



**NORTH
LOOP**
NEIGHBORHOOD

**North Loop Neighborhood Association
2016 Annual Board Meeting
January 27, 2016
Be the Match, 500 5th Street North
7:00 PM – 8:30 PM**

**Attendees: Philip Ailiff, Dave Decker, David Frank, DJ Heinle, Bryan Hollaway,
Fritz Kroll, Diane Merrifield, Brent Nelson, Karen Lee Rosar, Scott Woller**

Absent: JR Maddox

- I. 2016 Annual Board Meeting is called to order at 7:05 PM
- II. David thanks Be the Match for hosting and Fulton Brewery for donating three kinds of beer for the event; it is noted that the format for the Annual Meeting was modified this year with the business portion of the meeting being held just prior to the Annual Board Meeting; the remainder of the Meeting will include elections, special guests, and committee reports
- III. BOARD ELECTIONS
 - David explains the Board consists of 11 members, and 6 members are to be elected tonight; the Board must include a minimum of 60% residents and the remaining Board Members are to be neighborhood business representatives; attendees are reminded that all Board Members are volunteers and also either serve as a Committee Chair or hold a position on the Board (i.e. President, Secretary, etc.); the Board election process is reviewed, and the League of Women Voters are recognized for counting ballots
 - Ballots are distributed; David asks three times if anyone wants to nominate him or herself; two additional candidates are added to the Ballot
 - Nominees make brief presentations:
 - Phil Ailiff (resident): Phil has served on the Board for 8 years and has focused his energy on the Block Club, Court Watch, and his relationships with the Police Department and DID; Phil is a Senior Health Care Analyst for Blue Cross/Blue Shield; in 2010 he was awarded with a Building Blocks Award from the City of Minneapolis; he is a member of the Pedestrian Advisory Committee; thanks Karen Rosar and the other Board Members for all he has learned
 - Tim Bildsoe (resident): finds it interesting that beer is served at elections; moved to the neighborhood from Plymouth in 2015; is impressed that the Association has created a “very successful City

within a City”; works at Wells Fargo; served 4 terms with the Plymouth City Council; has experience with development, parks, public safety issues, police relations, and finance; wants to give back to community and has good experience to share; planned on being an empty nester, but his daughter followed him to the North Loop, so he now has a downtown family

- Katie Day (resident): Katie’s volunteer work in the North Loop started with a conversation with David Frank; she began with the Park Committee which she helps lead (and will provide an update about later in the evening); recently joined the Planning + Zoning Committee, and is now interested in being a Board Member
 - Diane Merrifield (resident): has lived in the North Loop since 2009 and has enjoyed watching the neighborhood develop and grow; has been a Board Member since 2012- currently serving as the Vice President; Diane is in charge of the website and will reveal the new website later in the evening
 - Francesco Parisi (resident): Francesco is a law school professor at the University of MN; besides the university, the North Loop is the most exciting part of living in MN for him; he loves to see the development of the neighborhood, but does not want to see it turn into Uptown; states the history of the neighborhood needs to be preserved
 - Scott Woller (business representative): Scott is the pastor at Corner Church and owner of Corner Coffee; Scott has lived in the North Loop for 11 years and has a 12 and a 14 year old daughter- his “biggest accolade is having downtown kids”; helps with National Night Out, the North Loop Candy Grab, and lots of other neighborhood events; states he is here to serve the neighborhood whether he is elected or not
 - Holland Wood (resident): Holland moved to the North Loop a few years ago as an artist/creative; has experience organizing events, branding, and grant writing in Uptown
 - Mark Hill (resident): Mark moved to the North Loop recently, from San Francisco originally, but his “heart is in MN”; what he lacks in experience he will make up for with passion; works for Target Corporation; previously worked as a student representative for a neighborhood association in St. Paul; will work hard to improve the fastest-growing, best part of Minneapolis
 - Max Salmen (business representative): Max works for Equity Financial Services; loves the eclectic mix of people and businesses in the neighborhood; has good relationships with local businesses; wants to maintain the diverse dynamic of the neighborhood; will work his butt off and always answers his phone
- David asks attendees to vote for no more than six candidates; ballots are collected

IV. SPECIAL GUESTS

- Council Member Jacob Frey: Council Member Frey states he is “unbelievably proud to represent the North Loop neighborhood”; is impressed by the really strong leadership including David Frank and Karen Lee Rosar- recognizes

that Karen is leaving the Board after 10 years of service and thanks her for all she has done; the collaborative community effort is what makes the neighborhood so exciting: “kids and babies in strollers are the new dogs” in the North Loop, there is now a belief that you can have a family in a dense urban environment, there’s a park on the docket, the pedestrian landscape and opportunities for trains continue to expand, the people are extremely forward- thinking; Council Member Frey looks forward to working alongside the residents of the North Loop for many years to come

