

East Isles Residents' Association (EIRA)
Minutes from the EIRA Board of Directors (BOD) Meeting
December 11, 2012
Grace-Trinity Community Church

Board members present: Dan McLaughlin (President), Linda Schutz (Vice President), Al Rodriguez (Treasurer), Sue Durfee, Carla Pardue, Jane Schommer, and Michael Rossini. Alternate Donna Jansen and other East Isles residents were also present.

President Dan McLaughlin called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

2721 E Lake of the Isles Parkway

- Mark Nelson of David Heide Design, presented renovation plans for 2721 E Lake of the Isles Pkwy. Four variances are being requested. Neighbors from two adjacent properties attended the meeting to ask questions. The EIRA Board took no action. The Board of Adjustment will review the variance application at its December 13 meeting.

Council Member Meg Tuthill, Ward 10

- The final public hearing for the Mayor's 2013 budget is December 12 at 6:05 pm at City Hall, 350 S 5th St.
- Metropolitan Airport Commission has postponed its decision on changing flight patterns. CM Tuthill will continue to monitor the developments.
- The City of Minneapolis' new mattress recycling program has been very successful (11,000 + mattresses recycled between July and October 2012).
- The next Meet with Meg is January 14, noon- 1 pm at 5th Precinct, 3101 Nicollet Ave S.
- Janeé Harteau was sworn in as the new Chief of Police. Inspector Matt Clark has been reassigned from the 5th Precinct to be Assistant Police Chief. Tony Diaz will be acting Inspector of the 5th Precinct.
- The new apartment building, 1800 Lake, has been pumping groundwater from the parking garage into the lagoon (the channel that connects Lake of the Isles with Lake Calhoun, just west of the parkway and west of The Mall). The developer had a temporary permit to pump water during construction but that permit has expired. The water has been tested and it isn't polluted but it is changing the water temperature in the lagoon. The City and Park Board are working to resolve the issue. The City hired a consulting firm and a report is expected in January.

Open Forum

- The board discussed the idea of occasional meetings with adjacent neighborhoods on topics of common interest.

REPORTS

Harvey Ettinger, Zoning Committee

- The Park Board will be replanting 6-8 trees on The Mall in the spring. Partners are being pursued to help fund replacing park benches.
- Construction has begun for a new home at 2841 East Lake of the Isles Parkway.
- The December meeting has been cancelled. The next Zoning Committee meeting will be January 15, 5 p.m. at Grace-Trinity Community Church, 1430 W 28th Street. Agenda will include a proposal for the BP site at 2700 Hennepin Ave S; request for support of extended hours by Mesa Pizza, 1440 W Lake Street; continued discussion about proposed changes to the fence ordinance; and the EIRA variance process.

Amy Sanborn, Social Committee

- The annual Ice Skating Party will be Sunday, January 27th (back up date: February 10). The EIRA Board unanimously approved a budget of \$200 for the event.

Monica Smith, Staff Report

- Metropolitan Council Environmental Services (MCES) has begun a sanitary sewer repair project along Lake St (from France Ave to Irving Ave) and Irving Ave (from Lake St to 27th St). Construction will continue through July 2013.
- The Park Board is forming a new Community Advisory Committee (CAC) for trail improvements to Dean Parkway and the Cedar Lake.
- The Draft Environmental Impact Statement was release for the Southwest Transitway. Comments are being accepted through December 31. Go to www.southwesttransitway.org.

Green Team

- The next meeting of the Green Team is December 12, 6 pm at Jefferson School, followed by a 7 pm meeting of the Uptown Green Teams. The agenda will include a presentation by Minneapolis Energy Options – a new campaign to ensure that Minneapolis has a strong voice in negotiating its utility franchise agreements.
- The 2013 Green Film Series begins with a showing of *Gasland*, Monday, January 14, 6:45 pm at Grace-Trinity Community Church, 1430 W 28th St.

Board Review

- Dan McLaughlin's wife Sharon will help EIRA with its IRS status.
- The EIRA BOD strategic plan will focus on projects and process.
- Neighborhood Priority Plan (NPP): The ideas with the most support at the October Members Meeting were improvements to The Mall and Lake of the Isles. Dan McLaughlin and Monica Smith to work on crafting language for review at the January meeting of the EIRA Board.
- The board approved the creation of two new committees: transportation and park land/green space. McLaughlin and Smith will work on a committee member solicitation process.
- The EIRA BOD unanimously approved the following:
 - Language for a new Mission Statement:
“East Isles Residents Association (EIRA) is a neighborhood-based organization whose primary goal is to improve neighborhood livability, develop a greater sense of community, and promote the well-being of all of its residents. EIRA encourages resident involvement in order to understand and take action on issues that impact the neighborhood. EIRA develops initiatives that address a wide range of topics that residents believe to be important. Our focus is on increasing neighborhood involvement, preserving the vitality of the neighborhood, and making improvements that make East Isles one of the City of Minneapolis's most vibrant communities.”
 - Authorization of a Nominations Committee to recruit candidates for the EIRA BOD (including alternates) and to encourage high member attendance at the Spring EIRA Members' Annual Meeting. The committee would consist of three or more EIRA members. EIRA members are invited to serve on this committee by communicating their interest to EIRA Coordinator, Monica Smith at nrp@eastisles.org. The committee will meet at least three times, likely 1/2 hour before regularly scheduled monthly EIRA BOD meetings.
 - One year renewal of contract with Coordinator Monica Smith.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Submitted by: Monica Smith, Recorder

Next EIRA BOD meeting: Tuesday, January 8, 7 p.m. at Grace-Trinity Community Church, 1430 W. 28th St.