

Highland Park Neighborhood Association
Board Meeting Minutes, November 20, 2024

In Attendance	Absent
Bob Thompson, Chair Roger Ramsay, Treasurer Roxanne Townsend, Communications Stacey Bershod, North Section Leader Larry O’Heron, South Section Leader Glen Coykendahl, East Section Leader Tom Slothower, At Large Katie Shaw, At Large	Mike Thompson, Highland Hospital liaison

Agenda

1. Approval of September 2024 Board Minutes – Roger moved to accept, Stacie 2nd, approved unanimously

2. Treasurer’s Report – Roger
 - a. Both September 2024 and October 2024 financial reports were reviewed. Bob moved to accept both month’s reports, Glen 2nd, 7 yes and 1 not – reports approved
 - b. Question discussed: Is there concern over the current HPNA overall account balance? It is getting low but OK right now. The HPNA Board has not defined a low balance point for the association.
 - c. The new grant process for city funds to the neighborhoods is still undefined and not yet available.

3. Communications – Roxanne
 - a. Promotion of events
 - i. S. Clinton sign board: We still do not know who owns the land where this is located. It may be a forever wild area associated with the condo development next to it. Continue to update this sign for events. Should make a couple other keys. We currently only have one set. Roger currently manages this sign and will pass on key and letters when he travels south for a few months.
 - ii. Ellwanger and Barry Park Kiosk: Bob and Roxanne have keys for the kiosk. The kiosk is updated with pics of events and flyers for upcoming events. One side is a more permanent history display.
 - b. Website
 - i. Look into longer term GoDaddy license to see if there’s a savings versus the current 2-year license.
 - ii. Update the website with a city water testing link. Bob will send info to Roxanne.

4. Fourth Quarter General Neighborhood Meeting review
 - a. Good location (Artisan Church)
 - b. Limit speakers to 20 minutes each

- c. Highland Park Reservoir compliance – no more deferments available – 3 options currently under consideration – Should there be a separate neighborhood meeting about this at a future date?

5. PCIC – Sector 6 & 7 Meeting, November 13, 2024

PCIC Meeting for Sectors 6/7 (Nov 13, 2024)

Attendees:

Capt. Elwood RPD, RPD, Goodman Section
Lt Rob Wilson (Crime Prevention Officer)
Larry O'Heron – HPNA
Bob Thompson – HPNA
Linda Baier - Azalea NA
Marianne Pastecki - ABC / Park Ave
Joe McElveney - NOTA NA
Gary Domenico - ABC Streets
Daniel Jones - citizen Upper Monroe
Judy Hay – Swillburg
Joan Lindberg - Lilac NA
Colleen McCarthy - Lock 66
Jennifer Posey - South Wedge Planning Committee

Goodman Section Crime Stats:

The Goodman section covers approximately 40% of the city. This PCIC meeting covers neighborhoods that represent approximately 20% of the city.

- General crime rates are about the same year-to-year.
- KIAs/Hyundais are susceptible again. This is an up-and-down problem.

HPNA only (over the past thirty days)

Motor Vehicle Theft: Five in HPNA. Four in the first half of November. Three were from a parking lot, one from the street and one unspecified. Don't leave car fobs in the vehicle. No surprise that Kia/Hyundai owners must be especially vigilant. Not going to mention it here, but a new workaround the recently patched fixes has been discovered. Bottom line: Hyundai & Kia owners must be super, super careful with their cars. Most cars are recovered, having been stolen for joy rides.

Vehicle larcenies: Most frequent crime reported. Easiest for a perp to commit. Keep car doors locked. Don't keep valuables in car, and especially in-sight. Don't leave valuables in cars. Lock doors and windows.

Various larcenies: Have packages delivered to office or neighbor or over fence.

Southeast Neighborhood Service Center: Rep not present tonight. 428-7640 if you have questions. Call during normal business hours.

