

RIVER PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
Board Meeting Notes
Thursday, July 17th, 2025
7:30 pm

1. **Roll Call and Agenda Approval** – Meeting came to order, a quorum was established, and the agenda was approved.
2. **Neighborhood Watch Update** – Rex Hescock

Rex shared that an assault was reported on the 5400 Block of Sandburg Drive approximately three weeks ago. The Committee discussed that a police report was made.

Committee members discussed the best way for neighbors to report crimes and neighborhood issues. Should they contact Rex, or another Neighborhood Watch resource? Rex confirmed that neighbors can contact him directly to keep RPNA apprised of neighborhood issues, however, neighbors should always contact the police in the event of an emergency/non-emergency, or to generate a police report.

In 2021 the Buffalo Chips spray painted the River Park roadways without permission. The RPNA Board brought the vandalism to the Buffalo Chips attention, and the Buffalo Chips committed to use other means to mark their races, such as cones or chalk paint.

Board Members shared that, in the days before the 4th of July event, a member of the Buffalo Chips again spray painted numbers with permanent spray paint onto the street in front of several homes throughout River Park. One neighbor observed that their car was damaged from over spray. A neighbor called 311, and filed a police report for vandalism. It is illegal to spray paint public streets without a permit. This act is considered vandalism, and can lead to criminal charges. Graffiti, which includes unauthorized markings on public or private property, is prohibited.

3. **4th of July Events Debrief** – Lisa Cirill

Lisa began by thanking RPNA Board members for an increased level of participation at the event this past year. Board member participation was hugely helpful in ensuring the success of the event.

Lisa shared a number of lessons learned and ideas for next year, including the following:

- a. **City Permitting and Traffic Plans**

Lisa shared that permitting is becoming a more costly and arduous effort. Additionally, members of the City shared that, beginning next year, a detailed traffic plan drafted by a Traffic Engineer would be required. The Committee discussed that, as a 501c(3) organization, there are not funds available to pay for this type of service, and that RPNA would look to the City for assistance.

b. Buffalo Chips Race

The Buffalo Chips runs are under new leadership. The new coordinator met with Lisa approximately 1.5 weeks before the event, indicating that they changed the route of the race. Lisa worked with the Coordinator to resolve location conflicts before the event began. Among the issues with the Buffalo Chips race, the race runners did not use the porta potties provided, but rather, used the limited Glenn Hall toilets. The confusion with the runners' race route caused a 30-minute delay for the subsequent activities, including the Car and Firecracker parades. Lisa proposes relocating the Buffalo Chips' race to start and finish at Scottish Rite, to require race participants to park at Scottish Rite, and to limit the race length to three miles. For the past few years, the route for Buffalo Chips 4th of July Run has caused conflicts with, and caused delays in River Parks planned 4th of July events. RPNA will be requesting a meeting with the Buffalo Chips to discuss solutions.

c. Food Vendors

RPNA attempted to host 5 food trucks for the 4th of July events. However, the City would not approve more than 4 without a fire inspection. Lisa suggested for RPNA to continue limiting the count of food vendors to four (4) maximum; limiting to this count will avoid a costly fire inspection.

d. Road Closures and Traffic Problems

Lisa shared that, during the event, a Ford F150 drove through a barricade to exit Camelia through a closed street. She shared that a child was briefly in harm's way as the truck backed up to exit through the proper route.

4. RPNA Membership Update – Joe Thompson

Joe reported that membership is up to 562, the highest it has been in over a year. 12 neighbors became members during the 4th of July event. Revenue from memberships is up by almost \$1,000 over last year at this point. The Committee asked whether the new auto-renewal feature is helping; Joe responded affirmatively. The Committee asked how much swag was sold at the 4th of July and in the weeks afterward. Joe and Fatima shared that they will compile that data and send out an updated breakdown, but previewed that it was roughly \$620 worth of swag. The Committee discussed that the new RPNA bags and shirts have been positively received by the neighborhood.

5. RP Review Update – Inna Tysoe

Inna provided an overview of topics included in the forthcoming RP Review, including an RPNA Elections article, a profile on Councilman Phil Pluckebaum, and a recap on the 4th of July. This issue will also include updates on neighborhood races (Susan B. Anthony, Buffalo Stampede), Garden Club updates, Mother's Club updates, the Arts in River Park Festival, and 2025-26 River Park History Calendars.

The Committee recommended a new RP Review section to welcome and recognize new RPNA members, as long as these individuals are approving of having their names published. Joe confirmed that a waiver could be sent to new members through Wild Apricot.

6. Additional Items – Events Committee

An e-mail was sent by Kevin Glaser, from the River Park Marching Musicians, thanking the RPNA for the opportunity to perform at the 4th of July. Kevin thanked RPNA for the donation to the band; RPNA's generosity helped to cover expenses of instruments and music. Kevin shared that the band is looking forward to performing again next year.

7.

Adjourn – RPNA Board members welcome all current, new, and prospective neighborhood association members to attend next month's RPNA Board meeting on Thursday, August 21st at 7:30 pm at the Presbyterian Church. River Park community members can reach out to the RPNA at sacramentorpna@gmail.com.

Sign up for RPNA's E-mails!

Go to www.riverparksacramento.org, scroll to the bottom, enter your e-mail address and hit "subscribe" Contact RPNA at sacramentorpna@gmail.com

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residents at no charge.