

East Isles Residents' Association (EIRA)
Minutes from the EIRA Board of Directors (BOD) Meeting
July 5, 2011
Grace-Trinity Community Church

Board members present: Linda Schutz (Chair Pro Tem), Dan McLaughlin (Vice President), Ginna Portman Amis, Sue Durfee, Harvey Ettinger, Ramon Ramirez Quintero, and Joe Sinnott.

EIRA Chair Pro Tem Linda Schutz called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m. The agenda was unanimously approved.

Amy Sanborn, Chair of the Social Committee:

- The Ice Cream Social will be August 17 at Triangle Park. Kowalski's and Isles Bun are donating food and Peterssen/Keller Architecture and Lakes Area Realty are donating printing of an invitation.
- The Board approved an Ice Cream Social ad in the July Hill and Lake Press.

EIRA Zoning Committee

Schutz asked Dan McLaughlin to serve as Chair Pro Tem during the Zoning Committee report. Schutz reported a possible conflict of interest when she received two free slices of pizza while visiting the Dinkytown location of Mesa Pizza. To avoid any concerns, Schutz paid Mesa Pizza partner David Hathaway for the pizza.

On June 14, the Zoning Committee met with Mesa Pizza. Co-chair Harvey Ettinger forwarded information from that meeting to EIRA BOD prior to this evening's meeting. The committee unanimously approved the following motion: "Based on Mesa Pizza's presentation outline, the Zoning Committee does not have any objections to the request for extended hours. One concern is noise and crowd control from occasional lines outside of the restaurant. Mesa Pizza has provided assurances that staff will provide active crowd control to manage these concerns as they have successfully done at their other locations."

Information provided July 5 by Dave Hathaway, co-owner of Mesa Pizza included: in business since 2006 (Dinkytown and Iowa City locations). Oct. 1 planned opening date at new Uptown site (1440 W. Lake St); lease is signed; blueprints submitted to City, minor changes requested; met with Council Member Tuthill, Minneapolis Police, and others.

Need licenses for extended hours for a facility not serving alcohol, and for the restaurant itself. Zoning allows closing at 1 a.m. To serve bar closing customers, want to stay open until 3 a.m., especially Thurs-Sat.

Features: 15-seat quick service, take-out, delivery; offer salads, broad variety pizza toppings by the slice; late night peak hour crowd control employees; daily litter pickups; no alcohol. If more revenue needed in future, maybe beer until 9 p.m. Four parking spots for delivery vehicles in large rear parking lot; require licensed drivers with own

insurance; extra business liability policy. Invite questions via email (answers to be shared with BOD).

Additional BOD input: enhance safety measures given uptick in Uptown area crime; balance Uptown excitement with comfort of those living there; Activity Center location; good Dinkytown operation and products, corrected over-crowding there.

Board Action: The BOD asked Mesa Pizza to limit the extended hours to Thursday-Saturday for the first year of operation and reevaluate at that time. The BOD unanimously approved the motion that EIRA does not oppose the extended hours for Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights.

The Zoning Committee cancelled its July 12 meeting. Co-Chairs Ettinger and Havig will meet with a resident requesting a new garage variance; committee member Sue Durfee volunteered to join them. (Addendum to minutes: address is 1423 W. 27 Street). The committee will make a recommendation to the BOD on September 6.

Zoning Committee processes, how it addresses zoning requests and makes recommendations to the BOD, were briefly discussed.

Open Forum

Resident Michael T'Kach announced two public meetings for the new Walker Library. The Community Advisory Committee will meet July 26 at 6:30 p.m. An Open House to develop plans for The Mall as it relates to the new library is July 12 at 6:30 p.m. Meetings will be held at the Walker Library and are open to the public.

Linda Schutz resumed the Chair Pro Tem responsibilities.

Monica Smith, NRP Coordinator distributed a Treasurer's report prepared by Al Rodriguez. Smith worked with Rodriguez to prepare a financial update of EIRA and NRP expenses for Jan-June, 2011. They recommend that \$8220 of expenses (both EIRA and NRP) go toward the new Community Participation Program (CPP) funding. East Isles has \$20,000 in CPP funding for 2011 expenses related to administration and community engagement.

East Isles Phase II NRP plan was approved by City Council on 6-17-11 at the full allocation with spending restricted to 50% (\$193,000). We can begin implementing Phase II. The Steering committee will meet on July 12 to set priorities for implementation and submit a proposal at the September BOD meeting.

Community Energy Services workshops continue to be offered. Residents are encouraged to participate.

The Steering Committee drafted a letter of support for the NRP staff recommendation to evenly distribute \$2.68 million in previously frozen Phase II money to the neighborhoods

restricted to 50% of allocation. The letter will be revised to include support from the EIRA Board and will be signed by EIRA VP McLaughlin and NRP Chair Jerome Ryan.

The EIRA Board will not publish an ad in the August Hill and Lake Press.

Dan McLaughlin will serve as back up for communication via Constant Contact.

Membership Drive

The BOD unanimously approved a motion to accept Al Rodriguez's service as volunteer chair of the membership function and to approve spending of up to \$900 for a membership mailing. The mailing will include an Ice Cream Social invitation (donated). The BOD approved Monica Smith and one EIRA officer to update the membership letter (to be signed by McLaughlin and Rodriguez). Smith is working on an application for non-profit mailing rate.

Dan McLaughlin resumed the Chair Pro Tem responsibilities.

Spring 2011 Nominations Committee Chair Linda Schutz distributed the Committee report. It outlines extensive recruitment efforts to fill open BOD seats. Recommendations for future efforts include: begin the process earlier in the year, create a checklist to evaluate candidates, and reach out to people with skill sets needed to round out existing BOD talent base. The purpose of the report is to document the process and suggest improvements.

Monica Smith's contract expired in May. The BOD approved a motion to form an Employment Contract Committee to update the contract. The committee will consist of VP McLaughlin (Committee Chair), Treasurer Rodriguez and NRP Steering Committee Chair Ryan. The committee will report back to the BOD for final approval by October 2011. The BOD may choose to hold a closed meeting to discuss and review the contract. The BOD approved the continuation of compensation and reimbursement of expenses to Smith on a month-to-month basis until the new contract is complete.

Levin Triangle Park The second of two community meetings was held to review concepts for the preferred plan. Some residents requested leaving the park as is. However, the park does not comply with current safety regulations. Plans on the Park Board website (www.minneapolisparcs.org); comments accepted through mid-July. Feedback will be reviewed and the revised plan presented at a public hearing at the August 3rd Board of Park Commissioners meeting.

Community Impact Statement The Police are requesting Community Impact Statements for the recent tree vandalism on Irving Avenue (due July 15).

NRP Resolution The BOD took no action on a proposal to support NRP's legislative effort to restore full funding of Phase II.

Website postings/communications will be discussed at the September BOD meeting.

The BOD thanked Linda Schutz for serving as Chair Pro Tem for the June and July meetings. Dan McLaughlin will serve as Chair Pro Tem for the September 6th meeting. The EIRA BOD will not meet in August.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:04 p.m.
Submitted by: Monica Smith, Recorder