

ECCO Board Meeting Minutes for May 7, 2015 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; Klaus Obergfell, Treasurer; Abby Armstrong; Anja Curiskis; Kate Davenport; Anna Flaig; Paul Harstad; Mark Rosenfeld; and David Tompkins.

Board members absent: Ben Jilek, Secretary and Caroline Vaaler.

Guest: Ben Somogyi, Senior Policy Aide to Council Member Lisa Bender, Ward 10; and residents John Hartwig and Tanya Cornelius

President Susie Goldstein called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Ben Somogyi, Senior Policy Aide to Council Member Lisa Bender, Ward 10

- The traffic lanes on 36th St W will be repainted in the next week.
- Calhoun Square: The main entrance will be moved further east on Lake St to allow for a new retail space on the corner of Lake and Hennepin; a new restaurant (Parella) will be opening in June/July; events are being planned for the summer (as varied as puppet shows to wrestling matches).
- Public Open House for proposed zoning code revisions for parking requirements for apartments/condos near transit corridors – Thursday, May 21, 5:30 – 7:00 p.m. at Mill City Museum, 704 S 2nd St.
- Join Council Member Bender for Bike to Work day on Friday, May 15, meet at 8:00 a.m. at the corner of Lake Street and Bryant Ave S to bike downtown and join the biking tour of green businesses -- meet at 4:00 p.m. at the Kmart parking lot.

Tanya Cornelius

Resident Tanya Cornelius attended the meeting with a reminder about leash laws. Dogs must be leashed and under your control at all times unless within a completely fenced yard. The law are being more strictly enforced and the tickets for violating the law are expensive.

Staff Report, Monica Smith

- Multimodal Transportation Study: visit the project website at www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/cip/all/WCMS1P-138480 and take a brief online survey to provide your thoughts on the transportation needs in the study area.
- Neighborhood and Community Relations (NCR) published a draft of a new policy for unspent NRP funds. Public comments will be accepted until June 26th. The ECCO Board will discuss at the next meeting for possible comments on the draft.
- The ECCO Board voted to renew the Directors and Officers insurance policy.
- The NRP Phase II Home Security Grant is now in effect. The one-time grants are offered on a first come, first served basis. Residents who received a grant in Phase I are also eligible to receive a grant in Phase II (for new projects).
- The Super Sale is Saturday, June 6, 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Volunteers will help pick up the sale signs at the end of the day.

- The ECCO Street Party and Puppet Show is Saturday, June 6 at 5:00 p.m. on W 34th St (at Irving). The puppet show will begin at 5:00 p.m. followed by a potluck dinner (hot dogs and beverages provided by ECCO). Volunteers will help with the event.
- Reminder to volunteers to put out the ECCO events chalkboard signs to promote upcoming events.

Treasurer's Report

Klaus Obergfell presented the Treasurer's Report. The 990 tax filing is due by May 15.

Committee Reports

Communications, Anja Curiskis

Anja reported on meetings she attended for the Lake Street Energy Challenge and Community Solar.

Susie Goldstein shared an email from the Uptown Neighborhood News (UNN) thanking ECCO for our support and notifying us that the last UNN issue will be June 2015. Anyone interested in resurrecting the paper with a more sustainable model should contact jessvangilder@gmail.com.

Midtown Greenway Coalition, Paul Harstad

- Midtown Greenway Coalition fundraiser, Greenway Glow will be held on June 20.
- New trees are being planted near the Greenway west of E. Calhoun Parkway.
- The Coalition approved a resolution for the Multimodal Transportation Study advocating for grade separate for access to the West Lake Station of Southwest LRT (current plan require LRT users to cross the bike trail to access the station).

North Star Bicycle Festival, Paul Harstad

Paul is organizing a Kids' Fun Zone to complement the kids' race at June 19th event. The Fun Zone will be from 4:00-7:00 p.m. and will feature henna tattoos, helmet-fitting and various bike activities. Volunteers are needed for 2 hour shifts. Contact Paul Harstad at pharstad@yahoo.com to sign up.

Livability Committee, Kate Davenport

- 3448 Hennepin Ave S (the property that the owner wanted to rezone from a duplex to triplex) is now for sale (as a duplex).
- Members of the committee met to review a list of priorities for the Uptown Community Engagement meeting on May 28th. Susie Goldstein will attend the meeting on behalf of ECCO.
- There has been a change to the CPM project at 1710 W. Lake St. CPM wants to expand the penthouse unit from 2,000 sq ft to 2,500 sq ft. The additional space will be added to the north (alley) side. The setbacks on the other three sides have not changed. The height of the building has not changed. The change triggers another public hearing at the Planning Commission (May 11, 4:30 p.m. at City Hall) to review the Conditional Use Permit and site plan review.

Green Team, David Tompkins

- Earth Day Cleanup on April 25 went well. Thanks to donors: Nespresso, Lucia's and Mesa Pizza. The Green Team used \$80 of their \$100 food budget.
- Pollinator Program May 16, 10:00 a.m.- noon at St. Mary's. The ECCO Board approved a request for \$40 to provide snacks for the event.

Social, Mark Rosenfeld

- Happy Hour May 11, 5:00-6:30 p.m. Lake & Irving.
- Anna Flaig is now the Co-Chair of the committee.

President's Report, Susie Goldstein

The board reviewed applications from residents interested in serving on the Lake Calhoun/Lake Harriet Community Advisory Committee (CAC). Harvey Zuckman was selected to represent ECCO on the CAC.

The Task Force would like to move forward with a radon program to provide testing and grants for abatement. A loan to a nonprofit that promotes affordable housing in the city is also being considered. ECCO will need to amend our NRP Phase II language to make these uses allowable for our NRP funds. A 21-day notice is required before voting to change the language. The ECCO Board will be asked to approve the following language at the June 4th meeting: "Matching Grant and Revolving Loan Program – Establish a housing matching grant or loan program to promote initiatives such as energy efficiency and environmental upgrades, exterior home improvements, and affordable housing." Plans need to be refined further and the board will vote on definite plans at a later date.

Steve Latham resigned from the board due to time constraints. We now have an open board seat. Interested individuals should contact Susie Goldstein at president@eastcalhoun.org.

The next ECCO Board meeting is Thursday, June 4, 2015, 7:00 p.m. at St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church.