



**NORTH  
LOOP**  
NEIGHBORHOOD

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**North Loop Neighborhood Association  
Board Meeting Minutes**

**March 28, 2018  
7:00 P.M.**

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

Attendees: Tim Bildsoe, Diane Merrifield, Daniel Mays, Jackie Peacha, Andy Risvold, Scott Woller, Mark Huting, Fritz Kroll, Irina Brown, and Fred Dawe

- I. March Board Meeting called to order at 7:01 P.M.
- II. **Motion is made by Tim, seconded by Mark, and unanimously approved by the Board to approve the Board meeting agenda.**
- III. **Motion is made by Tim, seconded by Fred, and unanimously approved by the Board to approve the February Meeting minutes.**
- IV. Neighborhood Engagement – North Loop Neighbors
  - a. There will be a ribbon cutting on April 27 for Farrell’s Extreme Body Shaping franchise, which features kickboxing and strength training in a 10-week program at 304 6th Avenue North in the Variant building. It will be promoted on the North Loop website.
  - b. Resident of 2112 Lofts, located next to the Federal Reserve, came to inquire about what is proposed to be developed on the parking lot, which was purchased by the Federal Reserve.
- V. Councilmember Engagement
  - a. Councilmember Ellison did not attend.
  - b. Councilmember Fletcher updated the Board on the new tool from CPED that tracks all development proposals from the City – and will be available to the public. Tim wants to link this tool, as well as the councilmember’s office contact information, to the North Loop website. Councilmember Fletcher suggests linking the Minneapolis 2040 (new Comprehensive Plan) website to the North Loop website, too, which allows for public interaction and feedback. Councilmember Fletcher also addresses public safety, particularly the apprehension of and filing of charges against a man who had been carrying a gun in the neighborhood, thanks in large part to the residents who had continued to contact his office and the police. Fritz inquires as to

whether more police will be patrolling the neighborhood; CM Fletcher said he has made the request for more patrols, but he was uncertain if they would be 24-hour patrols. CM Fletcher stressed that parking lots in the entertainment district are problem spots and need to be activated, i.e. draw people to those areas in productive ways (food trucks, Uber pickup/drop-off locations). Scott asked about pedestrian safety and CM Fletcher responded that there are significant plans for street redesign in 2019 and that the speed wagon would be out at times. Mark suggested more police present to write speeding/crosswalk violation tickets at known problem spots to try to mitigate danger for pedestrians.

VI. Finance Report – Tim Bildsoe

- a. Tim has a meeting on Friday to turn over the day-to-day operations to Irina. He has the balance sheet and budget prepared for taxes, which he distributed by e-mail. Approximately \$23,000 of the CPD money has been received from the City and another request will be put in soon for \$4,000 to \$5,000.

VII. Secretary's Report – Jackie Peacha

- a. The Board contact list has been distributed, but will not be posted on the website. The attendee list from the annual meeting has also been compiled and turned over to Scott.

VIII. NLNA Priorities – Committee Reports

- a. Planning & Zoning – Jackie Peacha
  - i. The Number 12 Cidery, at 700 North 5<sup>th</sup> Street, is moving forward. Jackie had the letter approving their request for a variance regarding the permanent food truck, as well as support for their liquor license. **A motion is made by Jackie, seconded by Mark, and approved unanimously by the Board to approve the letter of support.**
  - ii. Planning and Zoning Committee can have up to 15 members and currently only has 12. Three potential candidates include: David Miller, architect at UrbanWorks; Joshua Stein, works at T3/Amazon and lives at Heritage Landing; and Irina Brown, current Board member. **A motion is made by Irina, seconded by Jackie, and approved unanimously by the Board to approve the appointment of Joshua, David, and Irina to the Planning and Zoning Committee.**
  - iii. Planning and Zoning developed guidelines for reviewing and vetting projects; it also established approval letters. It would now like to set up a process for tracking approved projects that move on to other entities within the City (i.e. Planning Commission approvals). It would also like to have a list of all facility managers at apartments/condos to notify when projects are occurring.
  - iv. A Star Tribune writer had reached out to see if there was anything interesting coming up with Planning and Zoning.
- b. Community Engagement – Scott Woller
  - i. The Candy Grab is scheduled for this Saturday, March 31. Scott has promotional materials and sponsors secured already. It should be a great event!

