



**NORTH
LOOP**
NEIGHBORHOOD

**North Loop Neighborhood Association
Board Meeting Notes
June 26, 2013
7:00 PM – 8:00 PM
Heritage Landing, 415 1st St N**

Attendees: David Frank, DJ Heinle, Karen Lee Rosar, Scott Woller, Matt Hilgart, Diane Merrifield, Mike Faulk, Philip Ailiff

Absent: JR Maddox, Dave Decker, Fritz Kroll

- I. June Board Meeting called to order at 6:54 PM
- II. June 26, 2013 Board Meeting Agenda Approved
- III. May 2013 Board Meeting Minutes Approved
- IV. Park Board Commissioner Presentation -- Anita Tabb
 - This has been a busy week for the Park Board, with a focus on storm recovery. There has been quite a bit of tree damage in the parks, and we will continue to see downed trees in the parks for a while. The priority for crews cleaning up the trees are to first, unblock the roads, second, remove trees from sidewalks and trails, and third, clean up the parks. It will be a many week effort; because of the damp ground trees fell down easily, with an estimated 800 trees removed. Following cleanup, the next step is to replant trees.
 - The past year at legislature, a park dedication fee was passed, which will be used to fund parks. This fee will be calculated using the net new units and employees to an area. On January 1, any new development will have a park dedication fee attached. The Park Board will work with the City to implement it. The Park Board is excited about the possibilities. Doug Kress from the City will work with the Parks to implement it as it applies to the North Loop. From the feasibility study for the neighborhood park, this could potentially be a source of funding. Karen Lee Rosar commented that this is very encouraging, taking methodical steps set the stage for a great outcome.
- V. Finance Report – Mike Faulk
 - Account balance (for both checking and savings combined) was at \$17,986.99 at the end of last month

- \$6,200 was paid out from the checking account
 - \$5,000 for concrete
 - \$1,000 for Interact
 - \$200 for accounting fees
- \$500 was withheld for National Night Out, August
- \$16,844.03 was requested to cover back expenses to 3/25
- 2013 CPP Contract amount is \$88,022.54
- 2013 CPP Contract balance at \$45,212.72
- Liability insurance is up. The City offers a liability insurance option. West Bend, current provider, is \$406/year. The City is \$536/year and has more benefits included. West Bend is expecting to increase their rate. Mike Faulk proposes to go forward with the new policy from the City, which is on par with other neighborhoods in the city.
- Motion to renew liability insurance with new carrier approved.
- May Finance Report approved

VI. Neighbor Comments

- Three neighbors/guests attended the meeting
- Neighbor #1 commented on her safety concern about bicyclists riding on sidewalks. She often walks instead of driving, and said that it is disconcerting to have bikes come up fast on the sidewalks. She has called 311 and the precinct but nothing has changed. She would like to see bikes using bike lane, and feels it is a problem on 1st St, Hennepin Bridge, and the bus stop at 1st and Hennepin. Phil Ailiff has a meeting regarding safety and livability on Thursday and offered to bring her comments to their attention. Board members commented that the bike lane on the Hennepin Bridge is new, and perhaps confusing to bicyclists.
- Neighbor #2 expressed her concern about parking. She lives on Washington between 6th and 7th and says there is very limited parking due to Twins games and restaurants. She would like to know if there is a plan to provide unpaid parking for residents. David Frank replied that no, residential parking is handled by the building that bring the residents. In response to a question about new office buildings, David continued that each of the new office and residential buildings mentioned is planning for their own parking, based on the number of spaces they think they'll need. Scott Woller suggested that if it looks like the meters offer too long of a maximum parking time, then people can call 311 to request that the meters are changed to a shorter timeframe.

VII. Committee Reports

A. Marketing and Promotions - Website - Diane Merrifield

- Website has been rebuilt from scratch, and Diane reported that she has been trained on the content management system, and has 12 how-to videos which will be helpful. There are currently gaps in content and a few things to fix, but she has emailed Luke and will spend time next week populating the site with more content. As an aside, Diane gave a quick update on the Wells Fargo branch, they are almost ready for a meeting with David Quigg and the presentation is nearly ready.

