

**East Isles Residents' Association (EIRA)**  
Minutes from the EIRA Board of Directors (BOD)  
Meeting July 14th, 2015 Grace-Trinity Community Church

Board members present (6 of 11): Andrew Degerstrom (President), Nicole Engel-Nitz (Secretary), Pete Mason, Nancy Johnston, Bill Elwood and Jasna Hadzic. Other East Isles residents and invited guests were also in attendance.

Andrew Degerstrom called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

**Council Member Lisa Goodman, Ward 7**

- Lunch with Lisa will not take place in July. It will resume August 26<sup>th</sup>
- Giordano's Pizza will be opening at 2700 Hennepin Ave on July 15th.
- Proposed changes to the Late Night Entertainment policy would let businesses with special late-night food licenses continue offering entertainment after 2 a.m. Council Member Goodman does not believe that this will cause any problems, or that many businesses are actually interested in the proposed changes to the current policy.
- The City of Minneapolis is going to begin posting information on Nextdoor.com. This site is a great neighborhood resource for a wide variety of things.

**Open Forum**

- A resident inquired whether or not a permit was needed to have a storage pod on the street, and if so, how long can storage pods be on a city street? Staff will look into this and report back next month.
- The City passed its Parking Reform measure. The EIRA Board does not see this as immediately affecting East Isles neighborhood.
- The annual East Isles Ice Cream Social will take Thursday, July 30th from 6-9pm in Joanne Levin Triangle Park. It will feature treats, bounce house, petting zoo, face painting, live music from East Isles resident Michael Gold Jazz Trio and more! Volunteers are needed for short shifts. Please contact Amy Sanborn at [events@eastisles.org](mailto:events@eastisles.org) to help.

**Nominations Committee**

The committee is looking for more members. Please email the EIRA Coordinator John Louis, [coordinator@eastisles.org](mailto:coordinator@eastisles.org) if you would like to get involved. And they are also looking for more members, it is a standing committee of EIRA.

**President's Report**

The new EIRA Treasurer has been added to the bank accounts. The accounts are now up to date.

Quickbooks online is now being used, the President, Staff and Treasurer are currently testing out how best to use it.

EIRA has not switched over to Google Apps yet. The ownership of the web domain needs to be switched over to EIRA staff. Staff is working on this.

The EIRA public storage unit cost has increased, and needs to be paid on a month-to-month basis. The storage company ownership has changed over in the past year. The EIRA Board will look into the possibility of finding a new, cheaper option.

Portions of a statement given by the Board President were recently featured in the SW Journal relating to NCR's recent Draft Proposal for Unspent NRP Funds. Below is his statement in full:

"The City is doing the right thing by moving forward with this review of NRP funds. City funding of neighborhood organizations is a privilege. It is up to the neighborhood organizations to spend that money in a timely manner that best advances city and neighborhood goals, and that benefits the community as a whole. There are extenuating circumstances that are making it difficult for some neighborhoods to spend their NRP funds, and these guidelines for the most part

take these into consideration. Since our Phase II plan is less than seven years old, East Isles will not be required to submit any plan to the City or complete a neighborhood review to reevaluate our strategies. However, we can do a better job on spending down our funds, and it is something that we have been making progress and will continue to work on in the next year."

### **Board Review**

#### *Comments on "Blueprint for Equitable Engagement" draft report from Neighborhood & Community Relations*

An EIRA meeting was organized in early May to discuss the NCR "Draft for Equitable Engagement." NCR has extended the comment period for the plan to August 15, and the Board would like Staff organize another meeting to discuss final comments that will then be presented for approval at the August EIRA Board Meeting.

#### *Attorney General Annual Report*

The AG Report was reviewed by the Board before being submitted. The Board approved AG Report.

#### *1800 Lake HVAC Upgrade and Installation*

The tenant of what was formerly JJ's would like to remodel and rebrand. They previously had a limited menu, but would like to introduce a full menu into the space. They are planning to update to a professional kitchen and need to install an HVAC system to be up to code. The HVAC ducts would run up east side of the building and would be clad in the same materials that are currently on the outside of the building. The HVAC ducts would run up above the current stairwell tower on the roof by 58 inches, but would still be shorter than the elevator shaft, which is near the center of the roof. The Board approved to support the HVAC Upgrade and installation.

#### *Membership Requirements*

The Board is looking into updating EIRA's membership requirements and process to be more inclusive accessible. Changes do require amending the bylaws. This discussion will happen over the next few months. Staff has been directed to look into other Minneapolis neighborhood organization membership requirements and report back to the Board next month.

#### *Policy Granting EIRA President authority to approve expenditures of \$500 or less*

The President gave the history of the policy, and noted that it is reviewed on a yearly basis. The Board approved the renewal of the policy and that it continue to be renewed on a yearly basis.

#### *Semi-Annual Meeting*

The Board discussed locations for the EIRA Semi-Annual Meeting in October, and possible speakers and agenda topics. The Board is looking into the possibility of having the Theater of Public Policy perform at the event.

#### *EIRA Social Media*

The President has set up an EIRA Twitter account and is seeking Board approval to activate it. The Board approved activating the EIRA Twitter account.

#### *Board Retreat*

The Board is looking to schedule a Board retreat during the fall. The President will send out a Doodle poll to Board members to sign up.

### **Meeting was adjourned at 8:56 p. m.**

Submitted by: John Louis, 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

coordinator@eastisles.org. The next meeting is Tuesday, August 11th, 2015, 7 p.m. at Grace-Trinity Community Church, 1430 W 28th Street.