

ECCO MEETING MINUTES – Thursday, March 2, 2017, 7pm

Minutes taken by Ericka Palmer

Board members present: President Ralph Knox, Vice President Luke Schaan, Secretary Ericka Palmer, Treasurer Klaus Obergfell, Nathan Campeau, Alex Cleberg, Gary Farland, Bobbie Keller, Marya Morstad, Mary Sabatke, and Caroline Vaaler.

Board members absent: none

Guests:

ECCO residents: Jan Scott, Jon Silverman and Harvey Zuckman

Other guests: Lisa Bender, City Council Member, Ward 10

REPORT: LISA BENDER, CITY COUNCIL MEMBER

Topics discussed:

- CPM development on East Calhoun Parkway — No plans to proceed with the current proposal. CM Bender did not support the rezoning.
- Hennepin Avenue Reconstruction— Public meeting will be held on Thursday, March 9, 6:00-8:00 p.m. at Bryant Square Park. Strong desire for bike lanes was a top theme from overall feedback of respondents from Ward 10. Taking seriously the impact on the neighborhood (i.e. cut-through traffic, length of project, storm-water management, safety, etc.). Overall length of the project is to be determined.
- Minimum wage — Public meeting on Wednesday, March 15, 12-2 pm for LynLake/Uptown/Whittier businesses at the Jungle Theater, 2951 Lyndale Ave. S. Feedback will be compiled and given to the City Council likely in May.
- Senator Dibble is working on a bill about car sharing. Car2go left the state because the state rental car tax is very high and is applied to car sharing. Dibble is trying to lower taxes for car sharing programs.

- Sanctuary City and presidential executive orders— Minneapolis has created a working group from relevant departments, and they will bring back some recommended solutions in response. Minneapolis maintains their sanctuary city practices.
- Organizing workers— Ward 10 is hosting an event about worker's issues to talk with policy makers about a variety of issues. Breakout sessions about housing, immigration, health and public safety, and workplace issues. Wednesday, March 8, 12-3 pm at City Hall.
- CM Bender is hosting a mayor forum on Wednesday, March 8 at Calvary Church. Will also include a live stream. Overflow location at LynLake Brewery. 7:30-9pm

Calhoun-Harriet Master Plan— ECCO Response: Harvey Zuckman

- Group of board members reviewed the master plan documents and presented a proposed response. The ECCO Board approved the response with a few minor edits.
- The board decided not to comment on the proposed name change of Lake Calhoun.

COMMITTEE/EVENT REPORTS

Livability report— Susie Goldstein, absent

The Sons of Norway building is for sale.

The next Livability Committee meeting is Monday, March 20, 7:00 p.m. at St. Mary's.

Communications report —Caroline Vaaler

Nothing new to report.

Will promote solar event on NextDoor and Facebook.

Social — Alex Cleberg

Happy Hour went well. Turnout has been consistent.

The next Happy Hour is Monday, March 13, 5-6:30 pm at Lake & Irving.

Green Team — Sally Spence and Chuck Bennett, absent

Solar and wind power information event will be held on Thursday, March 16, 7 pm at St. Mary's.

Walker Library— Mary Sabatke

- Events coming up:

- Uptown Art Fair jewelry sale, adding purses and scarves this year.

- Guest lecture from Macalester College, Professor Duchess Harris, whose mother was portrayed in the movie Hidden Figures, and who wrote a book about Black Lives Matter.

STAFF REPORT – Monica Smith

Holiday Tree Lot— A check for \$666.67 was received from the holiday tree lot. We will send a thank you card to Calhoun Square.

Hennepin Avenue Reconstruction— please consider going to the next public meeting (see CM Bender's report).

All are Welcome Here — The ECCO Board approved using CPP funds to have 35 “All are Welcome Here” signs printed with ECCO's logo (\$520+ tax).

Resident Sheila Eldred will coordinate distribution of the signs to interested residents.

City funds— The City Council approved releasing the previously frozen NRP funds.

ECCO will receive about \$42,000 later this year. Neighborhoods 2020 is a group trying to address what will happen once neighborhood funding expires, a meeting will be in either April or May.

CPED – The city is currently doing outreach regarding a new comprehensive city plan for 2040. A single comment was put into a planning document to abolish neighborhood boards. Neighborhood groups are organizing to have the statement removed from as a theme and placed in the raw data of the comments only. The ECCO Board will review the resolution and vote electronically.

TREASURER'S REPORT – KLAUS OBERGFELL

Nothing new to report.

2016 CPP Annual Report – Monica Smith

The report is due on March 31. The board discussed highlights to include in the report. The report will be drafted and electronically approved by the ECCO Board.

UNRESTRICTED BUDGET FOR 2017– Monica Smith

The ECCO Board approved the proposed 2017 budget for unrestricted expenses. The annual street party will be held on Saturday, June 3.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Ralph Knox

Ben Nicla resignation, need to elect new VP

Luke Schaan was elected new VP.

Meeting Schedule for 2017

- MPS Spring Break is 3/31-4/9.

Enough people will attend the April 6 meeting for a quorum.

Midtown Greenway Coalition representative needed

Roger Messner is leaving the neighborhood. A new representative is needed.

New Board Member suggestions

There are 2 vacancies on the ECCO Board. Suggestions welcome.

NEW BUSINESS

The board approved a motion to reimburse Mike Wilson \$15 for scanning Hill & Lake Press articles regarding the East Calhoun condo project.

Meeting concluded at 9:04pm