

## **TRRG Board Meeting, December 15th, 2016**

TRRG Board Members present: Ruth Beeker, Oscar Gandy, Kristine Yarter, Don Ijams, William Ford, Tina Pacheco, Lisa Jones, JD Garcia, Bonnie Poulos, Barbara Lehmann

Ruth Beeker called the meeting to order at 5:02 PM. The time and date for the next Board meeting were adjusted to 2/2/2017 at 5:20 - 6:50 PM.

As the purpose of this meeting was to discuss particular points related to TRRG Bylaws, Board member Lisa Jones managed the discussion on behalf of the Bylaws Subcommittee. The bylaws revision process is ongoing work that will attempt to incorporate the suggestions from this meeting for further review, discussion and decisions at the February board meeting, heading for recommendations for adoption at the April 29, 2017 Annual Meeting.

### **Electronic Decision Making and the Amount of Time Required for Notice and Documentation**

Frequently, last minute items of interest to TRRG arise, including late documentation posted as part of Mayor & Council proceedings. TRRG's reaction needs to be rapidly produced but carefully considered and agreed to by the Board, in many cases.

The group agreed that minimizing the use of email for policy making was desirable, but that 24 hour notice of request for input or agreement was necessary on occasion. Such requests should be marked URGENT to be sure that they stand out from other email in the inbox. It was also suggested that use of electronic means closer to face-to-face for interaction on some issues should be explored.

### **Committee Establishment and Function**

How TRRG gets things done has been an item of discussion since the beginning. The relationship of committees to the Board has been of particular interest lately. Who speaks for TRRG and how the Board can maintain sufficient control of organizational initiatives has been a central focus.

It was noted that many of the individuals within TRRG ad-hoc committees have considerable outside or personal experience with committee topics. We need to decide to what extent we want to "tie our hands" and limit our ability to do work vis-a-vis getting Board approval for the steps involved. Code Enforcement was identified as a good example of how some of our suggestions managed to transform the city governance processes involved, with simple periodic reporting to the Board. The actual process of doing work in TRRG frequently involves interaction with a variety of city actors, talking about how the organization does its work and trying to bring about lasting change.

This topic is a difficult area for TRRG and will continue to be considered, especially as a Policy and Procedures Manual is developed.

Other items to be considered as the Policy and Procedures Manual is developed include:

- how levels of TRRG involvement are handled (Study/Action, Monitor, Support), by the committee and by the board,
- how often and under what circumstances the committee reports to the board,
- how membership on committees is managed, and
- how committee activities are communicated to the public

## **Defining Membership**

The issue discussed was whether having dues paid should be a factor in being an active member. The general sense is that TRRG's treasurer should send all members a bill at the time for renewal. Whether members pay or not should be up to them. Bill everyone regularly. Keep the pressure on paid membership "low key," but helping to pay for organization needs should remain there as a responsibility.

## **Communication**

Suggestions about TRRG's communications functions were considered. There was agreement that this function should be incorporated into the responsibilities of the "Outreach Committee." Don offered a chart listing 7 categories of communication needs/functions and methods for accomplishing them. [This chart](#) included the different kinds of communication that we are currently engaged in, and others that TRRG could be doing in the future.

The meeting was concluded at 6:33 PM.

Based on notes from Oscar Gandy, Secretary