

ECCO Board Meeting Minutes for January 3, 2013 at St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church

Board Members Present: Sarah Sponheim, President; Harry Savage, Co-VP; Linda Todd, Co-VP; Glen Christianson, Treasurer; Anja Curiskis; Emily Balogh; Susie Goldstein; Liz Heyman; Heather Wulfsberg; and Jim Smith.

Board Members Absent: Andrew Bornhoft; Kate Davenport; and Lara Norkus-Crampton.

Guests and Residents: Gary Farland; Anne McLaughlin; Pat Rounds; and Aaron & Erika Zabler.

ECCO Board President Sarah Sponheim called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

### **President's Report**

- There was some confusion at last month's meeting regarding counting the votes for the motion to support the Minneapolis Energy Options campaign for Minneapolis' renewal of electrical and gas franchise contracts. Sarah Sponheim confirmed that the motion passed (vote: 6 yea, 3 no and 2 abstain).
- The ECCO and CARAG Green Teams are interested in co-sponsoring a 10<sup>th</sup> Ward City Council candidate forum focusing on environmental issues. The board approved a motion to support the forum and provide funding of up to \$75 for related expenses.

### **Monica Smith, Staff Report**

- Thirty people attended our caroling event held in December. Special thanks to Michael and Judy Shields for hosting the post-caroling party.
- A resident is investigating the possibility of a Nice Ride station in East Calhoun. He is checking with the businesses at 34<sup>th</sup> and Hennepin to see if they have space for a station. Nice Ride adds stations based upon request. A sample email will be sent to the board and to our distribution list to forward to Nice Ride.

### **Budget Review and Proposed Expenditures**

- Budgets for ECCO's City funding were reviewed (CPP and NRP).
- The 2013 ECCO budget was reviewed. Checking account balance is \$18,130.05; savings account balance is \$8,975.83 (balances as of 1/3/13).
- The board unanimously approved a motion to pursue a proposed neighborhood rain garden project with a maximum expenditure of \$3,830 (from ECCO unrestricted funds).
- The City of Minneapolis received a grant from Hennepin County to add a bike lane on 36<sup>th</sup> Street. ECCO and CARAG have also agreed to provide some funding for the project. Community meetings will be held to review design options before a final plan is approved.
- The board is also considering funding for: a new website; fees for board/staff to attend NUSA conference in Minneapolis (May 2013); and a donation to the Uptown condo fire victims' fund. The board will consider renewal of 2012 donations at a later meeting.

## **Committee Reports**

### **Green Team**

- The Green Team is working to make the City of Lakes Loppet a zero-waste event (Feb 2-3). Volunteers are needed, contact Sarah at [greenteam@eastcalhoun.org](mailto:greenteam@eastcalhoun.org).
- The East Isles Green Team is hosting a screening of "Gasland" on January 14, 6:30 pm at Grace-Trinity Community Church, 1430 W 28<sup>th</sup> St.
- Rainbow Treecare is hosting an Emerald Ash Borer Symposium on February 12. ECCO would like to send a representative.
- Next meeting of the committee is January 9, 7 pm at St. Mary's.

### **Livability Committee**

- The committee will be discussing pedestrian safety at neighborhood intersections.
- The properties at 3401 Irving and 1523 W 34<sup>th</sup> have been legally separated. 3401 Irving will be on the market soon.
- The next meeting of the committee is January 22, 7 pm at St. Mary's.

### **Uptown Neighborhood News (UNN)**

- ECCO resident Pat Rounds was unanimously approved as one of East Calhoun's representatives to the UNN Managing Board.

Meeting adjourned at 8:47 p.m.

Next meeting is Thursday, February 7, 7 p.m. at St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church.