



**NORTH  
LOOP**  
NEIGHBORHOOD

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**North Loop Neighborhood Association  
Board Meeting Notes**

**July 31, 2019  
7:00 P.M.**

**Colonial Warehouse Co-Working Lounge, 212 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue North**

9 of 11 Board members were in attendance: Tim Bildsoe, Diane Merrifield, Bri Sharkey-Smith, Irina Brown, Dana Swindler, Mark Huting, Scott Woller, Daniel Mays, and David Crary.

Neighbors in attendance: Representatives from The Nordic, Bookman Lofts, 222 Hennepin Apartments, Whitney Square, and 730 Lofts.

1. July Board Meeting called to order at 7:05 P.M. by Tim Bildsoe.
2. **Motion is made by Tim, seconded by Daniel, and unanimously approved by the Board to approve the Board meeting agenda with no changes.**
3. **Motion is made by Diane, seconded by Dana, and unanimously approved by the Board to approve the June Meeting minutes with the following change:**
  - a. Item 10.a.1. Mark Huting is incorrectly listed as the alternate for the Neighborhood and Community Engagement Commission election conference. Mike Binkley was the alternate.
4. Neighborhood Engagement & Recognize Outgoing Board Members
  - a. Glen Dall, a former CEO, started Apex North Business Coaching. He is launching roundtable-style small business coaching classes in September in The Nordic. The classes will center around business growth and strategic planning.
  - b. Mark Huting and Daniel Mays are both moving out of the North Loop and leaving the Board. We're sad to see them go!
5. Councilmember Engagement – Councilmember Fletcher not present.
6. Finance Report – Irina Brown
  - a. NLNA has almost \$56,000 in assets.
  - b. Board needs to send Irina website sponsorship amounts and sponsor addresses so she can mail thank you acknowledgements and tax receipts.

7. Secretary's report – Mark Huting
  - a. Nothing to report.
  
8. NLNA Priorities – Committee Reports
  - a. Planning + Zoning – Irina Brown
    1. Tim had a recent meeting with MnDot, Hennepin County, and the City of Minneapolis about the intersection of Washington Ave and 3rd Ave N. Each of those government entities owns a piece of that intersection. The result of the conversation is a short-term solution (2019) involving changes in traffic signaling to improve traffic mobility, and a long-term solution (2021) with capital budget allocations for a complete reconfiguration of the intersection.
    2. One Minneapolis Brewing Company – hoping to open October 1. Small taproom with a brewpub license, so they will have some wine and liquor options but everything will come out of a keg. Located between Fulton and Inbound. "One" Minneapolis meant to convey an inclusive culture.
      1. **Motion is made by Tim, seconded by Mark, and unanimously approved by the Board to write a letter of support for One Minneapolis Brewing Company.**
    3. North Loop Green 3 Project – Hines Properties. Create green space on 5th St. Includes compact urban ballpark. Connect pedestrian and cyclist paths to Cedar Lake Trail. Hired ESG Architects for the design. ESG will be a tenant of Hines' new office tower on that parcel.
      1. **Motion is made by Tim, seconded by Scott, and unanimously approved by the Board to provide a conditional letter of support that asks Hines to come back and present a more final plan, in addition to providing notification within a 1,000-foot radius + notification signage.**
    4. Duffy Project – In the very early stages of development, closed on the property just last week. The developer is a company out of Chicago that specializes in rehabbing old buildings.
      1. Activating entire first floor with retail.
      2. Plan to put in greenery, though the space is not zoned for greening.
      3. Bedrock prevents digging below one level for underground parking. They plan to provide 80 parking spaces, which includes spots in an existing parking lot that may displace current parkers.
      4. They will salvage and highlight historical details in the design process.
      5. **Motion is made by Tim, seconded by Mark, and unanimously approved by the Board to provide a conditional letter of support that asks them to come back to P+Z and present plans that are further along.**
    5. North Loop Galley Project – food hall in The Nordic with two spaces for rotating chefs. Looking for approval of their liquor license.
      1. **Motion is made by Irina, seconded by Tim, and unanimously approved by the Board to approve the North Loop Galley liquor license.**
    6. Councilmember Steve Fletcher was present at last week's P+Z meeting to talk about the 2040 plans. For laws around new development,

ordinances trump guidelines. The 2040 plan will become an ordinance in 2021.

