



**NORTH  
LOOP**  
NEIGHBORHOOD

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**North Loop Neighborhood Association**

**Board Meeting Notes**

**October 25, 2017**

**7:00 P.M.**

**Heritage Landing Community Room, 415 1st Street North**

**Attendees: Tim Bildsoe, Diane Merrifield,  
Scott Woller, Mark Huting, Fritz Kroll, Phil Ailiff, and Francesco Parisi**

- I. October Board Meeting called to order at 7:07 P.M.; those in attendance introduced themselves by stating their names and building of residence or business or employment in the neighborhood.
- I. **Motion is made by Mark, seconded by Tim, and unanimously approved by the Board to approve the September Meeting Minutes.**
- II. **Motion is made by Fritz, seconded by Diane, and unanimously approved by the Board to approve the Board meeting agenda.**
- III. Council Member Engagement – Jacob Frey, Blong Yang
  - A. Neither Councilmember Frey nor Yang were in attendance.
- IV. Neighborhood Engagement – North Loop Neighbors
  - a. Craig Goodrich, neighborhood resident, expresses his surprise at Jacob Frey who didn't think there was a problem with crime in the neighborhood and that he is impressed with Tim Blidsoe, who is addressing issues of violence and crime. He would also appreciate the opportunity for a watch commander to come to the meetings.
  - b. Dr. Jane Hess, North Loop Clinic, speaks about the services provided at the clinic, including: family practice, dermatology, allergy, OBGYN, midwife, chiropractic, and acupuncture services. The clinic has been serving mostly North Loop residents and employees. Located in the Tractor Works building and open for six months, the clinic has been outperforming projected goals.

- c. The “Off the Streets Run,” which is a 5k to raise awareness about human trafficking tied to Super Bowl, has been rebranded as “Not in Our City Run” and is being held on December 9.

V. Finance Report – Tim Bildsoe

- A. The NRP money has been approved; it should be transferred in the next three weeks.
- B. The account balances are down, but Tim has not yet submitted for reimbursement for CPP money, which includes \$12,500 and \$28,000 items; the trees on Washington Avenue were another \$57,000. The \$204,000 to YouthLink has already been delivered. The way the process is set up requires payments to be reimbursements for expenses already incurred.
- C. Tim suggests the Board take a tour of YouthLink. Diane suggests contacting MinnPost for publicity opportunities if the Board does tour the project.

VI. Secretary's Report

- A. There is no report to present.

VII. NLNA Priorities – Committee Reports

A. Planning & Zoning – Mark Huting

- 1. The October meeting was smaller without any developer approvals or presentations.
- 2. The Committee formalized and approved the developer guideline documents. They will provide a source of documentation for projects presented and a reference to verify that people have kept their word.
- 3. Francesco notes that the letters that the Board provides do not go to the City, rather just to the developer. Unless the developer presents the letter to the City, the City may not see it. From now on, Francesco recommends, especially if there are conditions or considerations to take into account, that the letter be sent to the developer and to the senior city planner assigned to the project. This is already the practice for some other neighborhood associations. City staff Andrew Frenz gave Francesco this suggestion. The letters should be drafted by the Planning & Zoning Committee and then approved by the Board.
- 4. The 419 development is a good lesson to learn, as what was built was not what was presented to the Board. It is asked if the Board should send a letter to the Historic Preservation Committee (HPC), as the development going before it next Wednesday was never presented to, let alone approved by the Board. The letter will request that the developer present to the Board. **A motion is made by Francesco, seconded by Mark, and approved unanimously by the Board to send the letter to HPC requesting a presentation be made to the Board.**
- 5. Mark and Karen Rosar met with senior staff of Park and Recreation Board on how to move forward with priority parks. The staff agreed that some of

the proposed parks would be eligible for park dedication fees. There is \$892,000 in the park dedication bucket with an additional \$500,000 over the next two years. The money is from a \$1,500 dedication fee per unit charged to developers. Mark put together a letter outlining priorities and how to spend money.

1. North Loop Park, because it would have the biggest impact on the most people and because we are down to the wire as there are not many properties left. Schafer Richardson will need to be engaged to use park dedication fees and have a waiver for the new property. The park would be part of the Parks and Recreation system, so we can go to donors and put money together quickly.

2. Connector Park, because it appears on the downtown service master plan and is time sensitive. There would need to be a usage agreement with Goldman Sachs because there would be public use of private property.

3. Gateway Project, as it is shovel ready and the Board is already working with the City and State. Only a small amount of funds are required to jump start it.

4. Dog park, as it is another viable undertaking.

6. **A motion is made by Fritz, seconded by Scott, and approved unanimously by the Board to approve the park priorities list.**

7. Tim was sure to give Mark credit for the connector park at the Steering Committee 2020 Partners presentation on North Loop developments.

B. Community Engagement – Scott Woller

1. If anyone has information to share for the newsletter, please e-mail it to Scott.

2. The next cleanup day (and last for 2017) will be held this Saturday, October 28. It may be rescheduled if there is snow. The next one will be held in the spring.

