

**East Isles Residents' Association (EIRA)**  
Minutes from the EIRA Board of Directors (BOD) Meeting  
March 11, 2014  
Grace-Trinity Community Church

Board members present: Vaughn Emerson (Vice President), Antone Melton-Meaux (Secretary), Rosita Acosta, Candace Dow, Bill Elwood, Nicole Engel-Nitz, Donna Jansen, Carla Pardue, and Linda Schutz. Other East Isles residents and invited guests were also in attendance.

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

**Guest Speaker: Jim Melby, Director, Fiber Sales, US Internet**

- Provider of Minneapolis citywide Wi-Fi service.
- The company entered the fiber market four years ago.
- Optical fiber allows for a dedicated internet connection that is hundreds of times faster than DSL, cable or wireless systems, and is hard wired into homes (underground).
- US Internet will be expanding their fiber service area over next 18-24 months to include East Isles and Lowry Hill with pricing at a 50-75% discount off of competitors' services.
- Licenses canvassers will go door-to-door in neighborhoods prior to service being installed.
- For more information, go to [www.fiber.usinternet.com](http://www.fiber.usinternet.com) or contact Jim Melby at 952-253-3209 or [jmelby@usinternet.com](mailto:jmelby@usinternet.com).

## REPORTS

### Zoning Committee

Gabriel Keller, Peterssen/Keller Architecture (P/K) presented a proposal for "16Twenty," a mixed-use development on the NE corner of W Lake St and James Ave S at the February 18<sup>th</sup> Zoning Committee meeting and at tonight's EIRA Board meeting.

The site includes three properties, 1620 W Lake St, 1618 W Lake St, and 2915 James Ave S. The properties are all zoned C-1 and a portion of the site lies within the Shoreland Overlay District (SOD). The site also lies within the 'West Lake Street Live/Work District' as described in the Uptown Small Area Plan.

16Twenty is a three story, 24,000 sf mixed use development with ground level retail, second floor office space, and five or six two-bedroom apartments on the third floor. There is no basement. There are 18 indoor parking spaces at ground level. Building height is proposed to be 38-40 ft to the top of the parapet.

Developers are CPM and Bill Frothinger (owner of current properties). P/K will be a tenant in the building.

Variations requested:

- East side setback: Code requires 15 ft because of the residential use in the structure to the east. They are requesting to build up to the property line.
- North side setback (alley): Code requires 9 ft, they are proposing 5 ft setback.
- Code requires one loading zone. Proposing loading zone on James Ave (designated space).
- Required to have 19 parking spaces, proposing 18 spaces.
- A Conditional Use Permit is required for the height of 38-40 ft (property in SOD which limits height to 35 ft).

The EIRA Board approved the EIRA Zoning Committee recommendation to support the 16Twenty building project proposal as presented by Peterssen/Keller Architecture on February 18 and March 11 at a height not to exceed 38-40 ft to the top of the parapet and variances as outlined in the written submission.

Other issues:

- The City Council approved a one-year moratorium on new teardowns of single- and two-family homes in five SW Minneapolis neighborhoods (East Isles was not included). A public hearing will be held on March 20<sup>th</sup>, 9:30 am at City Hall.
- The Uptown Opportunity Task Force invites two EIRA representatives to their next meeting on March 25, 6:30 pm at Central Bank, 2120 Hennepin Ave S. The Task Force will re-evaluate the contents of past planning efforts in the Uptown area for the purpose of finding common issues that collectively could be progressed.

The next meeting of the Zoning Committee is March 18, 5:00 pm at Grace and includes a proposal from Elness Swenson Graham Architects for a development at the NW corner of W Lake St and James Ave S (1700, 1704, 1708 and 1714 W Lake St).

#### **Transportation Committee, Candace Dow**

The Locally Preferred Alternative selected for the Midtown Greenway Alternatives Analysis was a dual alignment of enhanced bus on Lake Street and rail on the Midtown Greenway. Funding has not yet been identified for the project.

The Transportation Committee is seeking a new Chair and will not meet in March.

#### **Social Committee, Amy Sanborn**

Planning is underway for the Ice Cream Social. Fundraising ideas will be discussed at the May EIRA Board meeting.

#### **Green Team, Bill Elwood**

Representative Frank Hornstein attended the March 10<sup>th</sup> Green Team meeting to discuss his initiatives (including curbside organics and green transportation).

The Transition Towns event on February 24<sup>th</sup> was a success with 30+ people in attendance.

