

**East Isles Residents' Association (EIRA)
Minutes from the EIRA BOARD OF DIRECTORS (BOD) Meeting
Tuesday, March 12, 2019 Grace Trinity Community Church**

Agenda

Board members present: Brad Ash (President), Mike Erlandson (Vice President) Amy Sanborn (Treasurer), Debbie Gold (Secretary), Ellen van Iwaarden, Peter Mason, Julia Curran, John Grochala, John Morrow

Members not Present: Steve Havig

Staff: Molly Fleming

Guests: Council member, Lisa Goodman, MPRB Employee Madeline Hudek, LHNA Board Member and MPRB SW Parks Service Area Master Plan Rep, Craig Wilson, Resident and Zoning Chair, Andrew Degerstrom, Residents, John Barnett and MacKenzie Nelson

Welcome & Call to Order: 7:00 p.m. Brad Ash, EIRA President

Guest Speaker, Council Member Lisa Goodman, City of Minneapolis

Council member Lisa Goodman reported that the cancelled January Lunch with Lisa developer panel has been officially rescheduled for the March Lunch with Lisa. The panel will feature developers working on projects in Ward 7. The projects they will speak about are mostly rental housing related. She also reported that the public comment periods for both the Neighborhoods 2020 plan and the Vision Zero Action plans are open but will close soon. She went on to report that the Convention Center is hosting three upcoming movie nights for free, featuring family movies. Finally, she gave a report about the event at Bridge for Youth to celebrate the opening of their new initiative, Marlene's Place. Marlene's Place is a program geared towards pregnant and parenting teens experiencing housing insecurity. The event will take place on March 27th.

Guest Speakers, Madeline Hudek, MPRB and Craig Wilson, LHNA and the Area Rep for the SW Parks Service Area Master Plan

Madeline and Craig came to present on the plan for several parks in the East Isles footprint. Madeline stated that the comment period is still open and encouraged everyone to make comment. There are two "plans" for each park, and A Plan and a B Plan. These plans are meant to give ideas to commenters, and anyone can say what they like or want removed from either plan. The outcome of the comment period won't be to choose one design or the other. The parks in the East Isles footprint were

reported to be of low priority, so any changes or improvements won't be seen for some time. The EIRA Board expressed that they will continue to work on getting a shade structure into Levin park now, rather than wait for MPRB to act in accordance to the outcome of the Master Plan.

Craig Wilson reported that there have been 6 meetings so far about these designs and the Master Plan. Most have been brainstorming sessions. He reiterated that the process, while imperfect, is designed to come up with a strategy and guide for each of these parks based on community input. He also wanted to note that none of these improvements have a budget associated with them at this time, so it is unlikely that any movement will happen quickly.

President's Report

Brad Ash, President, reported that our Annual Meeting is set for April 9. Isles Bun is confirmed and the menu is being worked on. Isles Bun has also confirmed that EIRA can serve beer and wine at the meeting. He went on to report that East Isles will again be hosting an Earth Day Clean up in conjunction with MPRB. The event will be on 4/20 from 9:30-12:00 at 27th and Lake of the Isles Parkway. We will be picking up trash along the lakefront starting on the east side of the lake and working our way around towards the south side. Several area breweries and coffee shops will be offering a free beverage at their establishments for those who participate.

Treasurer's Report

Amy Sanborn, Treasurer, reported that she is getting staff member, Molly Fleming, up to speed on financial processes. She also reported that since she won't be Treasurer next year, the position will need to be filled.

Committee Reports

NRP

Mike Erlandson, Chair of the NRP Committee, gave a brief update on the NRP Committee's March 12 meeting, including finances and projects. Three projects involve the MPRB: placing chess tables on the Mall, supporting a shade structure in Levin Triangle Park and ongoing clean-up around Lake of the Isles. Letters have been sent from the East Isles Board in support the shade structure and chess tables. In addition, we are looking for a local community group to take on the spray painting of the neighborhood storm drains with the city's stencil that indicates not to dump anything down the drain. New projects

brought to the committee for discussion were to replace the bench and bridge that were stolen for the Grace Nursery School Community Garden on the Mall at James Avenue last summer. The mini-park is open to all community residents. The school is going to bring forward more specifics on the project cost and the committee will address funding at their next meeting. A representative from the Loppet Foundation requested funds to support the purchase of new cross country ski trail grooming equipment for the ski trails that go around the lakes (Cedar and Isles with the hopes of adding Bde Maka Ska in the future). The total project cost is upwards of \$20,000. The committee generally supports the project, but a final contribution amount was deferred until additional details could be provided. There was also discussion regarding the validity of the Parks Board requiring users to have a park board pass in order to use what are community provided trails, not park board provided trails. The EIRA Board also talked about possibly sending a letter to the park board requesting that ski access to the lakes not require the park board annual pass. The Committee, and the EIRA board both, approved updating and replacing ten new signs that mark the East Isles Neighborhood. A member of the committee also raised the issue of the fact that the park board is not providing the level of support to Lake of the Isles that it should. The chair will reach out to the park board regarding this matter.

>>Do we want to add anything about the neighborhood signs?<<

Zoning and Land Use

Andrew Degerstrom, Zoning and Land Use Chair, reported on the Zoning Committee Meeting that was held on February 19th. They discussed three projects in or near East Isles. On two of the developments, they took no position, as did the ECCO Livability Committee in their meeting, whose request for the EIRA Zoning Board to comment started the initial discussion despite the projects to being outside the official EIRA footprint. The Committee did move to write a letter approving of the development at 1721 Lagoon Ave with the caveat that the developers understand the importance of winter sidewalk maintenance in this area. The letter was approved by the EIRA Board.

Outreach and Nominations

Brad Ash, President, reported that there are 4 board members going off the Board, but three applications have been received for election to the Board.

Some interest has been expressed by a current board member and a prospective board member in filling the roles of President and Treasurer.

Transportation Committee N/A

Social Committee N/A

Farmers Market

Debbie Gold, Director, reported that the market has begun to receive some new and returning sponsors and is currently seeking more. If you/your business is interested in becoming a sponsor for the 2019 East Isles Farmers Market season, please contact her at: director@eastislesfarmersmarkets.com Our local sponsors make it possible for the entire neighborhood and beyond to enjoy the new market. Gold reported that the vendor applications are still coming in, and that current vendors include produce and flower vendors, a berry vendor, a kombucha brewer, an organic mushroom grower, meat, poultry, eggs and more. Gold also reported that the Farmers Market did not receive the AGRI Urban Agriculture Grant this year, and expects to have more information regarding that soon.

General Items

EIRA Coordinator, Molly Fleming, reported that she has been in contact with LHENA and they have asked to collaborate on their renter/homeowner compost-share program. The board expressed interest in this and further action will be taken. She also reported that herself and the Executive Committee have been working to plan a “Friendraiser” for March 28th. This will be an engagement event at Isles Bun with free pizza and lemonade.

Ellen van Iwaarden reported that she is moving forward with changed EIRA’s status to a 501c3, and that the new bylaws are finished. The board voted to approve a resolution to recommend these bylaws be adopted by the community. Notice will be given to the community at large that these changes are proposed.

Open Forum

N/A

President, Brad Ash adjourned the meeting at 8:47 p.m.

The next EIRA meeting will be the Annual Meeting at 6:30 pm on Tuesday, April 9, 2019, at Isles Bun and Coffee. EIRA invites all residents to participate. Should you require an accommodation to fully participate, please let us know by contacting us at info@eastisles.org.

Respectfully submitted by: Molly Fleming - EIRA Coordinator