado, Jr.
Secretary