

ECCO Board Meeting Minutes for December 4, 2014 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: Susie Goldstein, President; Harry Savage, Vice-President; Abby Armstrong, Treasurer; Ben Jilek, Secretary; Anja Curiskis; Kate Davenport; Paul Harstad; Chris Iverson; Klaus Obergfell; Mark Rosenfeld; David Tompkins; Caroline Vaaler; and Anna Flaig (Alternate).

Board member absent: Steve Latham.

Guests: Council Member Lisa Bender, Ward 10; and ECCO resident Lara Norkus-Crampton.

President Susie Goldstein called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Treasurer's Report, Abby Armstrong

- ECCO's financials were reviewed.

Council Member Lisa Bender, Ward 10

- The City Council is making changes to the mayor's 2015 budget. The City Council voted to change the levy increase from 2.4% to 2.2%. A final public hearing on the budget is December 10, 6:00 pm at City Hall. The Council will vote to adopt the budget after the public hearing.
- 1800 Lake: A judge ruled that the dewatering at 1800 Lake violates city ordinance. The judge will be ruling on the remedy and damages on December 15-16.
- Wells Fargo is working with the city on plans to build new offices on the site of their drive-thru building (SW corner of Lake and Humboldt). Wells Fargo will meet with ECCO's Livability Committee on January 19 to review the plans.
- Council Member Bender will work with the police to address concerns about cars blocking bus traffic downtown.
- The City Council will likely pass the Accessory Dwelling Units ordinance on December 5th.

Staff Report, Monica Smith

- The 2014 Community Participation Program (CPP) spending was reviewed. The board voted to shift funding from overfunded categories to underfunded categories.
- The board approved the proposed allocations for ECCO's 2015 CPP budget of \$24,412.
- The annual report for the 2014 CPP is due March 16, 2015.
- Board members are encouraged to complete the Neighborhood Board Survey by December 15.
- The Loppet Foundation is inviting neighborhood organizations to form a team to participate in the snow sculpture contest on January 31.
- ECCO's donation criteria form was provided to the board. A thank you letter from Southwest Senior Center for ECCO's donation was shared.

Committee Reports

Green Team, David Tompkins

- The deadline for ordering a cherry tree is December 12.
- “Green” tips will be included in the monthly e-newsletter and added to the Green Team’s webpage (www.eastcalhoun.org/green-team).
- The board approved a budget of \$200 for a bee presentation/workshop in Spring 2015.
- A post-party is being considered for the Earth Day Clean Up in April.
- The next Green Team meeting is January 20, 7:00 p.m. at Dunn Bros.

Communications, Anja Curiskis

The Uptown Neighborhood News is planning a January issue.

Midtown Greenway Coalition, Paul Harstad

The board of directors recently held a board retreat.

Livability Committee, Kate Davenport

The next Livability meeting is December 15, 7:00 pm at St. Mary’s. Ben Jilek volunteered to serve as the committee Co-Chair with Kate Davenport.

Social, Monica Smith

The Holiday Caroling Party is December 17, beginning at 6:30 pm at St. Mary’s.

Lake Calhoun Trail Grooming, Ben Jilek

The ECCO Board approved a letter drafted by Ben Jilek to request that the Park Board expand the cross-country trail grooming on Lake Calhoun. West Calhoun Neighborhood Council will co-sign the letter.

President’s Report, Susie Goldstein

- The Task Force held their first meeting on November 10. Project ideas were reviewed. The next meeting is December 8, 7:00 pm at St. Mary’s.
- The board approved a thank you gift for past president Linda Todd.

Announcements

- The ECCO Board electronically approved sending the letter to the City Council regarding neighborhood funding that was introduced at the November board meeting.
- The Friends of the Walker & Hosmer Libraries are partnering on a book sale, December 19-21 at Hosmer Library, 347 E 36th St.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

The next ECCO Board meeting is Thursday, January 8, 2015, 7:00 p.m. at St. Mary’s Greek Orthodox Church.