



**NORTH  
LOOP**  
NEIGHBORHOOD

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**North Loop Neighborhood Association**

**Board Meeting Notes**

**February 22, 2017**

**7:00 P.M.**

**Heritage Landing Community Room – 415 1<sup>st</sup> Street North**

**Attendees:** Tim Bildsoe, Katie Day, Diane Merrifield, Andy Risvold, Phil Ailiff, and Scott Woller, Jeff Borg, Fred Dawe, Fritz Kroll

- I. February Board Meeting called to order by Diane at 7:02 P.M.; those in attendance introduced themselves by stating their names and building of residence or business or employment in the neighborhood.
- II. **Motion is made by Fred, seconded by Katie, and approved by the Board to approve the Board meeting agenda.**
- III. **Motion is made by Jeff, seconded by Tim, and approved by the Board to approve the minutes from the January annual meeting. Another motion is made by Tim, seconded by Jeff, and approved by the Board to approve the minutes from the regular meeting.**
- IV. Finance Report – Tim Bildsoe
  - a. Tim sent out an e-mail with the current balances for the checking account. In the last 45 days, there have been many more transactions than usual, as most have been for the annual meeting.
  - b. Tim suggests looking into a commercial liability insurance policy, as he thinks that coverage for volunteers may be a good idea and that it would be prudent to explore options. No motion is required; the Board gives approval for Tim to look into policies.
  - c. Robert Thompson, City of Minneapolis
    - i. The resources available are funds from the Neighborhood Revitalization Program (1991-2010) and the Community Participation Program (CPP).
    - ii. CPP is based on a 3-year cycle (\$413,935) and is able to fund the priorities below.
      1. Outreach and engagement – priorities of community
      2. Respond to and inform city decisions
      3. Increase involvement in civic life
      4. Priorities reserves
      5. It cannot be used for “food or fun”.

- iii. These monies come from downtown TIF districts and are funded through formulas for each neighborhood. Money for priorities can go right to recipient, rather than through the NLNA first.
- iv. Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP)
  - 1. \$20 million for 20 years.
  - 2. It was meant for brick and mortar improvements, for housing and infrastructure in particular.
  - 3. Phase II funding still available, though Phase I funding has been expended: approximately \$200,000 is available. Of that money, 70% is restricted to housing. An important note: program income is free of restriction. In other neighborhoods that had difficulty loaning money for home repair, the money was lent to an affordable housing developer for a construction loan on a Northside development; the returned money was then able to be used as the organization wanted and was not restricted to housing. Capital, but not operating lighting costs are eligible; art for art's sake is not eligible, but there are some instances in which artwork is allowed; the landmark statue could be funded.
  - 4. There is a plan modification process for reallocation; for smaller amounts, there must be a 21-day notice to community, but there is a good bit of latitude; if the reallocation is \$25,000 or bigger, or there is a new strategy, there must be community approval.
  - 5. \$10 million had been borrowed from the funds so that the City could balance its budget in light of tax changes; those funds have now been returned. There are groups lobbying in support of these programs in the event that they are not funded in the future. Tim sent out an e-mail containing the resolution that outlines the Board's support for the future of these programs and their funding. **A motion is made by Tim, seconded by Scott, and approved by the Board to sign the resolution.**
  - 6. CPP is the follow up program to NRP; what happens after this 10-year program ends in 2020? There may be money available from the general fund. There will be future dialogues about the role of neighborhood organizations, what can they do better, should they continue to be funded, etc.? There will be a training on March 11 to begin to discuss these ideas – the Art of Hosting, Conversations that Matter
- v. The Board thanks Robert for all his help!

V. Neighbor Comments

- a. Jane moved to the neighborhood 14 years ago, when there were approximately 10,000 people living downtown. Since then, there has been a 400% increase; however, Metro Transit hasn't increased the routes in the neighborhood. The options to get downtown are only the 7 to the 4 or 6 or to walk 6 blocks on Hennepin. Jane suggests that if the 4 or 6 came down Washington it would be beneficial. Jane has called Metro Transit and staff there said more input is needed. Diane will e-mail to follow-up; Scott suggests having Metro Transit come to a meeting.
- b. Ayana Regiro attended the meeting on behalf of Francesco Parisi, who was unable to do so.
- c. Jo Vos inquired about the appointments for the P&Z Committee. She mentioned that she also serves as the North Loop representative for both the Parcel D Park Development group and for the St. Anthony Falls Alliance.

- d. Dan Collison, executive director of the 2020 Partners, addressed the Board. The group's immediate priorities are to understand the neighborhood's priorities. 2020 Partners has developed a work plan and will forward it to the Board. It focuses largely on the farmers' market, LRT, BRT, the Glenwood corridor, Haywood bus facility, street improvements, parks, and parking. Dan is more than happy to meet with the Board at their convenience.

