



**North Loop Neighborhood Association
Board Meeting Notes
February 26, 2014
7:00 PM – 8:50 PM
Heritage Landing 415 1st St N**

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

Absent: JR Maddox

- I. Board Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM
- II. February 26, 2014 / Board Meeting Agenda Approved.
- III. January 29, 2013 Annual Meeting Minutes Approved.

Board Officer Election Update – David Frank, Dave Decker

It was noted that the tie-breaker for the board member election was not required. Dave Decker opted to resign, and Mike Faulk was re-elected. Dave was thanked for his service, and will continue to serve as a co-chair on the planning and zoning committee.

- IV. Council Member Presentation – Jacob Frey

Councilmember Frey provided a general ward update, noting the following:

1. Downtown East: RFPs were received from Ryan Companies and Mortenson for development of the air rights plan above the existing parking ramp at 728 South 4th Street. Mortensen's proposal is for a hotel, and Ryan Companies is for a mixed use development.
2. Downtown Central: The Nicollet Avenue Redesign is underway. Councilmember Frey noted the existing funding sources, and commented on the design's features, which include skyway-to-ground connections at 7th Street, and a public space at the center, with roads to transverse around.
3. North Loop: Councilmember Frey briefly commented on the light rail developments, including a 'light garden' planned at Target Field station. He also commented on the fast growth in the NL neighborhood, and the resultant addition of a new precinct. He indicated that they are working to redraw the precinct lines, and welcome suggestions for polling locations.

4. Dinkytown: A hotel has been proposed on 4th Street; the City Council has denied the demolition of one of the existing buildings on the site.
5. A question was posed regarding the SW rail line and freight routes. Councilmember Frey indicated that options for rerouting the freight lines are being reviewed, in order to allow for the SW line to be routed appropriately.
6. It was noted that all business permits are being expedited – in relation to the mayoral approval, etc – which thereby reduces the length of the public approvals process by several days. Additionally, it was noted that the City is cracking down on problematic landlords and businesses that are not keeping areas safe. It was noted that Champions Bar recently had its license revoked.
7. It was noted that crews are working their hardest to address snow removal needs.

V. Finance Report – Mike Faulk

- Account balance at the end of January was \$17,665.82 (\$13,035.29 in savings; \$4,630.53 in checking).
- \$2511.64 was spent from checking in January:
 - \$200.00 L+B monthly accounting fee
 - \$25.00 State of MN Non-Profit Registration
 - \$1538.90 Postcard Builder:
 - \$446.67 Insurance (New Powderhorn Park Neighborhood Association)
 - \$301.07 Chow Girls (Annual Meeting)
- There is approximately \$51,144 in CPP funds available to spend in 2014. Unused funds will roll over to the next year.
 - Approximately \$17,765 is available from previous contract
 - \$38,380 is available from new contract, less \$5000 operating / overhead
- Mike will work with Robert Thompson / Judy Duffey to get the correct remaining amount in CPP funds transferred to 2014.
- The annual report is due to Robert Thompson, Neighborhood and Community Relations by 3/14/2014.
- The NLNA needs to submit a Neighborhood Priority Plan for the 2014 funding cycle.
- Robert Thompson noted that the general liability for directors and officers policy is being renewed.
- The treasurer's report was approved.

VI. Neighbor Comments

1. John Biggers Seed Project: Mary Altman and Roderic Southall made a presentation on the John Biggers Seed Project public art project, which will consist of artist-created enamel panels integrated into a new ornamental railing on Olson Highway spanning I-94. Mary noted that funding sources / donors include: City funds, National Endowment for the Arts - Our Town Program, the McKnight Foundation, and the Pohlada Family Foundation. An additional \$50,000 in funding is needed. The board made and approved a motion to provide a letter of support for the project. Mary will confirm whom the letter should be addressed to.

2. Neighborhood and Community Relations Update: Robert Thompson introduced himself, and commented on the services he and his colleagues provide, including arranging insurance policies for neighborhood organizations. He provided detail about the Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP), and the related Neighborhood Priority Plans, which are requested once every three years, as a means to help the City understand what efforts are planned within Minneapolis neighborhoods. He noted that on March 22, a Committee Connections Conference will be held. Lastly, he thanked the Board for their hard work.
3. Corner Church Candy Grab: Scott Woller indicated that the Corner Church will be hosting the 3rd annual North Loop Candy Grab on Saturday, April 19. Last year 100 kids attended despite poor weather. See 'Marketing and Promotions' below for requested NLNA financial contribution.
4. David McMahon, an eight-year resident of the North Loop, commented on livability issues in the North Loop, including concern over late night / early morning noise related to sidewalk clearing, building construction, and dumpster pick-up occurring as early as 3:00 am, 5:00 am, and 4:30 am respectively. He has discussed the issue with Councilmember Frey and Karen (via e-mail) and will be following-up with the Planning and Zoning committee to discuss finding solutions/ enforcement strategies to minimize these types of disturbances.

