



**North Loop Neighborhood Association
Planning & Zoning Meeting Notes
February 19, 2020
6:00 P.M.**

Colonial Warehouse Conference Lounge, 212 3rd Ave N

1. February Planning & Zoning Meeting was called to order at 6:03 P.M.
2. 6 of 12 Committee members were in attendance: David Miller, Jo Vos, Alice Eichholz, Francesco Parisi, Bob Hinrichs, Zackery Schaaf.

Representative from Itasca, Andrew Morse, from Renaissance on the River, Kathleen Stringfield, and Eric Mann, and Ron Sliwinski were also present.

3. **Motion is made by Alice seconded by Jo, and unanimously approved by the Committee to approve the December meeting minutes with no changes.**
4. **Motion is made by David, seconded by Jo and unanimously approved by the Committee to approve the February meeting agenda with no changes.**
5. 2020 NLNA P+Z Priorities
 - a. Jo recommended the committee keep a list of pending projects and use it to contact and eventually invite back developers for updates. She also noted it would be useful for people new to the committee who are not fully informed about past P+Z committee action.
 - b. Alice recommended the committee bring back in existence the use of subcommittees, especially “New Loop Partners” and to have reports to update the P+Z committee on new developments in the neighborhood. All those present agreed with adding a standing agenda item for this report. Alice volunteered to be the point of contact.
 - c. It was noted that the charter indicates each member must serve on at least one subcommittee. Francesco invited committee members to indicate an area of

interest they wish to focus and report on. Alice suggested listing these areas/subcommittees as default Agenda items for report. Francesco will add those items and other standing committees, as identified, to future agendas.

- d. Zack and Jo recommended the creation of a subcommittee to implement a Google sheet to track every person or group who presents to the committee, and subsequent follow-up action items. David noted a member of this subcommittee should be responsible for conducting these follow-ups. Jo volunteered to put together these categories that Zack will enter into the Google sheet. Zack suggested the sheet be referenced each meeting to discuss follow-up action items.
 - e. David recommended the committee form a subcommittee to track development projects relevant to the 2040 Plan. The neighborhood book lays out development expectations and should be updated to align with the 2040 Plan. Alice has a copy and suggested someone from the committee be responsible for reporting back from the city planning commission meetings.
 - f. Francesco recommended the P+Z Committee resume the use of a single email address to serve as a central hub for information. The committee agreed with this priority. All those present agreed only the chairs should have ability to send messages from that email account. Several committee members requested read-only access to that account. Francesco will take this request to the next board meeting
 - g. David recommended the committee implement proposal submission deadlines for developers that allow the drafting and posting of agendas at least one week before P+Z meetings are held. Alice clarified that the chairs should retain discretion to add agenda items, after the agenda is publicly posted, if those items are urgent and do not require notice to HOAs or neighbors.
 - h. All those present agreed Francesco should ask the board if there are existing policies regarding using neighbor email addresses and listservs. It was agreed that the committee is not responsible for making sure everyone in the neighborhood is informed, but they are responsible for making the information readily accessible. It was also noted that the committee would like for there to be segmented listservs in the future.
 - i. Francesco will bring the identified P+Z committee's priorities up for discussion at the next Board meeting.
6. 2020 NLNA P+Z Membership
- a. According to P+Z Charter, "individuals interested in joining the committee are asked to submit their name to the committee co-chairs and a formal slate of candidates is created. The slate of candidates is then submitted to the North Loop Neighborhood Board for approval of candidates."
 - b. The current co-chairs, Irina and Francesco, asked all current P+Z members if they were interested in continuing to serve on the committee. Thirteen out of fourteen members of the committee asked for their appointment to the committee to be extended. Aneesha Marwah resigned, effective February 2020. The co-

chair recommended extending the appointment of all members who expressed an interest to do so. This left two vacancies on P+Z committee if the full slate of fifteen members is to be filled. The co-chair recommended filling the two spots with Eric Mann, a former committee member who had interrupted his previous P+Z term due to a motorcycle accident and asked to return on the committee, and Ron Sliwinski, a newly elected Board member, who will be taking turns with Francesco in giving P+Z reports to the Board.

- c. Alice and other members noted that some of the members who expressed interest in being reappointed had a high absence rate during the past year.
- d. Many of those present expressed concern regarding the policy that allows for no more than two unexcused absences. Jo suggested that the charter should be re-evaluated to adjust the attendance policy and other policies that are “strongly recommended” or “required”. The committee will take up the absence policy once the new committee is formed and approved by the Board.
- e. All those present agreed with bringing forward the list of committee members to the next board, noting the percentage of meetings missed in 2019.

7. NLNA Board Actions

- a. The Association has taken over management of the dog park. The owners of Unleashed Hounds and Hops expressed an interest in sponsoring aspects of the park. There will soon be a committee formed to manage the park, and we will be looking for Board members, P+Z members, and volunteers to serve on it. Neighbor Kathleen Stringfield expressed her availability to serve on it.
- b. The board is considering adding historic signage throughout the neighborhood, printed on either a metal sheet or a brass plaque. David recommended a historic consultant to verify the accuracy of historic information before it's printed, and Eric suggested the board consider having businesses sponsor brass plaques for their buildings. Alice expressed concern regarding the cost per letter for a brass sign and members were undecided on whether the signs should link back to a website for more information. Francesco is to take the feedback to the next board meeting.
- c. Artist Ron Ridgway is modifying the “Walk to the River” Map according to the feedback received at the P+Z and Board meetings last November. He also sent proposals to the Tower Lofts HOA to develop Phase II of the Tower Tunnel Art Space. The existing piece of art in Tower Tunnel will be modified with action art layering, and two additional pieces will be added. The designer submitted the renderings to the HOA board and was approved for funding. Sketches and renderings were circulated. Members had no feedback to pass along to the board.
- d. Concrete seating and tables resembling the columns and architecture of the North Loop were proposed for the area surrounding the Welcome Park monument. Sketches were circulated. Members had no feedback to pass along to the board.

- e. There will be a celebration on April 2nd to celebrate the installation of the NL monument. All committee members and their guests were invited.
8. Neighbor Comments
- a. Bob noted the 700-800 Washington crosswalk is dangerous because it's rarely observed by drivers. The crosswalk is on a county road, but the association can attempt to influence changes to it. Jo suggested all of the crosswalks in the neighborhood be evaluated and positioned as one ask of the county. Francesco said restriping of the streets will take place in the Spring/Summer 2020 and P+Z should bring this topic up again at the end of the Summer, after reassessing the traffic and safety situation.
9. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 18, 2020.

Adjourned at 7:35 P.M.