

**East Isles Residents' Association (EIRA)**  
Minutes from the Annual Members Meeting  
April 14, 2015  
Grace-Trinity Community Church

The annual meeting began with hors d'oeuvres and social hour. Thirty East Isles residents and invited guests attended the event.

EIRA Vice President Vaughn Emerson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**Lisa Goodman, Ward 7 Council Member, City of Minneapolis**

- 1800 Lake: the lower level parking garage was filled in and groundwater pumping has stopped.
- Giordano's, 2700 Hennepin Ave S, will open in mid-June.
- Road construction projects: Hennepin/Lyndale redesign project will begin soon (and will take two summers to complete). I-394 will be under construction for five weeks this summer. Utility work is being done on Nicollet Mall.
- Curbside organics composting will be available for a small section of East Isles this year. Service will begin for the rest of the neighborhood in April 2016. It is an opt-in program. The city offers five organics drop off sites throughout the city. For details, go to: [www.minneapolismn.gov/solid-waste/organics](http://www.minneapolismn.gov/solid-waste/organics).
- Street sweeping and yard waste collection began this week.
- Lunch with Lisa is April 29, noon at the University of St. Thomas. The guest speaker is Olga Viso, Walker Art Museum.

**Marion Greene, Hennepin County Commissioner, District 3**

- Commissioner Greene's office produces a monthly e-newsletter.
- Half of county's budget is for health care and human services.
- E-cigarettes are not allowed at County facilities where Minnesota's Clean Indoor Air Act applies.
- Transportation Study around the West Lake Station of Southwest LRT is beginning. Community Workshop is April 29, 5:00-7:00 p.m. at Jones-Harrison Residence, 3700 Cedar Lake Ave.
- Many of the bridges over the Midtown Greenway are old and in need of repair (two are on a short list for federal funding). Metro Transit did an analysis about transit on the Greenway last year but there is currently no funding source.
- This is year 6 of a 10 year plan to end homelessness. The County is helping to provide childcare for families emerging from homelessness.
- The County is playing an increasing role in early childhood services.

**Anita Tabb, Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board Commissioner, District 4**

- Minneapolis Sculpture Garden will close for renovation.
- Lakes Calhoun/Harriet community advisory committee (CAC) for master plan is beginning soon. If interested in serving on the CAC, go to the Park Board's website: [www.minneapolisparcs.org](http://www.minneapolisparcs.org).
- A group is interested in refurbishing the warming house at Lake of the Isles ice rink (privately funded).
- Public feedback will be sought regarding recreation center facilities and programs.
- The Park Board is removing ash trees and will be planting 7500 trees this year. The foresters recently pruned trees at Lake of the Isles and are assessing damage from flooding.
- The Park Board is evaluating private companies working on parkland (USI Wireless not currently allowed to install fiber optic cable on parkways).
- The Park Board is discussing changes to speed limits on bike paths.

### **Frank Hornstein, MN House of Representatives, District 61A**

- MN is nearing nonattainment for federal air quality standards.
- Transportation and education are the most contentious issues this session.
- Hornstein is pushing for a comprehensive transportation bill but the Republicans are looking to cut transportation funding.
- A rally for transportation funding will be held at the capitol at noon on April 16.
- Hornstein authored a bill to invest in better rail infrastructure and is working on improving safety of oil and ethanol trains.

### **Appreciation**

Certificates of appreciation were awarded to outgoing board members: President Dan McLaughlin (not present), Vice President Vaughn Emerson, and Linda Schutz, EIRA Board member and volunteer in a number of positions over many years.

## **REPORTS**

### **Treasurer's Report, Andrew Degerstom**

Bank account balances are: \$17,500 in EIRA checking, \$11,300 in NRP checking and \$10,000 in savings. EIRA's 501(c)(4) application was approved in August 2014.

### **Transportation Committee, Andrew Degerstom**

The committee has four members meets on an as need basis at the call of the chair.

### **Zoning Committee, Allan Amis**

Over the past months, the committee reviewed the following projects:

- A new mixed-use (commercial/retail and apartments), four story building to be built at 1708-14 W Lake St that will provide one level of underground parking for 1800 Lake tenants.
- Proposal from Alliance Housing for the possible purchase of 2200 Emerson Ave (owned by The Bridge for Youth) to be operated as a rooming house for low-income adults.
- Temple Israel's plans to demolish the 1955 building and build a new education wing, lobby, and courtyard.
- Wells Fargo's possible new one-story bank building on the SW corner of Lake St and Humboldt Ave.

The next committee meeting is 5 pm, April 21 at Grace and will include a presentation for a new single family home at 2505 E Lake of the Isles Pkwy.

### **Social Committee, Carla Pardue**

- Congratulations to committee Chair Amy Sanborn on the birth of a new baby.
- The committee organizes two large annual events: Ice Skating Party and the Ice Cream Social in the summer (save the date: July 30, 2015). Also organizes volunteers for the Uptown Art Fair pop booth fundraiser.
- Volunteers staffed an EIRA information table at the Uptown Association annual meeting in January and helped with the Loppet in February.
- We are hopeful that the Wine Tasting Fundraiser will be held in October.

### **NRP Committee, Monica Smith**

The committee works with funding from Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP). The NRP program has been phased out; there is no new funding but East Isles continues to spend down our funds.

Program for residents: Home Security Grants of up to \$250 for security upgrades. Details are available at [www.eastisles.org](http://www.eastisles.org).

**Green Team, Betsy Allis**

- Their mission is to engage East Isles residents in greening the East Isles community.
- The Green Team's work includes the demonstration raingarden at 2871 Humboldt; Super Sale (4<sup>th</sup> annual on September 12); Plant Swap (2<sup>nd</sup> annual on May 31); and programs such as the recently completed food series.
- The team is also working on community solar and the Lake Street Challenge.
- Earth Day Clean Up on April 25, 9:30 am – Noon at Lake of the Isles (at 27<sup>th</sup> St). Volunteers needed.

**Parks Committee, Harvey Ettinger**

- The Smith Triangle clean up will be scheduled in May. The Park Board has \$220K is their 2020 budget for improvements to the park.
- The committee is working on plans to replace the benches on The Mall (\$11-14K) using NRP funds (with support from stakeholders) and is pushing the Park Board to plant more trees at Lake of the Isles, along the Greenway adjacent to The Mall, and at Levin Triangle Park.

**Election of EIRA Board of Directors and Alternates**

Nominations Committee Chair Nancy Johnston introduced the pre-registered slate of ten candidates for the 2015-16 EIRA Board of Directors: Andrew Degerstom, Bill Elwood, Nicole Engel-Nitz, Jasna Hadzic, Nancy Johnston, Bruce Larson, Peter Mason, Brian Milavitz, Carla Pardue, and Amy Sanborn. Floor nominations included Saleem Karmaliani for Director and Mike Erlandson for Alternate. The slate of candidates was approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.  
Submitted by: Monica Smith, Recorder

If consistent with EIRA Bylaws, and where the availability of a public document or report in electronic forms exists, copies of EIRA Board agenda items may be obtained by an EIRA member by contacting [nrp@eastisles.org](mailto:nrp@eastisles.org).

Next EIRA Board of Directors meeting: Tuesday, May 12, 7 p.m. at Grace-Trinity Community Church, 1430 W. 28<sup>th</sup> St.