- ii. April 21 is the scheduled Earth Day Clean Up event. The City will host the trash drop-off location underneath the viaduct. Tim has gloves and bags in addition to those made available already.
  - iii. On Sunday May 6, a food truck fair will be held at the Heritage Landing Circle. Scott requests \$500 for marketing and music for the event. The Board discusses approaches to branding and soliciting sponsorships in the future, including how to value sweat equity contributions. All agreed that there is a need to find new sources of funding and a need to track interactions with donors/potential donors. **A motion is made by Fritz, seconded by Diane, and unanimously approved by the Board to donate \$500 for the event.**
  - iv. Tim talked about having, in conjunction with the police department, a safety presentation for residents and property managers.
- c. North Loop Website – Diane Merrifield
  - i. Volume is up to 4,000, which may be due partially to a New York Times article about the neighborhood.
  - ii. Facebook is driving most traffic to the website. Diane requests input from all members on their opinions of the site.
  - iii. Jackie suggests posting video on the website and utilizing Instagram and hashtags.
  - iv. Mark proposes that they all provide feedback before the next meeting and take a vote then as to what changes should be made to the website.
- d. Historic Preservation and Public Art – Mark Huting
  - i. Mention is made of the graffiti art project on 2<sup>nd</sup> Street.
- e. Parks and Beautification – Mark Huting
  - i. Washington Avenue pocket park by North Loop Fitness: there is a meeting to be held one week from now regarding the funding of operations; the issue at hand is that it will be publicly used, but privately held, so who funds the park is debatable.
  - ii. 700 North Washington Avenue Tree Project: the current trees will be removed and replaced with approximately 15-foot trees and perennial flower beds. This segment was totally funded by Greco.
  - iii. Washington Avenue/2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue tree planting:
    - 1. 10 new beds and 11 new trees all funded on Washington;
    - 2. 3 new beds on 2<sup>nd</sup>; two of which are already funded. Mark requests that the Board donate \$3,000 to fund the third. **A motion is made by Tim, seconded by Fritz, and approved unanimously by the Board to donate \$3,000 for the third tree bed on 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue N.**
  - iv. Mark introduces Pat Dawson, a resident of the North Loop, who is working on the neighborhood history project together. They discuss some examples, like Pioneer Square in Seattle, and best practices, like identifying partners and resources and considering potential deliverables, such as: printed history (like a coffee table book), website, historical signage, walking tours, interpretive center, and dramatic performances. Tim wants to know how the NLNA can help and Mark indicates that feedback from the Association is most helpful.
    - 1. Dog Park: Fred provides the update that CM Fletcher indicated his support for a dog park and his desire to get CM Ellison on board, too. Fred, Mark, and Tim have been reaching out to stakeholders to determine which may be the best space; they are considering near the on-ramp for 394 at 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Streets. A representative from the City

said the best way is for the Park Board to acquire title to property and for the NLNA to collaborate on developing it.

2. Mark has been talking to Mark Krause about a green survey of the North Loop to be conducted. It would show the financial benefit of greening to the neighborhood; it would be funded by a grant.

f. Neighborhood Safety – Daniel Mayes

- i. A man had been apprehended in the neighborhood and first precinct police have been asking neighbors directly and indirectly to give impact statements.
- ii. Daniel mentions that every time he sees CM Fletcher he will continue to harp on the need for patrols and other resources after 10:00 PM.
- iii. Daniel requests safety data from neighbors and residents, asking that people e-mail him or Diane about reports and problem spots, so that he can re-examine information and provide to the elected officials and police. He will also connect with building management companies about collecting crime information from them.
- iv. At the Pedestrian Advisory Committee, snow removal was at top of their list of issues to be addressed.
- v. Daniel will sit on the first precinct's neighborhood alliance.

IX. Unfinished Business

- a. There is no unfinished business.

X. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 25, 2018.

Adjourned at 9:22 P.M.