General topics:

Discussion about response times. Lt Wilson will see what he can find out. The stats are inside another organization. Supervisors monitor response time, but not in detail; they are more concerned about response times "at the crisis of the moment".

Swillburg and ABC would like to have an easier procedure to walk PAC-TAC, such as issuing vests and not needing an officer to walk with us. Lt Wilson understands the relative quiet of the neighborhoods, and is considering some steps, but does prefer that an officer be available, if needed.

Have you written down the serial numbers of major appliances, electronics, etc? These are extremely useful to the RPD as they query pawn shops, etc during the investigation.

RPD Crime Map: If you want to pull up the RPD crime stats, go to the crime map website. It is fairly up to date, depending on the nature of the crime report. The best way to get to it is to do a web search on "RPD Public Crime Map" and look for a link to www.arcgis.com

6. NBN6 – no updates at this time

7. Other / New Business

a) 2025 Initiatives

- a. Historic District possibly – Start with finding the overall historic district map that the City of Rochester commissioned Landmark to create several years ago. This should indicate if the "triangle" of streets behind the Little Theater is within a possible historic district or not.

Bob is working with the Western NY Historical Society to see where this section of HPNA would fall as an historic district and to get a general cost estimate for a project.

- b. Street Signs – Requesting green signs with white lettering. Larry has sent a request for quote to the county so we can decide how to proceed.
- c. BoulevART – Roxanne suggests that all major events hosted by HPNA start with a non-board member volunteering to be the chairperson of a committee dedicated to organizing the event. One or more HPNA Board members should be on the committee to support the event and help to acquire funding if needed.

For a long time now, the HPNA Board has not had the capacity to fully manage these big events and it's caused a lot of unnecessary stress for members. Roxanne feels that if the HPNA neighbors are not willing to be more active as volunteers, then the events should be set aside.

- d. Street Lights within HPN – Glen is continuing to investigate how the neighborhood can have better ascetic, for the neighborhood, lighting when street lamps are replaced. When one lamp burns out on a street, the city replaces the entire street at that time.

- e. Digital Bill Boards along 490 – The group that want to install these are trying to rush in the approvals as the new city zoning will not allow them. Bob is participating in a group of combined neighborhoods that are opposing these installations.
- b) PacTac – Five additional people have signed up within HPNA to walk PacTac. All have completed training but have yet to have the training walk with an RPD officer. Larry will be creating a schedule that includes everyone to present to RPD to encourage getting the training walks scheduled.
- c) Former Colgate Divinity Property – The catering business that is under contract to manage the event portion of the property is currently in financial trouble and will likely have to sell the catering business. The current owner has applied to for National Register Historic designation for Hope Lodge, the President’s house, and the old dorm buildings.
- d) By Laws – The updates to the HPNA By Laws need to be added to the website and the shared drive. Roger will send these updates to the state as required.
- e) Neighborhood E-Newsletter – Katie volunteered to look into reviving the HPNA e-newsletter.
- f) First Quarter General Neighborhood Meeting / Elections
 - a. A date will be selected for the next General Meeting sometime in January, 2025 at which time we will hold elections for Chair and Treasurer for a new two-year term.
 - b. Volunteers for the Vice Chair and Secretary need to be found. A Volunteer Coordinator might help with overall volunteering.
 - c. Would the Buy Nothing/Sell Nothing FB group be a good resource to request that people give the gift of time to the neighborhood?
- g) 2025 Budget, Fundraising, and Membership
 - a. Meetings will be set up in 2025 to address these items. 1) 2025 Planning and Budgetary Meeting. 2) Advisory Board Meeting
- h) Discussion regarding de-centralized HPNA Information
 - a. Roger and Mike Thompson are still working on transferring their past HPNA files to an external drive so that the information can be store on the HPNA shared Google Drive.
- i) Roger moved to adjourn the November HPNA Board Meeting. Glen 2nd. Unanimous Yes.