



**NORTH
LOOP**
NEIGHBORHOOD

**North Loop Neighborhood Association
Board Meeting Notes
April 30, 2014
7:00 PM – 8:30 PM
Heritage Landing, 415 1st Street North**

Attendees: Philip Ailiff, Mike Faulk, David Frank, DJ Heinle, Fritz Kroll, Diane Merrifield, Brent Nelson, Karen Lee Rosar, Scott Woller

Absent: JR Maddox, Adam Schiff

- I. April Board Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM
- II. April Board Meeting Agenda Approved
- III. March 26, 2014 Board Meeting Minutes Approved
- IV. Finance Report – Mike Faulk
 - February and March financials are reported
 - Checking balance: \$4108.09 (Feb) and \$3408.09 (March)
 - Savings balance: \$13,035.56 (Feb) and \$13,035.56 (March)
 - Total balance: \$17,143.65 (Feb) and \$16,443.95 (March)
 - Expenses for February and March included accounting, 90 Degree Media, annual meeting expenses, and Corner Church expenses
 - Income for February and March included \$50 from the Midwest Karate Association for Welcome Bags (“Good job, Scott.”)
 - Mike reports that the CPP numbers seem to be off; Robert Thompson should be getting Mike new numbers by the end of next week and reconciliation will be made for the May Finance Report
 - Mike requests that the Board start to think about how to spend funds related to the Neighborhood Priority Plan; Mike to find out when its due and have access to templates next week
 - **Motion is made and approved to accept the Finance Report**
- V. Council Member Presentation – Jacob Frey
 - A. What’s happening in (and near) the North Loop:
 - Council Member Frey has been lobbying for additional funds for the Nicollet Mall efforts; hasn’t heard anything yet

- Discusses elongated green space concept to run from City Hall to the North Loop creating a “visual right-of-way” with a pedestrian element; similar to the High Line concept
- Reports that ride sharing has been a “hot topic”; determining how to regulate equitably so the taxi cab industry isn’t getting shorted
- Karen comments that municipal consent of SWLRT is needed to move project forward; Council Member Frey agrees and states that negotiations are under way; Karen asks how it is being managed, suggesting “...don’t lay contingents on it or you’ll kill it...”; Council Member Frey disagrees and states that he believes there is room for negotiations – looking at the bigger picture including street cars, railroad-related issues, etc., also states “its going to get done”; Karen reminds the Council Member and the Board that Minneapolis’ livelihood is dependent on it; Council Member Frey agrees and asks the Board to “trust we will find a way to get to ‘yes’”
- Council Member Frey reports that in his first 100 days in office- more building permits have been issued than any other time in history, parks and green space has been added, and a school is opening soon; first 100 days have been successful
- Scott asks if there is any concern of contamination with the piles of melting snow, for example, by the fire station; Council Member Frey has not heard anything and suggests “if you don’t eat it, you should be alright”
- A “Parklettes” Pilot Program is also discussed; Council Member recommended that the North Loop and Marcy Holmes/Dinky Town neighborhoods would be good locations; see Planning + Zoning notes below for more information on the “parklettes” concept

VI. Neighbor Comments

- Sue Jahn attends meeting to make the Board aware that National Night out is coming up later in the summer; Sue is working on new companies to make a donation, and would like to ask the North Loop Neighborhood Association to make a donation as well; no one could remember the amount that was donated last year, but the Board will look into it

VII. Committee Reports

A. Marketing and Promotions – Scott Woller

- North Loop Candy Grab: Scott thanks the Board for investing in the event; approximately 150 kids (and over 300 people total) attended; the event went well and was a lot of fun; Scott shared photos and mentioned that Council Member Frey attended the event
- North Loop Earth Day Neighborhood Cleanup: Scott reports that supplies were distributed to 100+ participants
- North Loop-branded sidewalk planter/flower box idea: Scott is interested in figuring out a way to incentivize a program that is simple and streamlined for neighbors to participate; Fritz suggests it is “contagious” – one store front does it, then another and another; DJ suggests a modular-type planter; the Board supports Scott’s efforts looking into the idea

B. North Loop Business Association – Brent Nelson

- Free House is interested in working with the North Loop if there are any summer events that need a location (i.e. indoor space or parking lot); the Board thinks this is a great idea, and Brent volunteers to look into the details of what is being offered

C. Website Update – Diane Merrifield

- Diane reports they are busy collecting checks and logos; 3 of the 10 have been collected so far- which is slower than expected, but they are coming in; Diane suggests a payment plan might be needed for a couple of the organizations
- Diane confirms it is okay to load adds once a payment is made (incentive to pay on time)
- A Google calendar is still in the works
- Diane will add Candy Grab photos to website

