

ECCO Board Meeting Minutes for June 6, 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; Harry Savage, Co-VP; Anja Curiskis; Susie Goldstein; Liz Heyman; Lara Norkus-Crampton; and Heather Wulfsberg.

Board Members Absent: Emily Balogh, Andrew Bornhoft, Glen Christianson, Kate Davenport, Linda Todd, and Jim Smith.

Guests and Residents: 10th Ward Council Member Meg Tuthill, Kim Johnson and Erika Zabler.

ECCO Board President Sarah Sponheim called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Budget Review

The ECCO Board approved donating \$500 to each of the following organizations: Joyce Foodshelf, Midtown Greenway Coalition and Minneapolis Pops Orchestra.

Ward 10 City Council Member Meg Tuthill:

- The City continues to work with the developer of 1800 Lake to find a permanent solution for the groundwater discharge issue. If not resolved by next winter, the groundwater will be rerouted deeper into the north end of Lake Calhoun to allow the lagoon to freeze and ensure an Uptown finish line for the City of Lake Loppet.
- The Trust for Public Land named Minneapolis the Nation's Best Park System in 2013.
- Nature Valley Grand Prix is June 14 in Uptown.
- Open Streets – June 23, 10 am – 4 pm on Lyndale Ave between 22nd and 42th Streets.
- To prevent the spread of Emerald Ash Borer, don't prune Ash Trees between Memorial Day and Labor Day.
- The City is conducting a two-year car-sharing pilot program.
- 31st St construction: curb extensions will be painted on four intersections (Girard, Emerson, Dupont and Blaisdell). Larger stop signs will be installed at Dupont, Emerson and Grand. The street will be painted for bike lanes.
- Meg hired an Urban Scholars intern to work with multi-unit buildings to ensure that they are in compliance with the City's recycling ordinance.

Staff Report, Monica Smith

- Directors & Officers insurance will be renewed.
- The following items were approved via electronic vote in May 2013: letter to DNR regarding 1800 Lake dewatering permit application, May ECCO Board meeting minutes, and allocation of \$100 toward food for the June 1 ECCO block party.
- Labor Day Celebration: The Board approved a budget of \$1250 for the event (including \$50 for food). Monica to research the option of charging \$1 per bingo card as a fundraising effort. If permit fees apply then bingo will remain free. Heather Wulfsberg and Anja Curiskis will help organize the event.
- The ECCO Board approved the 2012 Annual Report to the Attorney General pending final review by Treasurer Glen Christianson.

- The City of Minneapolis created a video to spread the word about the importance of using weather radios (to request a copy of the video, contact Monica Smith at nrp@eastcalhoun.org).
- MSP FairSkies Coalition is a group of SW Minneapolis neighbors opposing a plan to increase airplane traffic over our neighborhoods. They will be invited to attend the July meeting of the Livability Committee (tentative date: July 23 at 7 pm).
- Fair Vote Minnesota will share information about Ranked Choice Voting at the ECCO Annual Meeting in October.

President's Report, Sarah Sponheim

- Nice Ride stations have been installed at Dunn Bros on 34th and Hennepin and at Lake St/East Calhoun Pkwy.
- Sarah and Monica attended the Neighborhoods USA (NUSA) conference in Minneapolis last month and will share more information about the workshops at a future board meeting.
- The Board approved \$50 to host a neighborhood potluck picnic in July. Date to be determined.

Committee Reports

Midtown Corridor Alternatives Analysis

The transit alternatives have been narrowed to three options: 1) Enhanced Bus on Lake Street 2) Streetcar on the Greenway and 3) Dual alternative with both. Open houses were held in May to give feedback on the three options. Next steps: concept designs and operating costs will be evaluated.

Livability Committee

May 28th meeting: Chris and Andrew Ikeda presented their proposal for a new restaurant at 1513 W Lake St. They intend to purchase the building once the City approves their business license. The restaurant will be chef-driven concept with 80-90 seats serving breakfast, lunch and dinner and with a full bar featuring craft beers, wine and liquor. They are not applying for any variances or zoning changes. They plan to reface the exterior of the building and renovate the interior. They have 18 off-street parking spaces. No plans for rooftop or sidewalk seating. The ECCO Board will take an electronic vote on a letter of support for the business once the timing of the project has been confirmed.

Architects are working on a feasibility study for a proposed development (4 condo units and main floor retail) on the NE corner of Lake St & James Ave.

Concerns about pedestrian traffic on Lake St at E Calhoun Pkwy were discussed. A radar speed wagon is being requested.

Communications

Work continues on the new website. Board members should submit a photo and a brief bio for inclusion on the site.

Uptown Neighborhood News (UNN)

The UNN hired a new editor for the paper.

Green Team

- The Raingarden project will feature 14 gardens. One grant for the project has been secured and a second application is pending. Planting day is June 22nd.
- The Bicycle Festival last month was a big success.

Meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

No meeting in July

Next meeting is Thursday, August 1, 7 p.m. at St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church.