## VI. Committee Reports

- a. Marketing and Promotions – Scott Woller
  - i. Scott suggests a quick evaluation of the annual meeting, as it is the largest marketing and outreach event that the Board hosts.
    - 1. Good: the social hour was very well received; T-3 was a great space; the priority board exercise had lots of participation; the information tables were great, too; thanks to those who donated the food and beverages!
    - 2. Not so good: There weren't enough food and beverages – they ran out too quickly; the elected officials program was too long and should have been at the end of the overall program; information about the NL should have been presented first; every year, there is the ongoing struggle of the length of the event.
    - 3. What is missing: perhaps the event should be planned earlier; is there a better way to capture who is in attendance - business owners, renters?
  - ii. Off-the-Streets 5K was a great success, with just under 500 participants and just under \$20,000 going to 3 organizations working to stop human trafficking. The event will be held next year, too, before the Super Bowl.
  - iii. The Candy Grab will be held on April 15. Last year, \$800 was given to the event. **A motion is made by Scott, seconded by Diane, and approved by the Board to donate \$1,000 this year.**
  - iv. Tim asks how the Board is able to "donate" funds for these events if CPP restrictions disallow purchases for food. Perhaps these can qualify under community engagement? Tim suggests having a conditional approval and tabling the issue until March. Scott clarifies that the Board decided to act as a funding partner rather than a programmer a few years ago.
- b. North Loop Businesses – Scott Woller
  - i. Thanks again to all the businesses that contributed to the annual meeting!
- c. Website – Diane Merrifield
  - i. January site visits up over November and December at 3,776. 40 Contact Us and [info@northloop.org](mailto:info@northloop.org) inquiries.
  - ii. \$12,000 budget line for future improvements to the website.
- d. Planning and Zoning Report – Diane
  - i. 3 motions for approval
    - 1. **Hillman building – a motion is made by Scott, seconded by Fritz, and approved by the Board to support the project on the condition that street trees and lighting are included in the plans.**
    - 2. **515 North Washington – motion is made by Fritz, seconded by Scott, and approved by the Board to support the project on the condition that the use of metal paneling, and not stucco, is encouraged for the cladding of the exterior stairway added per egress requirements.**
    - 3. **Dalton & Wade – a motion is made by Fritz, seconded by Tim, and approved by the Board to support Dalton & Wade's application for a liquor license.**
- e. Livability – Fritz Kroll

- i. Still working on banners for the neighborhood.
- ii. Fritz provides an e-mail update from Mark, who is unable to attend.
  - 1. Tree plantings along 8<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> will start in May or June. There will be 8 or 9 trees in front of the Tractor Works building; he is still working with 801.
  - 2. 394 project: MN DOT is working on final design. There will be 3 phases (landscaping, fence repair; sign installation). Mark is starting to look for donors for the sign.
    - a. The City will be fixing the intersection, as it is a complete ADA violation; City will also be doing the maintenance in conjunction with the Conservation Corps; it is now looking into other landscaping projects, too.
    - b. Jane mentioned that lots of people steal plantings in the neighborhood.
- f. NL Park Update – Katie Day
  - i. The Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board master plan closes on March 4. There are no substantial updates other than that the Park Committee has lost some members, but some new ones have joined at the annual meeting.
  - ii. The Green Stick Brigade will meet at Whole Foods on Washington Avenue on Saturday, March 18 at 10:00 A.M.
- g. Safety & Livability – Phil Ailiff
  - i. Congratulations to the newly-elected Board members!
  - ii. The greatest challenge in the neighborhood is theft from motor vehicles (however, 8 of 10 of the cars had the keys in the ignition). There was also a report of criminal sexual assault (acquaintance related). The police department is focusing on the business district; there will be extra summer beat patrols and they will start earlier than normal. They also will be out during St. Patrick’s Day.
  - iii. Peavey Plaza Technical Team has a tour of the area, which is not accessible-friendly, with a state expert. Phil will report back.
  - iv. The next PAC meeting is Wednesday, March 1 from 4:00 to 6:00 P.M. in City Hall, Room 333. All people are welcome.
  - v. The next Block Club meeting is March 15, 6:00 P.M. at Dunn Brothers.
  - vi. The next 1<sup>st</sup> Precinct Court Watch meeting will be Friday, March 10 at 10:00 A.M. in the Hennepin County Library Conference Room.
- h. Sustainability
  - i. There is no update.

VII. Neighborhood Priorities

- a. There are no neighborhood priorities discussed.

VIII. Old Business

- a. There is no old business discussed.

IX. New Business

- a. A motion is made by Fritz, seconded by Mark, and approved by the Board to nominate Tim for President and Diane for Vice President.
- b. Fred volunteers to be Treasurer.
- c. A motion is made by Scott, seconded by Katie, and approved by the Board to nominate Jeff for Secretary.
- d. Dan Collison, the executive director of 20/20 Partners addresses the group. 2020 Partners is a loose group of private and public leaders, that aims to leverage the assets of Target Field, Minneapolis Farmers Market, transit and energy. Some of its members

include Peter McLaughlin, the Twins, Timberwolves, Xcel Energy, and United Properties. Dan states that the group wants to be the institutional partner to the Committee (and the Board) and that it wants to restart the task force around parking, continue to advocate for private and public resources, and have synchronized work plans between the two bodies.

- e. Planning & Zoning Committee
  - i. The Board will evaluate the list of potentially interested people. The idea is considered to meet directly with folks and to have a presentation similar to the approach used at the annual meeting. Scott suggests that the Board table the issue and revisit next month with the chair and with the suggested list.
  - ii. Jo asks for an increase to 15 P&Z committee members from 11 if 3 Board members are going to serve on the committee so as not to exclude community members who want to participate but who do not have the capacity to serve on the Board. It is expected that the P&Z chair is a Board member.
  - iii. David is still receiving requests to come to meetings; Fred to take over as chair in the interim. Board goes with 15; Jeff talks about terms and need to rerun; Board to talk about slate before next P&Z meeting; Andy can be removed from list for committee.
  - iv. Motion electronically to follow; the current 14 should be good, but looking for one more architect; need unanimous approval.
- f. Phil discusses the treatment he received at a local restaurant. His friend was told when making a reservation at Jun, “we can’t accommodate wheelchairs and we prefer that they come during the week when we are less busy.”
- g. Board retreat – the P&Z committee chair will represent the committee at the event, rather than having the whole committee attend. The retreat is from 3:00-6:00 P.M. on March 13. Tim is looking to see if it can be held at the Hewing Hotel.

X. Meeting adjourned at 9:14 P.M.