

RIVER PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
Board Meeting Notes
February 19th, 2026
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** – Karla Mendoza on behalf of Rex Hescock

Karla shared about a recent incident involving a River Park resident who was detained, subsequently arrested, and is facing federal felony charges for attempting to enter a school mass while carrying a loaded firearm. The individual was disarmed by an off-duty detective serving as a parent volunteer outside St. Mary’s Catholic Church. Following the incident, multiple patrol units responded to the area near Moddison Avenue and Breuner Avenue. The Board briefly discussed the matter.

3. **2026 4th of July Events** – Lisa Cirill

The Buffalo Chips will not host their 4th of July run this year, resulting in the loss of associated resources (e.g., porta potties and police presence). These services would also not be provided if the event proceeds without a permit. Historically, permitting became necessary when the Buffalo Chips race was incorporated into the event. The City now requires hiring a Transportation Engineer as part of the permit process.

Event Planning Updates:

Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency (SAFCA) is managing street repaving; completion through Carlson is expected before July 4. Planning is underway for food trucks and Arts & Crafts vendors; vendor tables may return pending construction completion near Glenn Hall. The Mother’s Club potentially might not staff game tables, but will participate in the parade.

Volunteer Needs:

Approximately 20 additional volunteers are needed this year, especially with the potential absence of the Mother’s Club. Lisa reported that volunteer outreach is in progress (Girl Scouts, Sacramento State, Caleb Greenwood, and others).

Logistics Without Permit:

Lisa requested Board approval to forego obtaining a permit this year. The Board discussed the logistics of operating 4th of July events without a permit. Volunteer “street closure guardians” will be needed, especially at the corner of Camellia and Carlson. Trucks may be used as barricades. A-frames must be purchased/rented, posted, and distributed, which will require 4-5 volunteers. Trash disposal will require volunteers. The availability of Glen Hall restrooms and sprinkler shut-off were both confirmed.

Budget:

Lisa estimated a budget needs of \$5,500 for 2026.

Additional Notes:

Lisa asked the Board to consider a future long-term purchase of tables and chairs in lieu of annual renting.

Open Question from Board:

If a permit is obtained, what services (police, sanitation, equipment) would be included and at what cost?

4. RPNA Budget and Financials – Colin Jones**Tax Filing:**

Colin shared that taxes were not filed for 2024. Colin will complete tax filings for 2024 and 2025.

Banking & Account Access:

Colin is currently the sole account holder. A small business account must be opened to add users with tiered permissions. Joe (full access) and Karla (read-only) volunteered to be added.

Financial Overview:

Colin reported that the organization is financially stable with strong reserves. The Board discussed whether maintaining ~\$30K in reserves is appropriate.

Budget Considerations:

The Board discussed evaluating insurance costs for potential savings. The Board also discussed a consideration for increased community spending, in alignment with Board priorities. Several Board members have previously shared that RPNA historically spent money annually on community initiatives.

Fundraising & Revenue:

Fatima shared that she is exploring the possibility of increasing RP Review advertising rates. She also shared that additional sponsorships are being sought, with a target of an additional \$1,000 for this year, and with a focus on local businesses and corporate connections. Fatima and Joe requested to add \$500 to the 2026 budget for membership recruitment, including door-to-door outreach.

Community Initiatives:

Joe and Fatima proposed the reintroduction of “New Neighbor” welcome baskets. Karla will obtain a list of new River Park residents. Fatima will research costs per unit for these baskets. MJ offered to assist with welcome basket assembly.

Administrative:

Colin requested to add a small Treasurer expense line item (~\$100) for minor administrative expenses across the year.

Spring General Meeting Promotion:

The Board discussed expenses related to the April 18 Spring General Meeting. A-frames and banners will be deployed in mid-March, which will require a minor expense. MJ and Elise volunteered to assist with posting.

Next Steps:

The Board will review and vote on budget approval at the next meeting.

5. Spring General Meeting – Elise Drakes

Elise shared that she had planned to propose ideas to give advanced awareness to neighborhood of the Spring General Meeting, scheduled for April 18, such as door flyers; however, Elise and the Board agreed that the aforementioned banners and A-Frames will be more efficient. The Board discussed posting at the Yermol Park and at other prominent street corners. The Board will ask Rex to post a digital sign at Caleb Greenwood.

The Board will discuss Spring Meeting preparation further at the next RPNA Board meeting on March 19th.

6. Children’s Entrepreneur Market – Fatima Thompson

At the time of the Board meeting, the Children’s Entrepreneur Market was scheduled to occur on June 19th from 5-8pm. However, after consulting with the Food Truck Mania calendar and other events, the date was updated to **Friday, May 15th**.

Fatima confirmed with the organizer of the Children’s Entrepreneur Market will carry insurance, take care of all pickup, loading, and organization of the event. Approximately 50-60 booths are planned for this event, with participation from children between the ages of 6 and 18. At these markets, children can sell their product and manage their transactions.

7. Food Truck Mania – Karla Mendoza

Karla shared that this year’s Food Truck Mania program will run from April through October, every 3rd Friday at 5pm. The transition of River Park’s contact is under way, due to the retirement of the neighborhood’s primary contact. An introduction to the new CEO is pending.

8. Membership Update – Joe Thompson

Joe reported that RPNA currently has 518 paid members, a slight decrease from January’s total of 521 and below last February’s count of 573. Despite this dip, overall membership remains up by approximately 50 members year-over-year. While revenue was down in January, it has begun to recover slightly this month. Joe recommended initiating a targeted membership drive, noting that many typical renewals have not yet come through.

During this discussion, Lisa offered to renew her membership, and the Board subsequently voted unanimously to reinstate her as a Board member. Welcome back, Lisa!

9. RP Review Update – Karla Mendoza on behalf of Inna Tysoe

Karla provided an update on upcoming content for the RP Review. Planned features include a profile on Janet Mason, a District 4 update, youth sports coverage (soccer and baseball), and an announcement that the Garden Tour will be on hiatus this year. Additional content will highlight the Garden Club, Tree Canopy efforts, RP Pets, and Food Truck Mania. Lisa volunteered to contribute an article focused on recruiting volunteers for the 4th of July event, with an emphasis on the expanded and unique volunteer needs this year.

10. Mayor McCarty's Office Update

Updates from the Mayor McCarty's Office included an upcoming Book Fair at the Scottish Rite and the recent release of the Mayor's Six-Point Plan for unsheltered homelessness. The Office will coordinate with its communications director to share the plan with the River Park Neighborhood Association for broader distribution via the website and social media. The Board also discussed extending an invitation to the Mayor to attend the 4th of July event. It was noted that River Park's celebration has grown in scale and is highly regarded, even surpassing similar events in nearby neighborhoods. An additional parade idea was discussed, involving decorated golf carts to be featured at the end of the children's parade.

11. Councilmember Phil Pluckebaum's Office Update

Councilmember Pluckebaum's office shared that the City is currently developing its budget, with adoption anticipated in May or June at the start of the new fiscal year. Due to financial constraints, layoffs within the Police and Fire Departments are expected. However, multiple opportunities for public input will be provided throughout the budgeting process, and updates will continue to be shared with the Board. Additionally, a fraternal organization has reached out to inquire about potential participation or sponsorship opportunities for the 4th of July event.

Adjourn – RPNA Board members welcome all current, new, and prospective neighborhood association members to attend next month's RPNA Board meeting on Thursday, March 19th 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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