



**NORTH  
LOOP**  
NEIGHBORHOOD

**North Loop Neighborhood Association  
Board Meeting Notes  
July 31, 2013  
7:00 PM – 8:30 PM  
Heritage Landing, 415 1<sup>st</sup> St N**

**Attendees:** Philip Ailiff, Mike Faulk, David Frank, DJ Heinle, Fritz Kroll, Karen Lee Rosar,

**Absent:** Dave Decker, Matt Hilgart, JR Maddox, Diane Merrifield, Scott Woller

- I. July Board Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM
- II. July 31, 2013 Board Meeting Agenda Approved
- III. May 29, 2013 Board Meeting Minutes – A correction to ‘Item V. Finance Report’ was noted. The West Bend premium cost should be revised to \$604/year (in lieu of \$406/yr). The meeting minutes were approved with this correction.
- IV. Council Member Presentation – Lisa Goodman
  - Bachelor Farmer will be hosting a crawfish boil with live music (Kräftskiva! 2013) on Saturday, August 3<sup>rd</sup>
  - ‘Lunch with Lisa’ will not occur in August. There will be a ‘Lunch with Lisa’ event in October and December, but not in November.
  - The One Minneapolis One Read book selection this year is *A Choice of Weapons* by Gordon Parks. More information on the community-wide read can be found at [www.OneMinneapolisOneRead.com](http://www.OneMinneapolisOneRead.com)
  - Approximately 63 couples will be married at Minneapolis City Hall on midnight (July 31/August 1). 100% of the event costs were donated by local businesses and individuals.
  - National Night Out is Tuesday, August 6.
  - Lisa noted several project updates:
    - The grand opening for 222 will be held August 22
    - Whole Foods opening is tentatively scheduled for September 25
    - 219 Second Street N was continued at HPC
    - Several projects have completed HPC application, including 324 1<sup>st</sup> St N, 525 3<sup>rd</sup> St N, 345 6<sup>th</sup> Ave N, 106-108 Washington Ave N, 307 Washington N, 701 Washington
  - The Nicollet Mall design competition has been narrowed to four firms; the selection process will be a public process with a jury, consisting of a private-public partnership

- Volunteers are needed to assist in the Voter Ambassador program – to explain how instant run-off voting works. Interested participants may contact Lisa.
- Questions from the board / neighbors in attendance included:
  - An inquiry regarding the marriage occurring on August 1. Lisa indicated that the first couples to be married include residents of the 7<sup>th</sup> ward and a former city employee. Approximately 40 couples will be married in 10-minute ceremonies conducted by the mayor in the Rotunda, while another 20 couples will be married by judges in the Chambers.
  - Jane Hanz (resident at River Station) expressed:
    - The need for larger apartment and condo units to appeal to families wishing to live in/near downtown
    - The need for an elementary school in the downtown area. Karen and Lisa indicated that School Board oversees decisions regarding facilities, the 2025 downtown plan calls for a downtown school.
    - A concern regarding police presence and 911 response time in the North Loop neighborhood. Discussion took place regarding 911 response rates (averages under 3 minutes), and a reminder was made that callers experiencing wait times should not hang up. Additionally, it was noted that the 1<sup>st</sup> precinct has made the North Loop a priority and that some neighboring communities, that have stronger police presence, have privately contracted and paid for additional for police / security.
  - Brent Frederick (co-owner of Burrough restaurant) inquired about the number of new units being built in the area. Lisa indicated that there were \$1.2 Billion in building permits last year, and that approximately 600-800 units are currently under construction.

#### V. Finance Report – Mike Faulk

- Account balance (for both checking and savings combined) was \$17,487.26 at the end of June
  - \$500 was donated to National Night Out
  - \$200 was paid to Lillian Berg (L+B) for accounting fees
- \$8811 was added to the CPP Fund Allocation during June:
  - \$7211 for Lamere Concrete – 1<sup>st</sup> Street trees
  - \$1600 for 8 months of accounting fees from L+B
    - Mike will follow-up on fees to date, as well as future payment procedures (i.e. check vs. debit) and will report back to the Board.
- CPP reserved initiatives to date total \$18,800
  - \$500 – Farmer’s Market “Chef in the Market Event”
  - \$12,500 – 1st Street Trees
  - \$4800 – 1st Street Trees / Soil. (Requested during the 7/31 meeting).
  - \$1000 – Uniquinox
- \$40,412 CPP funds remain
- \$3000 in donations received last month for the 1<sup>st</sup> Street Trees
- A request for funds, in the amount of \$16,844.03 was made on June 12, which includes the above noted \$8811 amount. Mike will follow-up with Stan Ponkin

regarding status of payment, as reimbursement has been delayed on account of staffing changes at the City.

