



**NORTH
LOOP**
NEIGHBORHOOD

**North Loop Neighborhood Association
Board Meeting Notes
July 27th, 2016
7:00 PM
Heritage Landing, 415 1st Street North**

Attendees: Philip Ailiff, Tim Bildsoe, Bryan Hollaway, Fritz Kroll, Diane Merrifield, Francesco Parisi, Katie Day, DJ Heinle, Scott Woller, David Frank
Absent: JR Maddox

- I. July Board Meeting called to order at 7:02 PM; those in attendance introduced themselves by stating names and building of residence or business of employment in the neighborhood.
- II. **A motion is made (Tim), seconded (Diane), and approved by the Board to approve the Board Meeting Agenda.**
- III. **A motion is made (Philip), seconded (Tim), and approved by the Board to approve the June 29, 2016 Board Meeting Minutes.**
- IV. Council Member Presentation- Jacob Frey
 - Council Member Frey was unable to make it this meeting.
- V. FINANCE REPORT–Tim Bildsoe
 - Tim sent out balances of savings and checking to the board in advance of this meeting, which only reflected marginal change in balance from previous month. A copy of June financials sent as well. Tim confirmed with the board that they like the format of the financial statements that Tim has sent out.
 - Robert Thompson from city was here at last meeting. Based on conversations with Robert and another consultant Mike Wilson Tim has developed a revised draft budget which integrated the allocation for CPP funding. As a reminder from the last meeting the CPP funds are to be used for outreach & community events.
 - Tim also informed the board that their current bookkeeper is moving out of the North Loop and Tim suggested that it is a good time to look into a different bookkeeper. Mike Wilson gave Tim the names of three other people that do bookkeeping for other neighborhood associations. Tim suggests that his next plan of action will be to have conversations with a few of them and get some quotes. Tim also makes a suggestion to get a PO box for NLNA rather than have the bookkeeper be the address for the organization.
 - Extension for taxes has been filed.
 - SHORT TERM GOALS:

- Board to make a decision on new bookkeeper.
- Finalize draft budget.
- Finalize taxes.
- Possible PO Box.
- LONG TERM GOALS:
 - Take a look at funding sources available. Send an email to those board members working on draft by Friday at the latest.
 - Diane asked if the income from website represented in the current draft budget? Tim - No this is just expenses for now, that is the next step in the draft budget. Katie Day asked when some of those funds expiring? DJ thought that the funds were part of a 3-year cycle, ending this year.
- DJ is working to prepare a resolution prior to the Mayor's budget coming out next month. DJ's hope is to put out a letter expressing interest in looking to have these funds supported again or more. TIF is set to sunset and expire soon.
 - Fritz asked if these TIF funds are being paid for through taxes? DJ confirmed yes.
 - David asked if DJ's vision for the letter would include that same language as other neighborhoods are using to prepare similar letters? DJ said that he thinks the North Loop would be the first to present this type of letter to the neighborhood committee.
 - Fritz shared his personal take is that he is not supportive of it because he is most supportive to lower taxes rather than initiatives to raise them.
 - David shared that most Minneapolis neighborhood associations use this money to pay their staff.
 - Bryan also shared that the set up of neighborhood associations is pretty unique to the Twin Cities.
 - Fritz shared that he agrees that the concept is wonderful, but just struggles with the principle of raising taxes.
 - **A motion is made (David), seconded (Bryan), abstain (Fritz), and approved by the Board to draft a letter asking for continued or greater support of funding for the NLNA.**

VI. NEIGHBOR COMMENTS

- Dave Lewis shared that he is on the board at 801 Lofts. On behalf of the board at 801 he wanted to share that they are in support of adding trees near their building. The board has also had some discussion and is willing to contribute funds for these trees. The board is also willing to contribute funds to lighting near their building as well.

VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Marketing and Promotions/ North Loop Businesses – Scott Woller
 - National Night Out is coming up Tuesday August 2nd
 - Target Field Station will be the location for National Night Out in the North Loop. Scott shared that they are willing to have neighborhood groups come and display, however no tables will provided and they need to do their own stuff.

- August 26th - Star Wars The Force Awakens will be played on the lawn at Target Field Station. There is still an outstanding \$200 needed for the operator fee above the \$500 which was already given.
 - **A motion is made (Scott), seconded (Bryan), and unanimously approved by the Board to contribute \$200 to the Target Field Station Movie Night to cover the expense of the operator fee.**
- Scott asks the board to begin thinking about events coming up in the fall.
- Scott also shares an idea of doing flea market, or swap under the viaduct extension of the farmers market. David shares that this is owned by MNDOT and leased to many. Diane shared that getting something like that up and running would take a lot of coordination.
- North Loop Business
 - Warehouse District Business Association met on July 13th. They talked about how to make Open Streets event better next year.
 - Bryan shared that the one in the North Loop/Downtown it is one of the smallest events in the city. During their debrief it was discovered that the stage was installed incorrectly so it blocked the road.
 - Scott shared a similar thought that compared to others Open Street events the Downtown one is three years newer and that we should be very patient and supportive.
 - Tim asked who books the bands? Bryan said that process is managed by Minneapolis Bike Coalition.
 - Bryan thought that next year it would be good for NLNA to have more of a role early conversations and the event as well.
- Website – Diane Merrifield
 - Volume is at about 4,000. “Contact Us” inquires have continued to increase. Diane answered about 50 inquires last month. Visit Twin Cities is still top referral and social media was a top referral.
 - David clarified that “Contact Us” inquires come through the info@northloop.org, which is read by Diane. As she is able Diane emails to board members to help respond. David shared that the board will work on solution for Diane so that she does not have to put so much of her time into responding to inquires.
- Planning + Zoning – DJ Heinle
 - Glenwood Ave improvements- Design 2016/2017, construction 2018. P&Z Committee gave feedback about signals, ADA, trees and proposed bike lanes.
 - Metro Transit also made a presentation at the meeting about a possible route change study for the bus rapid transit line currently planned for Olson Memorial. The study is looking into moving the route to Glenwood once the LRT is up and running on Olson.
 - Red Rabbit Restaurant - Operators of Red Cow are turning 201 Washington into the “Red Rabbit Restaurant” which will pizza, pasta, oysters. The owners hope to have the restaurant open in November.
 - **A motion is made (DJ), seconded (Diane), and unanimously approved by the Board to support the Red Rabbit restaurant project.**
 - Francesco was very diligent in gathering a traffic light box inventory. During the P&Z meeting the feeling was that the expense is high for this project. P&Z Committee is looking for direction from the board. What are the priorities

