

East Isles Residents' Association (EIRA)
Minutes from the EIRA BOARD OF DIRECTORS (BOD) Meeting
January 12, 2016
Grace Trinity Community Church

Board members present: Andrew Degerstrom (President), Carla Purdue (Vice-President), Brian Milavitz (Treasurer), Nicole Engel-Nitz (Secretary), Bruce Larson, Nancy Johnston, Amy Sanborn, Bill Elwood, Peter Mason

Guests: Lisa Goodman, Council member; Mike Erickson, City of Lakes Loppet
EIRA President Andrew Degerstrom called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Lisa Goodman, Minneapolis City Council Ward 7

The next Lunch with Lisa is scheduled for January 27th and will focus on a legislative preview (Scott Dibble, Frank Hornstein guests).

The demolition of 2505 East Lake of the Isles Parkway was approved, and 1700 W 26th is undergoing a historic review. The reconstruction of Hennepin & Lyndale intersection continues, with the upcoming closing of Oak Grove and additional sewer work.

Council member Goodman met with agents for the owners of 2701 E Lake of the Isles Parkway, who have expressed interest in demolishing the residence. Lisa indicated she would be unlikely to support demolition; however, if the demolition comes before the City Council, CM Goodman will weigh all the findings of fact presented as part of the public record before making a final decision. The house meets three criteria for designation of an historic property, including being designed by a famous architect, built by a famous person, and being 1 of 25 most historic structures as part of previous study for historic district designation. A pre-determination letter of historic significance has been written.

Mike Erickson, City of Lakes Loppet Operations and Race director.

Organizers are hopeful for ice and snow this year. Changes for the 2016 Loppet include having musicians inside a tent, with an open side and spectators outside the tent.

The Luminary Loppet is this non-profit organization's most important fundraiser. The charity, which focuses on youth-based outdoor activities, has taught 5000-6000 children how to cross-country ski. Programs include children from 9 schools in North Minneapolis, with participants skiing in the Minne-Loppet. The organization is working on plans for developing an adventure center.

Thin ice signs remain on the Lagoon between Lake Calhoun and East Lake of the Isles; please be cautious.

Open Forum

The City's has revealed the final version of the NRP Funding Policy; EIRA will have an NRP Phase 2 review in July 2018, by which time 95% of the funds should be contracted.

Board Review

The board members and an EIRA resident discussed the formation of a Crime and Safety Committee. Amy Sanborn reported that several block captains met with Chelsea Adams

(police neighborhood liaison). Several Uptown-area neighborhoods have discussed meeting quarterly to discuss Crime & Safety, with some neighborhoods sending a representative rather than setting up a committee; example quarterly meetings were a personal safety workshop hosted by CARAG, and a garage security workshop hosted by ECHO. The board discussed general concerns about recruiting sufficient volunteers to maintain a Crime and Safety committee, and whether some work could be done through the block captains (Amy Sanborn estimated that approximately half or fewer blocks had block captains); Nicole Engel-Nitz noted that a benefit of the specific committee projects could be funded by EIRA funds. The attending resident expressed interest in participating on the Board and the Crime Committee. The board voted to authorize President to appoint representative to attend the joint-neighborhood quarterly meeting. A suggestion was made that the next EIRA newsletter include advertising for members of the Crime and Safety Committee (only requirement is that members be residents of East Isles), as well as a reminder about the availability of grants for security lighting.

REPORTS

NRP, Zoning, Transportation Committee. The next NRP meeting is scheduled for Monday February 1, at Grace Church; the chair may have met with Anita Tabb regarding the Park Benches project.

Zoning Committee. The next Zoning committee meeting is Tuesday January 19, 5-7 pm at Grace Church. Topics will include an update on 2505 E Lake of the Isles; 1700 W 26th; the proposed demolition of 2701 E Lake of the Isles Parkway; and a review of strategy on committee structure.

Transportation Committee. The next meeting is Thursday January 21 6:45 at Dunn Bros at 25.5 and Hennepin; the committee is planning another winter walking tour focusing on businesses on Hennepin, especially snow clearing/accessibility at bus stops. Call 311 to report overhanging trees and other issues.

Social Committee. The Wine Tasting fundraiser raised \$475. The Ice Skating Social is scheduled for 1-3 pm Sunday Jan 24th at E Lake of the Isles. Uptown business association annual meeting will not take place this year.

Green Team. The board approved the proposed budget for the first 3 months of 2016 (total \$250). Upcoming events include the Community Solar Sign-up for participants (January 13, February 25), and environmental legislative update (proposed March). The Spring Garden Party (February 15 or 18, Grace Church), will include presentations on native plants and pollinators, container gardens, microgreens, and vertical gardening, with Master Gardener guest speakers.

Greater Uptown Community Partnership—is scheduled to meet January 13th, and Carla Purdue will report next month.

President's report. Andrew Degerstrom took over a number of coordinator tasks during the interim period.

Board Review II

The Board scheduled a retreat for board members on Saturday February 20, 9-2 pm. The board reviewed the 2016 Board meeting schedules and made a correction. The board briefly discussed whether to amend the bylaws to remove the requirement for a semi-annual membership (October) meeting, and suggested the discussed be reviewed with

other ongoing efforts on updating the bylaws. The annual membership meeting will be held at Grace-Trinity Community Church on Tuesday April 12, 6:30-9 pm.

In accordance with EIRA Bylaws, Article 5, Section 15, the remainder of the meeting was held in closed session for the purpose of discussing the Search Committee's recommendation for the hiring of a new Coordinator. The EIRA Board approved the recommendation to hire Donna Sanders effective January 13.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m. 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, February, 9, 2016, 7 p.m. at Grace-Trinity Community Church, 1430 W 28th Street.