

East Isles Residents' Association (EIRA)
Minutes from the Annual Members Meeting
April 9, 2013
Uptown Diner

The annual meeting began with a chili dinner and social hour. 40+ East Isles residents and invited guests attended the event.

EIRA President Dan McLaughlin called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

President's Report of Board and Committee Activity

Dan McLaughlin discussed activities of the board and committees over the past year. The board focused on strategic planning as we begin a new relationship with the City as NRP expires. The board identified priorities of improving green space and creating more social events. The Semi-Annual Meeting in October 2012 offered attendees a chance to vote on a list of priorities. Improving green space was the top priority (The Mall, Lake of the Isles and Smith Triangle) and the board approved this as our Neighborhood Priority Plan (NPP). The board created two new committees: Transportation and Parks & Open Space. We are working on redesigning our website.

Committee Annual Reports:

Zoning Committee:

- Chair: Harvey Ettinger
- Supported recommendation for Neighborhood Conservation District ordinance
- Conducted a survey of residents regarding Smith Triangle and the Lowry statue
- Worked with developer of the vacant BP site at 2700 Hennepin for a new retail development
- Supported improvements to local businesses and residential property
- Upcoming issues: voting on proposed changes to fence ordinance and extended hours for Mesa Pizza, 1440 W Lake St

NRP Committee:

- Chair: Jerome Ryan
- Installation of additional lighting on the Greenway
- Vegetation clean up near the Greenway/Mall
- Identified areas for new boulevard trees
- Provided funding for Green Team activities
- Continue to offer low-interest home improvement loans to residents. Once loans are repaid, the funds are available for use on other neighborhood priorities.
- Continue to offer home security grants of up to \$250 for specified upgrades.
- Remaining balance of our NRP funds: \$140,000

Green Team:

- Chair: Betsy Allis
- The Green Team has been extremely active, focusing on reducing waste, conserving energy and improving water quality.
- Re: energy – sponsored lighting workshop and climate change discussion series
- Re: water quality – received grant from Mississippi Watershed Management Organization to create a demonstration rain garden at 2871 Humboldt
- Member of Zero Waste Uptown – working with three other Uptown neighborhoods to focus on increasing recycling rates in multi-family buildings. Recruiting two building (of 10+ units) in East Isles to participate.
- Created green film series with bi-monthly events

- Created East Isles Super Sale. The second annual event will be Sep 7, 2013
- Organized Earth Day clean ups at lake (upcoming event: April 20, 9:30 am – noon)
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Social Committee:

- Chair: Amy Sanborn
- Uptown Art Fair pop booth: 35 volunteers participated and raised \$500 for EIRA
- Ice Cream Social in August in conjunction with the grand re-opening of Levin Triangle Park.
- Ice Skating party in January.
- Thanks for Isles Bun and Coffee and Kowalski's for donating event treats
- Wine Tasting fundraiser was not held this year

Outreach and Nominations Committee:

- Chair: Linda Schutz
- 2012: recruited 4 new board members and 1 alternate
- 2013: recruited 5 new board members and 2 alternates
- Worked on attendance and sign in policy to meet new City guidelines
- Outreach effort to assist President in connecting with other organizations and neighborhoods

New Committees: Transportation (Chair: Candace Dow) and Parks & Open Space (Chair: Harvey Ettinger)

The Treasurer's Report was distributed.

Certificates of appreciation were awarded to outgoing board members and key volunteers.

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

- Working on a strong and proactive maintenance plan for Lake of the Isles as recommended by Lake of the Isles Renovation Project Citizens' Joint Review Committee (East Isles, Lowry Hill, Kenwood and CIDNA residents). Conservation Corp workers will begin work soon. Also working to resolve turf issues. The lighting project is complete.
- Buckthorn will be removed along the Greenway/Mall
- East Calhoun Pkwy (between Lake St and Lake of the Isles) will be repaved in 2014
- Will meet with East Isles regarding ideas for improving Smith Triangle
- Received a federal grant to make improvements to bike/ped trails around Dean Parkway and Cedar Lake Pkwy.
- Still in the infancy of the planning process from the Oct 2012 design charrette.

Meg Tuthill, Ward 10 Council Member, City of Minneapolis

- \$7 million has been put in a property tax stabilization fund resulting in a 0% levy on property tax
- Flea market ordinance will be reviewed by the Zoning & Planning Committee on April 18
- Proposing an ordinance change for food/alcohol ratio in restaurants from the required 60% food to 40% alcohol to 50/50
- Yard waste pick up began this week; street sweeping will begin April 16
- Single sort recycling will be rolled out to the remaining East Isles blocks, May 16-20
- 5th Precinct Open House is May 14, 5-7 pm at 3101 Nicollet Ave.
- The next Meet with Meg is May 13, noon-1 pm at the 5th Precinct
- Call 911 to report any suspicious activity
- Update on Lagoon water discharge issue: DNR issues permits for groundwater mitigation. 1800 Lake received a temporary permit to discharge water into the lagoon. Based on information the City provided to the DNR, a letter was sent to the property manager requiring an Appropriation

Permit for the groundwater discharge. An Appropriation Permit is a water use permit from the DNR that is required because of the volume of water being pumped. The DNR is offering a 30-day comment period to voice concerns. The City, Park Board, County, Watershed Agency, and US Army Corp of Engineers will have an opportunity to comment. The DNR will accept and consider comments from the public, and will include comments in the final permit file. Send comments to Meg Tuthill by May 1.

Lake Street/Greenway Transit Study

- Candace Dow is the East Isles delegate to the Midtown Corridor Alternatives Analysis, Community Advisory Committee (CAC). The Alternatives Analysis is studying transit options on Lake St/Greenway corridor between Hiawatha LRT and future Southwest LRT stations. The one-year study will explore light rail, streetcar, bus rapid transit and dedicated busway. The CAC is an advisory committee and will make a recommendation to planners. More information at: www.midtowntransitway.org. Next CAC meeting: April 23, 7-9 p.m., Colin Powell Center, 2924 4th Ave. S. Public comments will be heard at the end of each CAC meeting. The next open houses: May 21, 6 - 8 p.m., Colin Powell Center, and May 23, 6 - 8 p.m., Whittier Clinic, 2810 Nicollet Ave.
- Candace will chair the new Transportation Committee and is interested in feedback from residents on transit issues in the neighborhood, contact her at transportation@eastisles.org.

Election of EIRA Board of Directors and Alternates

Nominations Committee Chair Linda Schutz introduced the pre-registered slate of candidates for the 2013-14 EIRA Board of Directors: Candace Dow, Vaughn Emerson, Renee Gust, Donna Jansen, Dan McLaughlin, Antone Melton-Meaux, Carla Pardue, Ramon Ramirez Quintero, Michael Rossini, and Linda Schutz. Candidate for Alternates to the EIRA Board of Directors: Rosita Acosta and Bill Elwood. McLaughlin called for any additional floor nominations. Nicole Engel-Nitz was nominated for the final director position. The slate of candidates was unanimously approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.
Submitted by: Monica Smith, Recorder

Next EIRA Board of Directors meeting: Tuesday, May 14, 7 p.m. at Grace-Trinity Community Church, 1430 W. 28th St.