and where does this fall? David suggests that the board is holding on this till we see what the budget looks like.

- Scott also shared that repairing/replacing banners is important. David suggested getting a price estimate on banners.
- Katie Day also shared that there may be other ways we can involve our artists in the neighborhood.
- Livability – Greening & Lighting Update – Fritz Kroll
 - Fritz shared that he contracted a landscape woman to help the plots at 1st Street which have been mentioned as a problem in other meetings. The fee for her work was \$422. for her work.
 - **A motion is made (Fritz), seconded (Francesco), and unanimously approved by the Board to contribute \$422 to Robin for her landscape work on the plots on 1st Street.**
- NL park update – Katie Day
 - No update.
- Safety and Livability – Phil Ailiff
 - Phil shared that was a message on NLNA Facebook about someone trailing a resident into a secure building and theft from cars occurring. Phil confirmed that this situation is a legitimate 911 call. He suggested contacting your building security, then 911. Photos from this particular Facebook message have been forwarded to the Sergeant.
 - Next PAC meeting is on Wednesday August 3rd Room 333 City Hall 6-8 pm. The next first precinct meeting is on August 12 10am-11:30 2nd Floor Hennepin County Library. No Block Club meeting is set.
 - Phil also shared that he received a notification of public hearing of a level 3 sex offender moving to the neighborhood.
- Sustainability/Community Garden – Bryan Hollaway
 - No Update.

VIII. NEIGHBORHOOD PRIORITIES

- Infrastructure Investment
- Tim shared a draft letter of neighborhood priorities for council members with the board. A meeting has been scheduled for August with two council members. Edits and rearranging elements of the letter are discussed.
- David suggests removing the word PLAN and swapping out the word IMPLEMENTATION in the draft letter.
- **Subject to additional edits as needed, a motion is made (Diane), seconded (Phil), and unanimously approved by the Board to support the draft letter of priorities to be given to council members.**
- Pedestrian Safety – No Update
- On-Street Parking –
 - Tim is working to generate a map. One area that needs more short term parking is the area by Monte Carlo on 3rd.
- Affordable Housing – No Update

- Beautification
- Mark Hunting, neighborhood resident along with an Arborist, Mike Dye from S&S presented to the board a plan for Washington Avenue tree planting. Mark shared that he would like to propose tree planting on Washington Ave and has been working with Mike from S&S to make a plan. Mark shared that from this meeting he wants to discover if the NLNA supports this as a project. The plan includes planting larger studier trees that will have a larger impact early on. The first step was to develop a plan, which the city engineering has already approved.
- Cost? Mark shared that they do not know the absolute cost, but assume it to be roughly \$75,000 for 15 trees. The trees in the plan would be 10-12 feet tall and be 3 types: Kentucky Coffee, Ginko Trees (hardy), and Heritage Oak (durable). Mark made sure that these types of trees are in compliance with city requirement for diversity.
- Ways to fund? Ask for donations. HCMC, Bewitch, 801 Lofts, Bar La Grasa. Also companies that do a lot of work here in this neighborhood. City funding- too small, too weak trees. May be the possibility of requesting grates from the City. Also possibility to request some funding from NLNA. Also consider adopt a tree.
- What is the timing? Love plant in the fall. Planting mid October would be ideal.
- Mark asks the board to send their suggestions to him via email. Mark also proposes coming back next month.
- Board agrees this project is a priority.
- Mike from S&S says that he is donating his time in helping coordinate this project.

IX. OLD BUSINESS

- A. NRP funding update –
 - No update
- B. Farmers Market Advisory Group update-
 - No update
- C. 2020 Partners Update –
 - City of Minneapolis Farmer’s Market improvement plan will be posted online soon. The improvements will be made to the existing red sheds. The plan also includes work over next couple of years to look for location for an indoor market.
 - 6th Ave North will be done in November rather than October.
 - There was a 30 minute conversation about parking. A task force has been formed at 2020 Partners that will focus on on-street and off-street parking.
 - David mentioned that Tim was invited to the 2020 partners meeting.
 - David asked the board to again consider an annual contribution to 2020 Partners. Historically NLNA has contributed \$3000 annually. This ask will be held until a budget is worked out.
- D. DNG Update –

- No update, did not meet

X. NEW BUSINESS

- David announced that JR is moving and is resigning from the NLNA Board. The current NLNA Board has to appoint someone for the rest of his term, 5 months remaining. David asked the board to consider key people that the board may be missing at this point and think of who that would be.
- Tim proposed a few dates in September and the board agreed to set the next date for a neighborhood cleanup of Washington Avenue for September 10th at 10am.

Meeting adjourned at 8:36PM