3. The bike fixit station went from an idea at Modest Brewery to an actual installation in one day. It was great working with the team there. Scott suggests installing one each year in different areas throughout the neighborhood; perhaps the NLNA could approach residential buildings, too. The Parks Department has a grant program to help offset the costs (it would pay for 50% of the expense of a bike station) on their property, but it would not be able to be branded.

4. Scott met with Twins, who are willing to cover the cost of showing the movie Frosty the Snowman at 6:00 P.M. on Saturday, December 16 outside on the grass. Corner Coffee would provide hot chocolate; the Twins might provide snow cones.

5. Tim suggests having a “Little Library” somewhere in the neighborhood; Francesco mentions the lack of seating areas and how they would complement a library installation. Scott has a friend who builds them -

perhaps one can be designed as a multifamily building, instead of a single family home. Scott will reach out.

C. North Loop Website – Diane Merrifield

1. Diane e-mailed the report yesterday.
2. The volume is down, but not surprisingly so, as it is a volatile measure and fluctuates with City events. The reason that other states have been having such high numbers is that they also have North Loop neighborhoods and as such, these visits have been misdirects. Diane has been receiving consistent inquiries to which she responds directly.
3. Any Super Bowl related information would need to be neighborhood specific. She can post it onto the Facebook page as well as the website alert page. There are strict rules and regulations regarding the Super Bowl, including the prohibition of the promotion or selling of Super Bowl related products.

D. Neighborhood Safety - Phil Ailiff

1. Renee has surfaced, but she and Phil are playing phone tag. He hopes that they can schedule a Block Club meeting soon.
2. Phil would like Shane to attend a meeting to give a presentation on cameras and surveillance. He will suggest November.
3. The Walk Summit that was held in September went very well. Phil was part of a team that led a mobile workshop, starting at Target Field and that featured highlights of the neighborhood and its rapid expansion.
4. The next PAC meeting Wednesday, November 1 from 4:00 to 6:00 P.M. in City Hall, Room 333. All people are welcome.
5. The next First Precinct Court Watch is Friday, November 10 at 10:00 A.M. at the County Library Doty conference room. There is no December meeting.
6. The Peavey plaza technical team continues to meet, but there is no update.
7. Minneapolis is to apply for gold status designation of “Walk Friendly Community.” Phil will update the Board.

E. Infrastructure - Tim Bildsoe

1. There is nothing to report regarding infrastructure.

F. Business - Andy Risvold

1. There is nothing to report, as Andy is not in attendance.

G. Parks and Beautification - Mark Huting

1. The planting of 75 trees (between the work of the City and the NLNA) throughout the neighborhood has been completed. Ben Shardlow from the Downtown Improvement District (DID) walked the neighborhood with Mark to conduct an analysis of trees. There will be 56 planted on 3rd Street in 2019. Along 8th Street, where major improvements will be made, the City will be using granite curbs and reclaimed catch basins from the early 1900s.

2. Mark met with the City about a dog park in the area. This setup has never been done, so there is a bit of confusion. It will likely take a year to get moving.
3. Mark is still working with MNDOT on the gateway project. City and State approvals have been in place since August. The project will include the reconfiguring of the street to provide for left turn, center, and right turn lanes. Lighting will be replaced and the pedestrian crossing will also be improved, as it does not meet ADA standards.
4. A 100 year-old cottonwood tree on Washington Avenue has been cut down, as there was too much damage done to its roots by an adjacent excavation. An independent expert verified the damage.
5. Francesco reports that the Tractor Works building is paying to have the electric box painted. There is money available to fund public art installations. There is a gallery next to 618 that would be good space for public art, installations, or moving shows. It is going to feature a historic map of the North Loop.

## VIII. Unfinished Business

### A. New Business

#### 1. Annual meeting

- a) It should be held on January 31, but because of conflict with and demand from the Super Bowl, that date won't work. Instead it will be held on Wednesday, January 24.
  - b) The Be the Match building has been tentatively reserved. In past years, when the meeting was held in the building, there were issues with driver's licenses and access, but hopefully that won't pose an issue this year. Because of the date change, more and more advanced notice of the meeting will be required.
  - c) There are six spots up for re-election. Tim suggests appointing Dr. Michelle Donald to Jeff's vacated seat; Francesco suggests runners-up and those already on the Planning & Zoning Committee. Tim will e-mail Jackie Peacha first about this one year position.
  - d) The agenda will be changed this year so that
    - (1) The business component is at 6:30 P.M.
    - (2) Happy hour will feature live music, vendors, and speeches from elected officials. Time limits need to be adhered to. The presentation component will be shorter this year.
    - (3) The order will be: happy hour, business, candidate speeches, elections, any additional speeches, results.
    - (4) Tim will send out agenda and Scott will send out a save-the-date.
2. The charter schools within the Velocity Building are open and doing well. The owner told Tim that the basketball court can be open for events or to anyone who wants to start a league.

3. Lundstrum Performance Arts is another venue to keep in mind for meetings, fundraisers, etc.

B. Farmers' Market Advisory Group Update - Mark Huting

1. The renovation is still being designed, but it will feature new bathroom and handicap access.

IX. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 29, 2017.

Adjourned at 8:25 P.M.