B. Marketing and Promotions - Condo Crawl - Scott Woller

- The 2013 German Village Society's 54th annual Haus und Garten Tour is on June 30th. (passed around an info sheet) Their tour charges \$20 for presale tickets and expects 6,000+ guests. The action steps for the North Loop Tour are to 1.) Pick a Sunday in October 2) Figure out a ticketing system, perhaps an e-ticket system and bracelets 3) Find buildings that would be willing to have the tour pass through their building 4) Find residents or realtors that would be willing to show off their homes, on a volunteer basis. No need to offer food/drink, guests would look and go. 5) Find businesses that would be willing to do a promotion in conjunction with the event (i.e. restaurant specials, happy hours) 6) Recruit volunteers that will work at each building as ushers. Funds raised from the tour can go toward reinvestment in the neighborhood. Would want to choose one tangible beneficiary, such as trees. Goals are 15 stops in 10 buildings with 500 people attending. Feedback? DJ Heinle said that he thinks there would be interest. Karen Lee Rosar agreed that there will be interest, and that the most difficult part would be finding volunteers. David suggested that if it is too difficult to get associations to sign on, perhaps we leave it to commercial buildings this year and asked what needs to be done immediately. Scott said that the committee can ask people we know to volunteer, and take part in this opportunity to invest in community neighborhood cohesion. By the July NLNA meeting, we will need to know if we have 5 stops. David confirmed that the group wants to continue working on this and reiterated that their homework is to talk to potential volunteers and bring a list of interested people, with their contact information, to the July meeting.
- C. Marketing and Communications - Farm to Table fundraiser - Matt Hilgart
- Though he has been reaching out to several neighborhood restaurants, there has not been a lot of progress. Anna Hilligass, of Foundary Home Goods, who's mother hosts farm to table dinners on her farm, offered to meet and help. If other committee member have contacts they would be helpful. DJ offered some suggestions, and will send contact info. If there is no clear path soon, it will be difficult pull the dinner together by this fall.
- D. Marketing and Communications - other
- David shared a thank you letter from Uniquinox, who is thankful to NLNA for their support. Karen suggested that they should be thinking about SWAG for the event, perhaps memory sticks with the NLNA logo, depending on price. Mike said that last year hats were a hit.
- E. State Representative Ray Dehn
- Came to the meeting to say, "Hi." He was at the ceremonial signing of the Homeowners Bill of Rights. There were several years that saw many bad mortgages, and now those individuals are in difficult situations. This will help make it easier for individuals to sue when they these situations arise. Though the legislative session ended May 21, the legislatures are not on vacation. Representative Dehn said he wants to do a town hall style meeting, and is looking for a low cost or free space to hold it. He said that the North Loop is the fastest growing neighborhood in the Twin Cities - possibly in the Midwest - and the conversations that the North Loop needs to be having are very important. Any ideas for space would be appreciated. In response to questions from board members about the details of the meeting, Rep. Dehn said he would like to have 50-60 people at a September meeting and to have it in the district. David

suggested that Whole Foods says it will have community space and will be open end of August/September. Rep. Dehn said he also plans to do monthly meetings at Corner Coffee.

- On the topic of transportation, Rep. Dehn said that he is an advocate for street cars in expanding neighborhoods. This will happen, but the question is when. At the capital there is not the will to risk it to expand transit. The timing of Bottineau is on track. Probably will not see added money for transportation next year, think ahead for 2015. He talked about the Vehicle Miles Tax (VMT) which will tax based on how many miles a vehicle is driving. This will account for more than gas - as more people buy high mileage cars.

F. Planning & Zoning – DJ Heinle

- DJ reported that at the last Planning and Zoning committee meeting, there was a presentation from Hennepin County. They are promoting District Energy and a partnership with Evergreen Power. Their first project will be an interchange project.
- The P&Z committee was approached by Neat Pig, office with water capture and a rooftop garden. They would like NLNA as a nonprofit partner for a watershed grant. They need a nonprofit as a lead for the grant, and are willing to share some funds -- perhaps for a feasibility study. DJ would like to gauge interest from the board. NLNA would have to make sure they are covered for liability. Aside from liability and gains, there are not any other foreseen issues.
- Update on Royalston Station: it is moving forward
- David said he received an email from a resident who reads the minutes, and asked if the NLNA can provide a link to acronyms. Perhaps we can make an FAQ with definitions.

G. Livability -- Greening & Lighting -- Fritz Kroll

- The new trees on 1st survived the storm. Fritz is now starting to ask for donations. At the moment, there are no trees in front of Aria because they want tree grating installed. Scott added that buildings can take initiatives to add hoops or flowers to their sidewalk.

H. Livability -- NL Park Update -- Karen Lee Rosar

- The project is moving forward. Now, we are creating a steering committee and have a list of people and organizations we think will be good candidates. David will send the list around and asks the board to please review and commit to contacting a person on it and adding more people to the list. He can provide a letter template, if anyone is interested.

I. Livability -- Bicycle Update

- Last weekend's Open Streets was successful. There will be three more events through the summer (more info at www.mpls.bike.org):
 - July 28 on Central
 - August 11 in Longfellow
 - September 21 in Lowry

J. Safety and Livability – Phil Ailiff

- Phil attended the Block Club meeting on June 6 with Chief Harteau to discuss a strategy to recruit new Block Club leaders. Chief Harteau will create a flier, and Phil plans to go to condo association meetings. He will let the NLNA board if he needs anything for the condo association list.

- Phil distributed a handout with a glossary of terms that shows crime trends January-June. Violent crimes are the same as last year. The biggest problem is larceny and motor vehicle theft.
 - Phil passed around Minneapolis code of Conduct guidelines and will provide an electronic version.
 - Next PAC Meeting is Wednesday, July 10 from 4pm-6pm at the City Hall.
 - Next Court Watch Meeting is Friday, July 12 at the Central Library.
- K. Neighborhood School Update
- David reported that Becky Boland will no longer be involved in the schools effort. Eric Laska is still working hard for downtown, and wants to know if the North Loop wants to have a new representative for that effort. Looking for someone who is energetic and wants to roll with it, let David know if anyone knows of an interested person.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

- A. NRP Phase II -- JR Maddox (absent) -- No Update
- B. Farmers Market Advisory Group - Karen Lee Rosar -- No Update
- C. 2020 Partners Update -- Karen Lee Rosar -- No Update
- D. DNG update -- Karen Lee Rosar
 - Speaking with other neighborhoods at the Open Book meeting, Karen heard from Elliot Park that they are formalizing interest in the downtown school effort.
- E. Target Center implementation committee -- Karen Lee Rosar -- No Update
- F. NCEC election update -- DJ Heinle
 - NCEC (Neighborhood Community Engagement Commission). DJ attended as an elector. He reported that Mariah Levinson dropped out of the running and that Kenya McKnight was re-elected as commissioner.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

- A. No new business

Happy and safe Fourth of July!

Meeting adjourned at 8:11 PM.