- Council Member Blong Yang: Council Member Yang points out that he also represents the North Loop; is excited to continue talks about things going on in the City including the Farmers Market; thanks the NLNA, the residents, and business representatives for being here
- County Commissioner Linda Higgins: Commissioner Higgins shares greetings from Commissioner McLaughlin, and states they both love the energy of the North Loop including how welcoming the neighborhood is to new residents, businesses, and neighborhood visitors; Commissioner Higgins states a lot of work is being done on transit focusing on keeping folks safe and moving; comments on how the North Loop Neighborhood is growing and moving so fast
- State Senator Bobby Joe Champion: the Senator thanks the North Loop for having him- stating “its great to be in the Loop”; explains a special session may be held to discuss real ID, unemployment, and the disparities of neighborhoods of color- but since the regular session starts on March 8, there may not be enough time for a special session; there is also concern that because the regular session is only 10 weeks long and includes breaks for Easter and Passover, the aforementioned topics may not be appropriately covered in the regular session either; Senator Champion suggests the people of the North Loop should let their voices be heard- “come to the capital, call, email, etc.” to address these and other issues
- State Representative Ray Dehn: Representative Dehn starts by stating, “Everything has been said, but not everybody has said it.”; comments on how he ran for a neighborhood association 13 or 14 years ago, and now he is in St. Paul – “something to think about”; urges the neighborhood to speak up- “your voice will really matter, especially in early session”; reminds attendees that precinct caucuses take place March 1st- if you want to get involved, please visit party websites; Representative Dehn shares that both he and State Senator Bobby Joe Champion are up for re-election, and they’d both appreciate votes
- Shane Zahn of the Downtown Improvement District: states that the three big achievements of the DID this year included contracting with the Responsible Hospitality Institute to work on making the Warehouse District more hospitable, homeless youth outreach, and extending the morning hours at Harbor Lights
- Mike Kjos, 1st Precinct Commander: remembers attending NLNA Annual Meeting in the early 2000’s as a lieutenant where all attendees could sit around one table- “now look at this”; reports 100+/- officers in his precinct covering 24 hours per day; there are 12 horses and 36 Rapid Response officers on bikes routinely working major events (150 officers are certified for

bikes- nice to have as many as possible); fat tire bikes have been ordered for the Super Bowl; major crimes were down 10% in 2015 in downtown Minneapolis with a slight uptick in robbery and aggravated assaults

- Heidi Johnston, 1st Precinct Community Attorney: Heidi discusses the Downtown 100 Program that focuses on working with both chronic offenders and 18-24 year old offenders to keep them from becoming chronic offenders; shares that recidivism is down 72% within the Downtown Improvement District providing savings to the system, police, and individual; mentions the long-lasting effects of housing with supportive services for homeless offenders
- Angie Dahl, Be the Match: Angie states that she is thrilled to have the NLNA here as she loves the new space and loves showing it off; asks for a show of hands for how many people had heard of Be the Match before they moved to the neighborhood; describes that the organization finds unrelated bone marrow donors for patients in need and shares they have facilitated 74,000 transplants total with over 6300 in 2015; the organization also does research, engages volunteers, adds potential donors to the registry, and helps families with patient assistance programs; MN is the organization's headquarters, but they do work internationally; of the 920 employees, 754 of them are housed in the building located at 500 5th Street North in Minneapolis; Angie highlights the 5th Street Station Restaurant and Coffee Bar which will cater to the rental spaces available in the building, the sidewalk harp, and the patient stories told throughout the building; also, a walk/run event at Lake Harriet is scheduled for May 14 with an anticipated 2000 participants- \$236,000 was raised at this event in 2015; Angie thanks the North Loop again, and states Be the Match is thrilled to be in the neighborhood

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- State of the NLNA Report (David Frank): David states that the neighborhood is doing great, there is a great new website, some great efforts related to parks and the playground, the Planning + Zoning Committee has been doing good work; "lots of good things"
- New Website Reveal (Diane Merrifield): Diane reports the new website was unveiled 3 weeks ago improving both functionality and content; a blog post ("Stay in the Loop") and calendar have been added; the new calendar allows you to see all upcoming events in the North Loop- click on each event for more information including details, hours, contacts, etc.; sponsors are highlighted and given more visibility; the new website is better organized and easier to navigate; a section for the Board, Planning + Zoning, and developer and neighborhood resources has been added; the improved Directory is organized by category, provides addresses, and links to websites and maps (more than 200 businesses are currently listed in the Directory)
- North Loop Park Update (Katie Day): Katie explains the park efforts have been reinvigorated in the last 9 months; Kit Richardson owns the property in interest, has been great to work with, and intends to make "park-friendly" adjacent space; the site is located between 7th and 8th Ave and is approximately 30,000 SF in the middle of an existing parking lot; the park is being referred to as "Baby Bryant" referencing Bryant Park in NY; the

Minneapolis Parks Committee will review the conceptual design of potential North Loop Park; a timeline has not been clearly defined, but “we will get our park sooner than later... I hope”

- Sustainability/Community Garden Update (Bryan Hollaway): Bryan has been focusing on three initiatives:
 - Composting: a city-wide initiative that is currently set up for single-family housing; trying to make available for businesses and HOA's- a letter is available on the website explaining this effort
 - Community Solar Garden: a state program that allows residents to buy into to reduce individual carbon footprints; because residents in multifamily housing do not own their roofs, it's a good program for them to get involved in
 - Community Garden: a good amount of support and desire for a community garden exists in the neighborhood; some concepts for the garden are available on the website, space is difficult to find for this purpose at this time

VI. MISCELLANEOUS

- Prizes (Scott Woller): Scott raffles off prizes and thanks contributors:
 - Corner Coffee – bag of coffee; 2- \$25 gift certificates
 - Twins organization – Twins t-shirt
 - Fulton Brewery – beer tokens, bottle openers, winter hat
 - Martin Patrick – 2- \$125 gift certificates
 - Bachelor Farmer – free drink cards
- Volunteer Opportunities (Scott Woller): Scott reminds attendees that the North Loop Neighborhood is a great place to get involved and volunteer; suggests attending the monthly Board Meetings on the last Wednesday of each month from 7-8:30 PM if you are interested
- Thank you again to Be the Match for hosting, Fulton Brewery for providing beer, and all the businesses that donated prizes.
- Thank you to those Board Members that are leaving the Board- Dave Decker who will still be on the Planning + Zoning Committee, Brent Nelson who served as Treasurer and developed a great financial report format, and Karen Lee Rosar who has done a lot for the neighborhood over the last 10 years- “We wish you the best. Thank you! Thank you!”

VII. ADJOURNMENT

- Meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM.