

ECCO Board Meeting Minutes for August 6, 2015 at St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church

Minutes recorded and submitted by Monica Smith and approved by the ECCO Board at its meeting on September 3, 2015.

Board members present: Susie Goldstein, President; Harry Savage, Vice-President; Klaus Obergfell, Treasurer; Ben Jilek, Secretary; Abby Armstrong; Kate Davenport; Paul Harstad; Mark Rosenfeld; and David Tompkins.

Board members absent: Anja Curiskis, Anna Flaig, and Caroline Vaaler.

Council Member Lisa Bender, Ward 10 and resident Brittany Edwards.

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

Council Member Lisa Bender, Ward 10

- The Zoning and Planning Commission approved the variance for a larger Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) at 3213 E Calhoun Pkwy.
- Plans for the proposed development 3041 Holmes Ave (Lucia's parking lot) have not yet been submitted to the city.
- The parking reform ordinance was passed for dwelling units within ¼ mile of a bus or rail transit stop with midday service of 15 minutes or less: 3-50 unit building - no off-street parking is required, 51+ unit buildings, 50% reduction from minimum requirement.
- The City Council passed a plan for 48 miles of protected bikeways.
- The City Council is working on the following:
 - Ordinance to restrict the sale of flavored tobacco.
 - Paid sick leave ordinance and studying a minimum wage increase.
 - Complete streets working group
- The Mayor will present the 2016 budget address on August 12.
- Wells Fargo presented their ideas for a new building (Humboldt and Lake St) to the Planning Commission Committee of the Whole. The design was not well received because of the orientation of the building toward the parking lot and lack of an entrance on the Lake St side.
- Southwest LRT: The city studied the impacts of a tunnel on the Chain of Lakes. City staff feels comfortable with the plans for the tunnel but the city is asking for specifics in the response to the Supplemental Draft Impact Statement. A public hearing will be held for the municipal consent process in September. Harry Savage will draft of letter for the ECCO Board to review at the next meeting with general support for LRT; areas of concern will also be noted in the letter (rail safety, bike access, cost, and water quality).

Staff Report, Monica Smith

- Revenue from the Super Sale was down this year (40 participants vs. 59 in 2014 and 51 in 2013).
- Puppet Show and block party on June 6: The main actor for the puppet show became ill and was unable to perform. The other two performers attended the event and the kept the audience engaged by showing the puppets and answering questions. The \$400 fee for the performance was waived. The ECCO Board

approved a motion to send \$200 to the theater company for the exhibition they performed.

- The Labor Day Celebration will be held on September 7. Volunteers are needed. ECCO Board members will distribute event fliers.

Treasurer's Report

Finances remain stable and within budget.

Committee Reports

Communications

The final issue of the Uptown Neighborhood News (UNN) was the June 2015 edition. Pricing for a quarterly postcard will be reviewed at the next meeting.

North Star Bicycle Festival

Paul Harstad reported that the Kids' Zone for the North Star Bicycle Festival was a success. Overall, attendance for the festival was down this year. Organizers will likely want help from ECCO again next year.

Midtown Greenway Coalition

The Greenway Glow and the Tour de Fat were great events and fundraisers for the Midtown Greenway Coalition.

Livability Committee

The committee is working on a draft of a letter for the proposed development at 3041 Holmes Ave. There are varying opinions about the project in the neighborhood. The letter will highlight common areas of concern about traffic, parking and disregard for the Uptown Small Area Plan.

The next committee meeting is Monday, August 17, 7:00 p.m. at St. Mary's.

Green Team

Sally Spence and Harry Savage will become the new co-chairs of the Green Team.

Social

The next Happy Hour event is Monday, August 10, 5:00-6:30 p.m. Lake & Irving.

Overnight Shelter Ordinance

Abby Armstrong attended a meeting about emergency overnight shelters (under 30 day stay). Currently the ordinance requires that shelters are housed in religious places of assembly. The City is evaluating changes to the ordinance and held two community meetings to discuss ideas, concerns and opportunities.

Calhoun/Harriet Master Plan

The ECCO Board voted to support a proposal from an ECCO resident to add adult exercise equipment around the Chain of Lakes. The proposal will be submitted to the Calhoun/Harriet Community Advisory Committee (CAC) for consideration in the master planning process.

The next meeting of the CAC is Tuesday, August 18, 6:30 p.m. at Jones-Harrison Residence, 3700 Cedar Lake Ave.

President's Report, Susie Goldstein

- The ECCO Board approved a proposal from the Task Force to implement a radon awareness and abatement program using NRP funds. The program will be launched at the annual meeting in October.
- Greater Uptown Community Partnership: Neighborhoods and business associations held three meetings to find ways to address common issues in the greater Uptown area. Each organization will be asked to contribute \$350 to keep moving forward and work on projects of such as parking/transportation and safety. The ECCO Board approved the expenditure. A volunteer is needed to represent ECCO.
- The Wine Tasting Fundraiser will be held on Wednesday, October 28.
- The Annual Meeting will be held on Thursday, October 8 so as not to conflict with the Calhoun/Harriet Master Plan Open House on October 1.
- Neighborhood and Community Relations (NCR) published a draft of the "Blueprint for Equitable Engagement." The ECCO Board will electronically review feedback to the draft to submit to NCR by the August 14th deadline.

The next ECCO Board meeting is Thursday, September 3, 2015, 7:00 p.m. at St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church.