

ECCO MEETING MINUTES – Thursday, January 5, 2017, 7pm

Minutes taken by Ericka Palmer

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

Board members absent: Vice President Ben Nicla, Alex Cleberg, and Bobbie Keller

Also absent: Staff Person: Monica Smith

Guests:

ECCO residents: Aaron Zabler, Gregory Clark, Robert Raike, Jonas and Jenny Walter, Susie Goldstein, and David Tompkins

Other guests: Ron Harris, Council Member Lisa Bender's Policy Aide

REPORT: RON HARRIS, CITY COUNCIL MEMBER LISA BENDER'S OFFICE

Topics discussed:

- City considering raising minimum wage
- Hennepin Avenue will be reconstructed in 2018. An Open House for the project will be held on Jan 25th at Bryant Square Park at 6-8pm.
- Renter's rights talk — Jan 10 at 8am. Panel from Tenant's United, Homeline, and Alliance for Metro Stability answering questions.
- Condo development on East Calhoun Parkway — CPM just submitted their application.

COMMITTEE/EVENT REPORTS

Livability report— Susie Goldstein

- East Calhoun Parkway condo update— Developer came back to the Livability committee on December 12. We did not get all the information we requested, including the project as it relates to height. They did lower it by half a story. 4.5 stories high. 4 homes per floor. Temperature of the neighborhood is negative— top reasons: height and the alley. Developers were asked to address the alley impact. They pulled the project back to widen the alley behind their parcel. They could install audible announcers from the garage about ‘car coming’. Nothing on environmental impact. Did give shadowing by all seasons and ‘peekaboo views’ sight lines. The consensus by those who attend meetings and feedback is that it is not the place for this project.
- Susie talked with the Park Board. The representative had not heard of the development yet. Might allow them a few parking spots for construction vehicles, but not a whole section of parking. Need a traffic control route for detour traffic and pedestrian plans. The forestry department would be involved for replacing trees and they also assign their own permits.
- Regarding pile driving, developers said they would examine the exteriors of the buildings prior to any work. There are several kinds of permits construction would need from the Park Board. The Park Board’s focus is on the parkway, park property, and the trees.
- Soonest a public meeting could happen would be February.
- Next livability committee meeting is Jan 16th.

Communications report —Caroline Vaaler — nothing to report

Social — Alex Celberg — absent

Holiday Caroling— Bobbie Keller — absent — low turn out. It was a bitterly cold night.

Midtown Greenway Coalition report - Roger Messner, absent

Great Uptown Community Partnership report — Ben Nicla, absent

Green Team — Sally Spence and Chuck Bennett, absent

Friends of Walker Library — Mary Sabatke— *Frozen* at the Walker Library on January 14th- 10-11:30.

STAFF REPORT – Monica Smith, absent

TREASURER’S REPORT – Klaus Obergfell

Nothing new to report.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT – Ralph Knox

Voted to approve signing the Attorney General’s Charitable Organization Initial Form. There is one open position on the ECCO Board. Interested residents should contact Monica Smith at nrp@eastcalhoun.org.

NEW BUSINESS

Calhoun-Harriet Master Plan – a draft of the plan will be released for a 45-day comment period on January 18th.

Meeting concluded at 8pm.