

**East Isles Residents' Association (EIRA)**  
Minutes from the EIRA Board of Directors (BOD) Meeting  
March 6, 2012  
Grace-Trinity Community Church

Board members present: Dan McLaughlin (Vice President), Ginna Portman Amis, Sue Durfee, Vaughn Emerson, Tina Frontera, Jane Schommer, and Linda Schutz.

Vice President Dan McLaughlin called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**Announcements**

Dan McLaughlin attended a meeting with Uptown neighborhoods and businesses to examine opportunity to enhance Uptown. Dan will keep us informed as the group progresses.

**Saleem Karmaliani**

Mr. Karmaliani presented plans for his new home at 2841 E. Lake of the Isles Parkway. He purchased the property three years ago; the home was demolished in 2010. The plans for the new home are in Site Plan Review with the City and meet all requirements (no variances are being requested). Construction is expected to begin in April. The builder is Stonewood, LLC.

**Meg Tuthill, Ward 10 Council Member, City of Minneapolis**

- The state legislature has been discussing shortening the approval time for commercial development from 60 to 30 days.
- New parking meters will be installed in the Uptown and Lyn-Lake area. Enforcement times will be Monday - Saturday 8:00 am to midnight (currently until 10 pm). Rates per hour will change to: \$1/hour 8 am to 6 pm and \$2/hour 6 pm to midnight.
- The City is upgrading some of the meters to also function as bike racks. Sponsor a bike rack for \$50 each, contact Susan at [mplsbikeracks@yahoo.com](mailto:mplsbikeracks@yahoo.com) or 612-568-6227.
- The redistricting process has started in Minneapolis. Comments may be sent to [Redistricting2012@minneapolismn.gov](mailto:Redistricting2012@minneapolismn.gov). Website: [www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/redistricting2012](http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/redistricting2012). At this time, East Isles remains in Ward 10. CM Tuthill confirmed that she would be seeking reelection.
- Urban Agriculture ordinance has been postponed to March 22. Tuthill has offered three amendments: specifying materials used in raised beds, reducing the number of days per year that produce can be sold; and restricting the height of hoop houses to 6 ft. There may be additional amendments. Residents are encouraged to read the proposal at: [www.minneapolismn.gov/meetings/zp/WCMS1P-087557](http://www.minneapolismn.gov/meetings/zp/WCMS1P-087557) and submit comments.

- Tree Trust is offering trees to Minneapolis residents for \$25. Ordering begins on March 12 at [www.treetrust.org](http://www.treetrust.org).
- Lunch with Leslie is Tuesday, March 13, noon to 1 pm at the 5<sup>th</sup> Precinct Community Room.

#### **Anita Tabb, Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board Commissioner, District 4**

- Redistricting will also affect the Park Board but few changes are expected for District 4.
- Triangle Park: Construction will begin in mid-April. Construction is scheduled to be complete in time for the Ice Cream Social in August.
- A public hearing for Parade Road construction will be March 13, 6:30 at Kenwood Community Center.
- The Park Board will hear community Advisory Committee's recommendations for improvements to Brownie Lake on March 14.
- The Park Board is working on two riverfront projects: improving access to the river from the north side and Water Works Park for the central riverfront.

#### **Tim O'Donnell, Neile Reider, and Adam Gordon, Metropolitan Council Environmental Services**

Two wastewater sewer projects are planned for East Isles in 2012:

- Calhoun-Isles Area Sewer Improvements – Force main sewer from Hopkins to St. Paul. A section of the sewer (between Dean Pkwy and The Mall along the Midtown Greenway) will be replaced in 2012. Trees are currently being removed to open a corridor for the sewer excavation. Open house: April 10, 6:30 pm at Jones-Harrison Residence, 3700 Cedar Lake Ave. For more information: [www.metrocouncil.org/environment/Construction\\_Updates/index.htm](http://www.metrocouncil.org/environment/Construction_Updates/index.htm)
- Gravity sewer rehabilitation on Lake Street (between France Ave and Irving Ave (and up to The Mall). Work will begin mid-October 2012 through Spring 2013.

#### **Janet Hallaway, The Bridge for Youth**

Janet Hallaway recently joined The Bridge for Youth as the Corporate and Community Engagement Manager. The Bridge has been in East Isles since 1975 and works with youth in crisis. Hallaway thanked East Isles for a NRP grant to replace old windows in their emergency shelter. The Bridge invites neighbors to two community events: tour of The Bridge on April 19 and a community block party on May 12.

## **REPORTS**

#### **EIRA Zoning Committee**

Co-Chair Steve Havig reported that the committee will be meeting with Mesa Pizza to review their request for extended hours.

The Zoning Committee has been working on the Urban Ag ordinance. The board unanimously approved a motion to authorize the zoning committee to issue a resolution, for submittal to the City in advance of its March 22 hearing, regarding a number of bullet points for the Urban Ag ordinance (balancing property rights, being proactive, great regulation of ag-related structures, establishing composting and urban-ag operating standards including soil tests complying with federal, state and local laws, neighborhood notice, etc.). Zoning Co-Chair Havig indicated after some initial editing, and consultation with CM Tuthill, the resolution would be circulated beforehand to the BOD for its review and final approval.

### **Nominations Committee**

Chair Linda Schutz reported that the committee continues to recruit members to join the EIRA Board (if interested, contact [nrp@eastisles.org](mailto:nrp@eastisles.org)). The deadline for current board members to state their intention for the next term is March 15. The committee currently has candidates for four open seats. An alternate will also need to be recruited. The elections will be held at the Annual Members Meeting on April 17. Next meeting of the committee is Tuesday, April 3, 6:30 pm at Grace-Trinity Community Church.

### **Monica Smith, NRP Report**

- The NRP mailing went out announcing the housing loan program and home security grant program. The programs are now available and applications are being accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Information can be found on our website: [www.eastisles.org](http://www.eastisles.org).
- The price for Community Energy Services home visits is going up on April 1<sup>st</sup>. Participate in March for only \$30. [www.mnces.org](http://www.mnces.org)
- The next meeting of the NRP Steering Committee has been changed to Thursday, March 15, 7 pm at Grace-Trinity Community Church.
- If you are planning a community meeting in the evening at Grace, be sure to arrange for a key to open the building.

### **Betsy Allis, Green Team**

- The Green Team is working with ECCO, CARAG and The Wedge on a composting pilot for apartments/condos.
- Green Team events:
  - March 9, 1 pm: Master Gardener and composting event at Kenwood Isles
  - March 31, 2-3:30 pm: Family event to learn about waste reduction. Activities for kids age 5-11.
  - April 21: Family event at Grace Garden (Greenway at James) an informal educational opportunity to learn more about composting.
- The Green Team is exploring the possibility of installing a demonstration rain garden in the neighborhood.

- The EIRA Board unanimously approved the Green Team's request to submit a letter to the Uptown Association to consider organics recycling at the Uptown Art Fair.

**Annual Meeting Planning**

The EIRA Board unanimously approved expenses for a Hill and Lake Press ad to promote the annual meeting and \$30 to purchase snacks for the event.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:04 p.m.

Submitted by: Monica Smith, Recorder