

ECCO Board Meeting Minutes for May 2, 2013 at St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church

Minutes recorded and submitted by Monica Smith and approved by the ECCO Board by electronic vote prior to publication.

Board Members Present: Sarah Sponheim, President; Linda Todd, Co-VP; Emily Balogh; Andrew Bornhoft; Anja Curiskis; Kate Davenport; Susie Goldstein; and Jim Smith.

Board Members Absent: Glen Christianson, Liz Heyman, Lara Norkus-Crampton, Harry Savage and Heather Wulfsberg.

Guests and Residents: Leslie Foreman, Policy Aide to 10th Ward Council Member Meg Tuthill; and Marcus Genzlinger, Uptown Association.

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

Leslie Foreman, Policy Aide to Council Member Meg Tuthill:

- The City hired Barr Engineering to study the groundwater discharge by 1800 Lake. The report identified a variety of options for solutions but feasibility was not addressed. The City is preparing a response to the property owners' request to the DNR for a permit to continue the current discharge.
- Arbor Day celebration tree planting on the Greenway at Humboldt, May 4.
- 5th Precinct Open House – May 14.
- 311 has extended their service hours to 7 am – 8 pm, M-F.
- One Minneapolis One Read book is "A Choice of Weapons" by Gordon Parks.

Marcus Genzlinger, Uptown Association (UA)

Genzlinger is the President of the Uptown Association Board of Directors. The board is made up of 14 volunteers with a mission "to improve the economic vitality and sustainability of Uptown through collaboration and partnerships" and a goal to make Uptown safe, clean and desirable for businesses, visitors and residents.

Staff includes Maude Lovell, Executive Director; Jessica Jesswein, Project Coordinator; two part-time employees; and Art Fair interns.

The UA holds a number of events: Monday Night Mingle (monthly networking opportunity for residents and businesses); Showcase Uptown (up-close look at an Uptown business); graffiti clean up; annual meeting; and Halloween at Calhoun Square. Their largest annual event is the Uptown Art Fair (2013 is the 50th anniversary).

The UA worked with bar operators to increase the beat cops in Uptown, Thursday-Saturday neighbors and to promote a noise reduction program called "Hush" to remind patrons of the importance of being considerate and good neighbors, especially when departing the area at night.

Staff Report, Monica Smith

- The annual report for the 2012 Community Participation Program was sent to board members to review in advance of the meeting. The board unanimously approved the report for submission to the City.
- The board unanimously approved the renewal of the Tree Treatment grant program for 2013 with the remaining budget of \$3,700.
- The board unanimously approved an expenditure of \$27.78 for expenses for the Little Library on the 3300 block of Holmes Ave.
- The Wine Tasting Fundraiser has been scheduled for October 30 at Calhoun Square. Heather Wulfsberg and Judy Shields will co-chair ticket sales for ECCO.
- A postcard to promote the housing loan and grant programs will soon be mailed to property owners.
- June 1st events: Super Sale and Puppet Show/Block Party.

President's Report, Sarah Sponheim

- 1800 Lake had a temporary permit to pump groundwater into the Lagoon during construction. That permit expired but the pumping has continued at a rate of 204 gallons per minute. The property owner is seeking an Appropriation Permit from the DNR to continue pumping into the Lagoon. Public comment period is through May 9. Sponheim will forward the Barr Engineering report to board members along with a draft letter opposing the Appropriation Permit for an electronic vote.
- After five rounds of voting at the Ward 10 DFL convention, Lisa Bender received the DFL endorsement for City Council. The general election will be November 5. There will be no primary since the city will be using Ranked Choice Voting.
- An electronic vote passed for reimbursement of NUSA registration fees of \$267.
- The MSP FairSkies Coalition is a grass-root organization working on the Metropolitan Airport Commissions' plans to reroute a significant number of flights over Southwest Minneapolis and Edina. More info at: www.mspsfairskies.com.

Committee Reports

Livability Committee

The committee did not meet in April. The next meeting is May 28, 7 pm at St. Mary's and will include a presentation from a proposed restaurant in the vacant Blue Sky building at 1513 W Lake St.

Communications

Committee chairs should send committee descriptions to Andrew Bornhoff for the new website. The board approved reimbursement to Andrew for 3 months of website hosting expenses.

Uptown Neighborhood News (UNN)

The UNN is accepting applications for a new editor. Plans are underway for a UNN fundraiser movie night.

Green Team

Sarah Sponheim is stepping down as the committee chair. The committee will continue to meet with rotating chairs.

The Green Team is working on a Bicycle Festival, May 11 at St Mary's; an Ash Tree identification project; and waste reduction at the Nature Valley Grand Prix on June 14

and the Tri-Loppet on June 29 (volunteers needed).

Midtown Corridor Alternatives Analysis

Open houses are being held May 21, 6-8 pm at Colin Powell Center, 2924 4th Ave S and May 23, 6-8 pm at Whittier Clinic, 2810 Nicollet Ave.

Meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Next meeting is Thursday, June 6, 7 p.m. at St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church.