D. Planning & Zoning – DJ Heinle

- 2nd Street Construction: DJ has the Center Point hotline and website if anyone is interested in signing up for the construction updates; 2nd Street will be worked on from “not quite Lowry to 5th”; Center Point will take a break during the All Star Game Event (June 27-July 15); the City is scheduled to do work at this location immediately after Center Point’s work is completed
- Container Building construction: Akquracy Development plans to start construction on the Container Building located at 4th & 5th in late summer; building is approximately 40’ tall and 18,500 SF in area; office space is planned for the upper floors with restaurant(s) and community space on the first floor; parking was not discussed, but there is no parking on the site plan, so street parking is probably planned; a floor to area ratio (FAR) variance has been requested due to the squat nature of the building; **a motion is made and approved to support the FAR variance**
- Project for Pride affordable housing project: Project for Pride and Youth Link, both non-profits, are partnering to create between 45 and 65 residential units to be marketed to those making <50% AMI; an exact project has not been determined, just concepts at this time; **a motion is made and approved support the project**; David adds that he toured the Youth Link facility a couple of years ago when overnight stays were not allowed and believes this is a good step forward; Brent suggests this will be a great addition for the neighborhood
- Upcoming Greco development: Greco to propose a development next to Free House (lot currently empty); environmental work is underway including 21’ of soil remediation; **a motion is approved to support the Committee’s motion of support for Greco’s application for a Met Council TOD grant**
- “Parklette” Concept: the concept has been proposed to create a mini, modular parks to be located over 2 contiguous parking stalls and to provide green space; 3 are planned for Minneapolis, including one in front of the Colonial Warehouse (Moose & Sadie’s); the parklette will be removed during the winter months; this is a 2014 City-funded pilot program, and businesses will be asked to sponsor in the future; the cost is estimated between \$11,000

and \$20,000 per module; the Board questions how businesses will feel about losing 2 parking spaces

- SWLRT Transit Line: **a motion is made and approved to support the SWLRT Transit Line with two amendments:**
 - **Eliminate the words “as proposed”** (per David’s recommendation)
 - **Add the words “without any further delay” at the end** (per Karen’s recommendation)
- David shares the Board received a very nice thank you for the \$5000 donation to The John Biggers Seed Project which was voted on at the February Board Meeting.

E. Livability - Greening & Lighting– Fritz Kroll

- Fritz reports that he is working on “two little tree areas in the neighborhood”
- Karen announces that the North Loop won an Annual Greening Award last week for Best Street Canopy Plantings; Karen adds that photos are available on the North Loop FaceBook page

G. Livability - North Loop Park Initiative – Karen Lee Rosar

- The team is close to making a decision on the location of the park; the next meeting is on May 15- if a decision is not made at the meeting, it will be made soon after

H. Livability – Bicycle Update – Karen Lee Rosar

- Six Open Streets events will take place this summer and early fall
 - May 31 – North Minneapolis Greenway Experience
 - June 8 – Lyndale Ave S
 - July 27 – Central Ave NE
 - August 17 – Franklin Ave E
 - September 14 – Nicollet Ave
 - September 20 – Lowry Ave N
- Please see openstreetsmpls.com for more information
- David asks if the North Loop should volunteer for an event next year; Karen thinks it would be a nice gesture, but it suggests it is very expensive; David volunteers to find out actual cost
- Minneapolis Bicycle Coalition to host a Happy Hour at The Loon on May 1

I. Safety and Livability – Phil Ailiff

- The goal to restripe every crosswalk in the City every year is not being met; the City is looking at the cost of a poly-laminate application that is expected to last 10 years rather than the latex paint application currently being used
- Extended bar hours during the All Star Game for one day only – on July 15; game is at 7:15 PM that evening
- Renee is back to work on May 20; Block Club meetings will start back up once she’s back
- Following the Board Retreat, Phil received training on the website; Phil states it will take time and “doing” to get the hang of it; has created four folders for Safety and Livability: Safety Tips, City Links, Upcoming Events, and Block Club

- No Block Club Meeting currently planned
- Pedestrian Advisory Committee to meet May 7 from 4-6 PM in Room 333 of City Hall
- Next Court Watch is scheduled for May 9 at 10 AM at the Main Library
- Precinct Open House planned for Monday, May 12 from 11 AM – 1 PM at 19 North 4th Street

J. Neighborhood School Update – David Frank for Adam Schiff

- Team met on April 28
- Minneapolis Public Schools to hire principal for Webster very soon
- Minneapolis Public Schools is thinking about Webster as a School of Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics (STEAM)
- “Friends of Webster” is being formed if anyone is interested
- An information booth will be set up at the Green Line Opening Party
- Downtown Family Alliance is underway; to meet next month

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

A. Revolving Loan Fund Update – J.R. Maddox

- No update

B. Farmers Market Advisory Group Update – Karen Lee Rosar

- No meeting, therefore no update.

C. 2020 Partners Update – Karen Lee Rosar

- Meeting is scheduled for May 27

D. DNG Update – Karen Lee Rosar

- DNG having conversation regarding what can be done to sustain organization on limited funds; possibility of merging with DMNA was discussed

E. Target Center Implementation Committee Update – Karen Lee Rosar

- Meeting was cancelled

F. Green Line Opening Day Planning – David Frank for Adam Schiff

- Opening June 14
- All Metro Transit is free that weekend

G. Neighborhood voting locations update – David

- Locations determined to be 514 Studios and Soltva

H. Target Field Station Opening Day – Scott

- Scott toured station and reports it will be a great asset; asks how space can be used by neighborhood
- Scott to send out line-up of talent and schedule of speakers for May 17th ribbon cutting event; Diane asks Scott to send something “non-Mail Chimp” to be posted to the website

IX. NEW BUSINESS

- Fulton Brewery committed to donating a percentage of all Earth Day pints sold to the North Loop Neighborhood Association; 355 pints were sold for a \$700 donation
- **A motion is made and approved to support the Bachelor Farmer's request for a letter of support for a permit to close the street for their Kraftskiva event;** this is the third year the event is taking place and that it's a great event with really good bands
- Neighborhood Community Engagement Commission (NCEC) neighborhood elector and alternate to be decided; elections coming up on Thursday, June 12; DJ volunteers if event is in the evening; **a motion is made and approved for DJ to participate**

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 PM.