- Mike will attend one of the up-coming 2014 CPP Funding Renewal meetings, to be held late August / early September
- Mike is working with Robert Thompson to transition insurance coverage from West Bend to the City insurance plan.
- June 2013 Finance Report was approved

#### VI. Neighbor Comments

- Five neighbors/ guests attended the meeting.
- Dock Street Flats: Wynette, the manager of Dock Street Flats, introduced herself, and provided an update on Dock Street Flats. The leasing office will be opening soon, for 185 units of Phase I.
- Borough Restaurant: Brent Frederick introduced himself, and indicated that Borough would be hosting a block party near Bewiched with food, beverages, and live music on Sunday August 25<sup>th</sup> from 12-6pm. Brent will forward an electronic version of the flier to the NLNA board members, to be posted on the website.
- Jane Hanz expressed concern (noise, trash, drinking, etc) related to block parties and similar events occurring in close proximity to residences. Brent indicated that residents of the adjacent building were asked for and provided approval for the event to occur. Additionally, Wynette expressed that these community events are seen as positive attributes of the area, and serve as a means of promoting the community to existing and prospective residents of the area.

#### VII. Committee Reports

##### A. Marketing and Promotions – Condo Crawl – David Frank

- David provided an update on Scott's behalf. The 'Condo Crawl / Explore the North Loop' event will take place on Sunday, October 15<sup>th</sup> from 2-6pm, which will consist of open houses of condo and commercial buildings. Additional volunteers and condo/business participation is being sought. Wynette indicated that Dock Street Flats would participate.

##### B. Marketing and Promotions - CityPages – David Frank

- David indicated that the North Loop Neighborhood, had been voted the 2013 CityPages' *Best Hipster* and *Best Food Neighborhood*.

##### C. North Loop Business Association – Scott Woller

- Scott was not present; No update was presented

##### D. Website Update – David Frank

- David indicated that Dianne had completed work with One Touch Creative, which included a demo and video tutorial. She is now looking into another web developer to assist with additional improvements.

##### E. Wells Fargo ATM – David Frank

- Dianne has also been working on requesting a Wells Fargo ATM location in the neighborhood, and will continue to follow-up on the matter.

#### F. Planning & Zoning – DJ Heinle

- The following presentations were made at the July 2013 Planning & Zoning Meeting:
  - ✓ National Bone Marrow Donor Program Headquarters (524 North 5<sup>th</sup> Street): Brandon Champu of United Properties presented updated renderings of the approximately 250,000 SF, 8-story building; Formal application is expected for September 2013; NLNA comments on the project included a request for the project to include specialty lighting, additional color to the building exterior, and a public art component on the site; P+Z Committee made and approved a motion to write letter of support for the project with the addition of the NLNA Comments.
  - ✓ Xcel Energy – Municipalization Proposal: A representative of Xcel Energy made a presentation outlining key issues and concerns related to municipalization of electrical service within the City of Minneapolis. Xcel currently has a Utility Franchise Agreement with the City of Minneapolis, which is due for renewal. The City has the option to municipalize energy at any time, and is conducting a feasibility study (due in January) to evaluate the municipalization of energy utilities, including the associated costs.
  - ✓ Muse Event Center (107 North 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue): Kam Talebi presented plans for the renovation of the former Trocadores building, which is 16,000 square feet on three levels. The building would house the Crave Restaurant's catering business, and include an event center for weddings, corporate/special events with seating for 300-400, and capacity for 700 during cocktail events. Parking agreements are in place which would provide valet service, utilizing parking lots adjacent to and across 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue from the Event Center. Renovations will be limited, but will consist of an approximate 30-day construction period to conduct soundproofing and exterior window glazing improvements. Closing is expected for beginning of August, and reservations are currently being taken for September 2013. A motion was made and approved to support the project.
- Committee Business:
  - ✓ No SWLRT update.
  - ✓ Kelly Nelson discussed the lack of connection between Downtown Minneapolis and Uptown. He is further going to reach out to the Bicycle Coalition.
- Please see the North Loop Neighborhood Association Planning and Zoning Committee Meeting notes from July 24, 2013 for more information; notes are available on the NLNA website
- A motion was made and approved to appoint Matt as a representative to the Citizen Advisory Group.

