

EIRA Board of Directors Meeting

Tuesday, 7/9/19 7:00 p.m.

Grace-Trinity Community Church, 1430 W 28th Street

Minutes

Board members present: Ellen van Iwaarden (President), Mackenzie Nelson (Vice President), Andrew Degerstrom (Treasurer), Debbie Gold (Secretary), John Morrow, John Grochala, John Barnett, Emma Erdahl, Steve Havig, and Mike Erlandson

Board Members not present: Julia Curran

Alternates not present: John Erlandson, Kate Svitavsky

Staff: Molly Fleming

Guests: Council Member Lisa Goodman

Welcome & Call to Order: 7:01pm by Ellen van Iwaarden, EIRA President

Introductions

Guest Speaker, Lisa Goodman:

Lisa Goodman, City Council Member, reported that the June Lunch with Lisa bus trip was so well attended that there wasn't enough room on the buses. Another tour will be scheduled for July 31st and participants must RSVP to Lisa Goodman's office if they want to attend.

After a request from an EIRA board member at the last meeting, Lisa asked the police to look into the problem of motorists running red lights at the intersections of 25th and Hennepin and 24th and Hennepin. Lisa reported that police did four individual enforcements during four separate morning rush hours.

Lisa also reported that the state has granted the City of Minneapolis the authority to lower speed limits on residential streets. The current speed limit on urban residential streets, which has been set by the state, is 30 miles per hour. This process is ongoing.

Lisa then reported that there will be two Household Hazardous Waste drop-offs near the East Isles neighborhood this summer. The first will be on July 26th and 27th at Jenny

Lind Elementary School and the second will be on Aug 9th and 10th at South High School.

Lisa also reported that Ruth from her office is retiring and encourages those who worked with her to send in letters of thanks to Lisa's office.

Lisa then answered board questions about a vacant house in the neighborhood, the population of people experiencing homelessness this summer, and the new housing ordinances that are coming before the City Council.

President's Report:

Ellen van Iwaarden, President, reported that the summer postcard has been sent to the printer. She is working on the Annual Summer Fundraising Letter which will include a flyer for the Ice Cream Social and a Super Sale Registration Form. She also reported that she and Andrew had contacted and met with Propel for Nonprofits, who offered free services to look at our finances and give the neighborhood a bid for streamlining our quickbooks file. Ellen then reported that Katlyn Flannery, a LHENA Board and Environmental Committee member, wants to connect with our Green Team to speak about some possible collaboration opportunities.

Treasurer's Report

Andrew Degertsrom, Treasurer, reported that he and Ellen have been working on a process with the city to hire an accountant to take some of the work away from the volunteer position of Treasurer so that it becomes a more manageable role. The Accountant will also help with the application process to become a 501(c)(3). The city has provided a list of candidates who work with other neighborhood organizations. Andrew presented a resolution to authorize a search committee to interview and make an offer to hire an accountant as a contractor, subject to Board approval. The Board approved the resolution. Andrew, Ellen, and John Grochala will be on the search committee. Andrew also reported that he is going to start a process to update

accounting procedures. His final report was that the Tree Trust has been paid in full for the work they did along our neighborhood's lakeshore.

NRP Committee

Mike Erlandson, Chair, reported that on July 10th there will be a resolution before the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board to use up to \$40,000 of the EIRA neighborhood park dedication fees to build a shade structure at Joanne Levin Triangle Park. He encouraged all board members to attend and speak up in favor of this resolution if they are able to attend the meeting. He also reported that the Walker Library Chess Club is joining the EIRA effort to put chess tables on the Mall. They are expected to send a letter of support in the coming weeks. Finally, he reported that the coordinator, Molly Fleming, had met with the Executive Director of Aeon for Ocean and they want to partner on a stenciling project near each storm drain to remind residents that the drains drain water to Lake of the Isles. The board approved a budget of up to \$500 for supplies and \$500 as a donation to Aeon for Ocean as a thank you for providing the volunteer labor needed for this project. The neighborhood will ask the group to stencil near all the storm drains in the neighborhood.

Farmers Market

Debbie Gold, Market Director, reported that attendance at the opening market was a record-breaking 1016 visitors. Of the 56+ vendors who applied, there are currently 40 vendors in rotation, with an average of 18 vendors participating per market. The Goat Yoga event on June 20th was successful despite the rain with 77 tickets sold. The money from this event goes back to the goat farm and yoga instructor but it brings new attendees to the Farmers Market. The June 27th Farmers Market was cancelled due to weather. The July 3rd pop-up Wednesday Market went well, and attendance was average despite the change in day. Debbie then presented the 2019 Farmers Market budget and it was approved by the board for \$36,156. She noted that the majority of the budget comes from vendor fees and sponsorships, while 19% comes from city funds for

the neighborhood. On average, the neighborhood spends approximately \$609 per market.

Transportation and Land Use

Andrew Degerstrom, Chair, reported that the committee has not yet created a new committee description, but would like to change the name of the committee to the Built Environment and Transportation Committee, or BET. The new name was approved by the board. The pilot book club meeting will take place at the regularly scheduled BET meeting on July 16. The committee will bring a new committee description to the August board meeting.

Outreach & Nominations, Social Committee, and Green Team (no reports this month)

Coordinator Updates

Molly Fleming, Coordinator, reported that the Wine Tasting Meetings are going well and encouraged board members to start thinking about their ticket sale strategies. The Wine Tasting will be held on Thursday, October 10, 6-9 pm at St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church. Tickets are \$25 and can be purchased on eventbrite. If neighbors designate EIRA when they purchase tickets on-line the full ticket amount will go to EIRA.

President Ellen van Iwaarden adjourned the meeting at 8:38 p.m.

The next EIRA meeting will be at 7:00 pm on Tuesday, Aug 13, 2019, at Grace Trinity Church. Michael Schroeder, Assistant Superintendent for Planning, Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board, will be on the agenda to begin the planning for the shade structure in Joanne Levin Triangle Park. 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