7. Moving forward, P+Z will talk with and encourage developers to find alternative parking for their construction workers so they are not clogging street parking. Additionally, P+Z will document greenery plans in all letters of support for evidence moving forward.
  8. Bob Hinrichs and Aneesha Marwah are two new candidates for the P+Z Committee.
    1. **Motion is made by Irina, seconded by Diane, and unanimously approved by the Board to appoint Bob to a 1.5 year term.**
    2. **Motion is made by Tim, seconded by Daniel, and unanimously approved by the Board to appoint Aneesha to a 5-month term.**
    3. Joe McErlane and Irina are officially Co-Chairs of the P+Z Committee.
    4. The total P+Z Committee member count is now 14.
- b. Community Engagement – Scott Woller
1. Washington Ave cleanup event on Saturday, August 31.
    1. Irina requests that we add weekday evening cleanup events for folks who may want to volunteer after work.
  2. National Night Out
    1. 5:30-7:30p on Tuesday, August 6. Will be hosted at Target Field during the Twins game.
    2. Scott passed out flyers to the Board to disperse in the neighborhood.
    3. Need volunteers at the event to help with food set-up and clean-up.
    4. Twins will provide a bouncy house and tables.
    5. Nice Ride is setting up a slow ride course.
  3. Annual Meeting - like last year, the Annual Meeting will be held at Muse on the last Wednesday in January 2020.
- c. Civic Engagement – Bri Sharkey-Smith
1. Daniel brought together the North Loop Fermenters group. It will be a loose organization with a few happy hours over the next year. Final goal is to have a big party in 2020.
    1. Bri plans to use some of these events to boost civic engagement and educate voters on the electoral process.
  2. Planning to host an event where Steve Simon will present on election security.
  3. NLNA will have a voter registration booth at National Night Out.
- d. Website and Social Media – Diane Merrifield and Mike Binkley
1. Record-breaking 11,000 website visits in June, mostly as a result of Mike's videos. Over 2,500 visits began with Facebook link clicks.
  2. Website sponsorships need to be sent into Diane to update the sponsor list on the website.
  3. Diane wants to lock down neighborhood cleanup dates in coordination with Edwards Dessert Kitchen so they can provide coupons for free ice cream to volunteers.
- e. Livability and Safety – Dana Swindler

1. Wednesday, August 7 event at Open Book with MPD to talk about crime in the downtown area.
  2. Dana met with Hennepin County Sheriff and had an unhelpful conversation. But, email correspondence with 1,800 businesses has spread awareness, illuminated crime, and highlighted the need for more security in the North Loop.
  3. Dana joined Twin Cities Organization Retail which provides crime notifications that he is circulating to local businesses.
- f. Parks and Beautification – Mark Huting
1. David is leading cleanup efforts in James Rice Park and will plant new greenery.
  2. Fundraising for North Loop Welcome monument is 49% committed with 15 outstanding asks that will hopefully generate another \$10k – 20k.
    1. Potentially start an individual fundraising campaign in the neighborhood for the final chunk of fundraising after businesses have committed dollars.
    2. Mark will send out a final email to outstanding businesses.
    3. A second North Loop Little Free Library will be installed in the Welcome Park.
    4. Welcome Park responsibilities have been passed onto Dana.
  3. Tree watering continues – performed second watering of 38 new trees. Mark turned over watering program to Irina.
  4. MnDOT has not finished design for rain gardens. Garden project passed onto David.
  5. Pedestrian greenway and North Loop Park are slowed down by the City who has not responded to emails. Also will be passed along to David.
  6. Community garden is tilled and ready for planting. Garden needs a water source.
- g. Historic Preservation and Public Art – Francesco Parisi & Mark Huting
1. Public art in the Tower is delayed once again.
  2. Historic preservation signs will include QR codes that generate videos (created by Mike) with information about the buildings. Project will be led by Mike and Pat.
9. Unfinished business
- a. NCEC Election updates - the newly elected Commissioner is Lolita Carter. She will oversee District 5 and focus on voter registration for persons of color.
10. New Business
- a. No new business.
11. The next board meeting will be held on August 28, 2019.

**Adjourned at 9:10 P.M by Tim.**