F. Livability - Greening & Lighting– Fritz Kroll

- Fritz reported that following completion of the concrete work, soils replacement was required prior to planting of new trees. Forestry indicated that time was of the essence in getting the trees planted; therefore Fritz proceeded in having a contractor replace 46 yards of soil at a cost of \$4800. A motion was made and approved to increase the earmarked value of this project by \$4800 to account for these additional incurred costs.
- A discussion took place regarding requests for letter/receipt for tax deductible contributions. The board can provide a letter/receipt, upon request, for contributions.
- Fritz reported that one property owner did not agree to make a contribution for ground cover/plantings for his/her property. The Board had a discussion and agreed that Fritz may discuss with the owner his/her willingness to allow for the improvements to be made to his/her property, with payment for these improvements to be made by the Board. The Board will discuss the intended scope / cost of work at a future meeting, but it was suggested that the scope of work should be similar to what adjacent properties are electing to do.

G. Livability - North Loop Park Initiative – David Frank

- David reported that a list of invitees has been started, and that he was willing to craft the language of a letter. It was preferred, however, that the letters be sent by anyone having connections with the invitees. It was discussed that there should be Board representation on the committee, perhaps as the Chair of the committee.

H. Livability – Bicycle Update – Karen Lee Rosar

- There was a very successful ‘Open Streets’ event on Central Avenue. A list of up-coming events and dates can be found at [mplsbike.org](http://mplsbike.org)
- The Bridge #9 connection is expected to occur as early as this fall.

I. Safety and Livability – Phil Ailiff

- Renee Allen is drafting a flyer for the Block Club leader recruitment. Phil indicated that six contacts have been identified, but that 10-11 gaps still exist. Board members indicated that they could provide contacts to Phil for several of the gaps.
- PAC meeting is Wednesday August 7 at 4:00 – 6:00 PM at City Hall, Room 333.
- 1<sup>st</sup> Precinct Court Watch is Friday August 9<sup>th</sup> at 10 AM at the Minneapolis Public Library
- National Night Out will occur Tuesday August, 6. The police department patrolling will be divided into zones to visit each block party.
- A work group called, Tactile Urban Design Group has been formed to develop and implement low-cost, quick and simple fixes for challenged areas. Solutions such as loitering deterrents, (lighting solution), will begin to be implemented soon.

J. Neighborhood School Update – David Frank

- Alice and Eric will be sending out notifications that a survey will be coming out soon.

#### VIII. OLD BUSINESS

- A. NRP Phase II Update - JR Maddox
  - No update
- B. Farmers Market Advisory Group Update – Karen Lee Rosar
  - A Chef at the Market event will take place on August 17. Higher Ground will be the benefactor of funds raised. The board suggested that Matt, if available, represent the board in presenting the check to Higher Ground.
- C. 2020 Partners Update – Karen Lee Rosar
  - The interchange will open next year; a ‘Spike Ceremony’ will occur in August.
  - Plans to increase public art near the interchange are underway. Four local artists were selected, from among 10 proposals received, to create four installations.
- D. DNG update – Karen Lee Rosar
  - Next meeting will be held in September.
- E. Target Center Implementation Committee Update – Karen Lee Rosar
  - No update this month

#### IX. NEW BUSINESS

- DJ indicated that Scott with 525 3<sup>rd</sup> St North is moving forward with project approval. The developer indicated a willingness to develop and maintain the unsuitable portion of the property into a pocket park, and may be seeking input regarding the design.
- Fulton Brewery “came to terms” with the development which will be occurring on their block, surrounding their property.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 PM.