Upcoming events:

- Tot Plots on March 29, 10 am at Grace to learn more about small edible gardens for kids.
- Earth Day clean up on April 26, 9:30 am – Noon at Lake of the Isles.
- Quarterly Program on Saturday, May 31, planned is a festival-like atmosphere with a community meal, games, music, a plant swap, and stations highlighting the work of the GT in water protection, solar, green development, edible gardening, waste reduction and outreach.

#### **Nominations Committee, Linda Schutz**

Recruiting efforts continue for two new board members and two alternates. Board members are encouraged to help recruit by distributing flier to friends and neighbors.

Interested individuals should contact Monica Smith at [nrp@eastisles.org](mailto:nrp@eastisles.org).

#### **Parks Committee, Monica Smith**

Park Committee Chair Harvey Ettinger and committee member Donna Jansen met with Commissioner Anita Tabb to discuss possible projects and follow up on outstanding issues.

Re: 1800 Lake dewatering lawsuit – a third-party complaint was filed against the project designers and civil engineers.

Public Works has removed the temporary pipe that was diverting stormwater from the outfall pipe in the Lagoon to the north shore of Lake Calhoun.

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

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for March 25, 7 p.m. at Grace.

#### **Bridge for Youth Public Meeting, Linda Schutz**

The Bridge hosted a public meeting on February 26 to discuss the fate of their buildings at 2200 Emerson Ave S (vacant) and 1209 W 22<sup>nd</sup> St (rented to another nonprofit). Three options are being considered: sell, rent them to another nonprofit with mission similar to Bridge, or redevelop them. This was the first of many meetings to discuss options. The Bridge will be invited to a mid-summer EIRA Board meeting.

#### **Uptown Association (UA) Annual Meeting, Carla Pardue**

Carla Pardue and Betsy Allis staffed an EIRA table at the UA annual meeting to raise awareness about EIRA in the community. The evening also included a panel discussion of elected and appointed officials on Uptown issues.

#### **Ward 7 Report, Monica Smith**

- Lunch with Lisa is March 26, noon at St Thomas, Opus Hall. Topic is DID Ambassadors sharing personal stories and experiences.
- Winter Parking Restrictions remain in place. Do not park on even numbered side of non-Snow Emergency routes until April 1<sup>st</sup>. If a Snow Emergency is declared, the Winter Parking Restrictions will be temporarily suspended and Snow Emergency rules will apply. Winter Parking Restrictions will resume at 8 am the morning following Day 3.
- Crews continue to deal with ice bonded to streets. Arterial streets are the priority.
- Crews will begin repairing potholes with a temporary “hot mix” asphalt.
- Hennepin Lyndale Reconstruction – The City has secured federal funding for roadway improvements on sections of Hennepin and Lyndale between Franklin and Dunwood. Public Open House on Tuesday, March 25, 6:30 – 8:00 pm at Walker Art Center. More information at [www.hennepinlyndaleproject.com](http://www.hennepinlyndaleproject.com).

#### **Staff Report, Monica Smith**

- \$3,047 of unspent funds from 2013 Community Participation Program (CPP) will be rolled over into the 2014 CPP for staff expenses.
- The EIRA Board approved moving the remaining balance of \$218 from the 2011 CPP to the 2014 CPP.
- Minneapolis has a new resource guide to help the city’s aging population navigate the services they need to live independently. A pdf version of the *Healthy Homes* guide can be found at [www.minneapolismn.gov/health](http://www.minneapolismn.gov/health).
- The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Community Connections Conference is March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 8:00 am - 4:30 pm at Minneapolis Convention Center. The conference is free. Register online at [www.minneapolismn.gov/ncr/CommunityConnectionsConference](http://www.minneapolismn.gov/ncr/CommunityConnectionsConference).

**BOARD REVIEW**

- The Annual Meeting will be held on April 8 at the Uptown Diner. Chili dinner and social time at 6:15 pm. The meeting will begin at 7 pm and will include Council Member Lisa Goodman, Park Board Commissioner Anita Tabb, Michael McLaughlin from the Lowry Hill District business association, committee reports and board elections.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Submitted by: Monica Smith, Recorder

The Annual Meeting on Tuesday, April 8, 2014, at the Uptown Diner, 2548 Hennepin Ave. Dinner and socialize at 6:15 pm. Meeting begins at 7:00 pm. The EIRA Board will not meet in April 2014.