VII. Committee Reports

A. Marketing and Promotions – Scott Woller

- Scott reported that the Global Citizen's Network donated a gift certificate for 10 weeks of Spanish lessons. Scott asked the Board if anyone had a use for them, and the gift certificate was given to Dave Decker.
- April 26 will be the North Loop Earth Day clean-up.
- The 2014 Explore the North Loop event will be discussed further at the annual retreat; Saturday September 13 has been proposed as the tentative date.
- Scott requested a \$500 donation (equivalent to last year's donation) from the NLNA for the 3rd annual Candy Grab event. A motion was made and approved for the request.
- Karen noted that she had been contacted requesting NLNA participation in planning efforts related to an event celebrating the opening of the light rail Green Line. Adam expressed interest in assisting.

B. North Loop Business Association – Scott Woller

- Scott indicated that additional welcome bags are needed.
- A business networking lunch will be held at the end of April.

C. Website Update – Diane Merrifield

- Diane presented statistics on the number of visitors to the website: 1567 visits were made in January; 1200 unique visitors; 6000 page views (3.77 pages viewed per visit); half of visitors were from Minneapolis.
- Advertising was discussed. A motion was made and approved to pursue the sale of ten advertising spots – consisting of an ad featured on the website - at

a cost of \$500/year. It was determined that a March payment will be required for ad start date of April 15.

D. Planning & Zoning – Dave Decker

- The following presentations were made at the February 2014 Planning & Zoning Meeting:
 - ✓ Muse (event center) made a request to amend their business plan to allow for an intensification of use, permitting more concert-type events. At the P+Z meeting, no motion was made. After discussion of the pros and cons, the board made and approved a motion to write a letter in opposition of such intensification of use.
 - ✓ Smack Shack requested a similar intensification of use, requesting allowance for live music from 9pm – midnight. The P+Z committee approved the motion, with a condition that the Smack Shack discusses the change with their neighbors at FloCo. The board made and approved a motion to support this intensification of use.
 - ✓ Next month the P+Z meeting and NLNA board meetings cannot be held at Heritage Landing. David offered to assist in finding an alternative location for these meetings.
- The following P+Z committee members were approved:
 - DJ Heinle, Co-Chair
 - Dave Decker, Co-Chair
 - Alice Eichholz
 - Wendy Holmes
 - Darwin Lookingbill
 - Sarah Fesler
 - Karen Rosar
 - John Slack
 - Jo Vos
 - Kelly Nelson
 - Brent Webb
- Please see the North Loop Neighborhood Association Planning and Zoning Committee Meeting notes from February 2014 for more information; notes are available on the NLNA website (northloop.org).

E. Livability - Greening & Lighting– Fritz Kroll

- Fritz indicated that he would like foster a better connection with the Warehouse District Business Association. Scott, Fritz and Brent will work together on this effort.
- Fritz noted that assistance from the Forestry department with additional tree planting this year is unlikely, and therefore proposed that 2014 livability efforts focus on pedestrian-related enhancements and improvements at connections to the Warehouse District.

G. Livability - North Loop Park Initiative – David Frank

- David will be setting up the first park meeting within the next week.

H. Livability – Bicycle Update – Karen Lee Rosar

- No update.

- I. Safety and Livability – Phil Ailiff
 - A Block Club meeting was held on February 20th at the new Dunn Brothers location, with a good turnout. They discussed crime-related concerns, as well as goals for 2014, including: increasing community engagement, providing additional safety tips, adding content to the website, and growth in the Virtual Block Club.
 - Phil noted that no year-end crime maps were available (yet) due to changing / upgrading of reporting systems.
 - The next Court Watch meeting is March 12 at 10 AM at the Minneapolis Public Library.
 - The next Pedestrian Advisory Committee (PAC) meeting will be held March 5th at 4pm in Room 333 of City Hall.

- J. Neighborhood School Update – Adam Schiff
 - A joint meeting, with families from St. Anthony East, was held last Monday to discuss objectives and goals for the new school. Adam indicated that they are trying to determine what the deadline is for providing feedback to the school district, and that he will be following up on it further.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Revolving Loan Fund Update – J.R. Maddox.
 - No update.
- B. Farmers Market Advisory Group Update – Karen Lee Rosar
 - No update.
- C. 2020 Partners Update – Karen Lee Rosar
 - The next meeting will be held March 25th.
- D. DNG Update – Karen Lee Rosar
 - DNG had a discussion regarding the Downtown School Initiative. Karen noted that Elliot Park Neighborhood (EPNI) is involved in the school committee
- E. Target Center Implementation Committee Update – Karen Lee Rosar
 - February's meeting was cancelled.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

1. David instructed all Board members to bring their calendars to the next meeting, to determine the date of the annual retreat.
2. Board Officer and Committee Chair Assignments

The following assignments were made on a volunteer basis:

- Marketing Scott
- NLBA Brent
- Website Diane
- School Adam
- Livability Fritz
- Safety/Livability Phil
- P+Z DJ (Dave Decker will co-chair)

Motions were made and approved for the following assignments:

- Treasurer Mike
- Secretary DJ
- Vice President Diane (The board thanked Karen for her tenure and hard work)
- President David

3. Karen noted that the John Biggers Seed project is a great project. A motion was made and approved to make a \$5000 contribution to the project.
4. Brent introduced himself, as a first time NLNA board member, and expressed eagerness to help with NLNA-related efforts.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 PM.