

ECCO MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, February 2, 2017, 7pm

Minutes taken by Ericka Palmer

Board members present: Secretary Ericka Palmer, Treasurer Klaus Obergfell, Nathan Campeau, Gary Farland, Mary Sabatke, Luke Schaan, and Caroline Vaaler

Board members absent: President Ralph Knox, Vice President Ben Nicla, Alex Cleberg, Bobbie Keller, and Marya Morstad

Staff: Monica Smith

Guests:

ECCO residents: Kay Anderson, Chuck Bennett, Susie Goldstein, Bob Hentges, Jeff McLaughlin, Heather Miletic, and Linda & Lee Todd

Other guests: Lindsey Wallace from Ward 10 Council Member Bender's office, Park Board Commissioner Meg Forney

REPORT: LISA BENDER, CITY COUNCIL MEMBER— Lindsey Wallace

Topics discussed:

- CPM development on East Calhoun Pkwy
 - Coming to the Planning Commission Committee of the Whole next week, the first stage.
 - Due to high volume of negative feedback from neighborhood, Council Member Bender will not be supporting the development in its current form.
 - Next step: meeting with project team next week for the first time
 - Park Board Commissioner Meg Forney supports the Shoreland Overlay District ordinance.
- Minimum wage increase: city is starting to do research to create proposal ordinance. There are several upcoming listening sessions. Two that are geared to

the general public are scheduled in late February. Details are in the ECCO newsletter.

- The Chamber of Commerce suit against the city regarding paid sick leave largely failed. One aspect of the suit regarding non-Minnesota based businesses with Minneapolis-based employees will go to trial.
- Hennepin Avenue Reconstruction— great turnout for the first community meeting. There is a survey available online until Feb 8. Next meeting is March 9th at Bryant Square Park.
- Ward Event- Winter Bike to work day. Meet at Urban Bean 8am, Feb 10th.

REPORT: MEG FORNEY, PARK BOARD COMMISSIONER

- Calhoun-Harriet Master Plan is a plan for the lakes over the next 20 years, information is online.
- Online survey available on the website, public comment period ends March 4, link in ECCO newsletter
- Create a bike lane on Lake Street, which would reduce the car lanes to 2 going east after Thomas Ave to East Calhoun Parkway.
- Trail reconstruction happening this summer
- \$225k for artwork to honor Cloud Man to be hosted in southeast area of Calhoun.
- Concern: Lake Street safety. There are conversations happening at upper levels, and Meg is pushing for more action.

COMMITTEE/EVENT REPORTS

Livability report— Susie Goldstein

- **CPM Development on East Calhoun Pkwy-**
 - City Planner Peter Crandall wrote a report on the project in advance of the Planning Commission Committee of the Whole meeting on February 9.
 - Changes to building dimensions

- The ECCO Board approved the Livability Committee's letter opposing the project to be sent to CM Bender and Peter Crandall.
- The ECCO Board approved a letter to be sent to neighborhood organizations citywide asking for support on our opposition to the project.
- **Thai New Year- April 29, Amazing Thailand** - 4-10 PM, closing Hennepin from Lake to 31st St
- **Suburban World Theater update** - National tenant interested
- **Street lighting in ECCO** - back burner

Green Team — Chuck Bennett

- **Solar**
 - The ECCO Board approved the Green Team's proposal to host an informational meeting with MN Community Solar/Novel Energy Solutions wherein attendees have the opportunity to sign up for community solar, with the stipulation that ECCO not receive any finders fee and pursuant to a memorandum.

Communications —Caroline Vaaler: Nothing new.

Social — Alex Cleberg, absent

- **Happy Hour:** Committee met at last happy hour.
- **Wine event:** Luke and his wife Anna will be the board liaisons

Midtown Greenway Coalition - Roger Messner, absent

Great Uptown Community Partnership — Ben Nicla, absent

STAFF REPORT – Monica Smith

Annual Report for Attorney General

The annual report approved last month was received by the MN Attorney General.

NRP Frozen Funds

- In 2010, funds were frozen for neighborhoods that hadn't spent all their NRP funds.

- Recently, there is momentum on the City Council to reinstate those frozen funds. If approved by the full City Council, ECCO will receive \$42,000 in NRP funds to be available for use beginning in 2017.

Unrestricted Budget

- Next month, we will review the unrestricted budget for 2017 to determine upcoming events for the year.

Calhoun-Harriet Master Plan

- Volunteers need to review and comment on the plan

TREASURER'S REPORT – KLAUS OBERGFELL

Nothing new to report.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Ralph Knox, absent

Need 1 additional board member and alternatives

NEW BUSINESS

Proposal for ECCO to belong to the Minnesota Rivers and Lakes, an environmental organization. Tabled pending more information.

Meeting concluded at 9:10pm.