

ECCO MEETING MINUTES — Thursday, June 1, 2017, 7pm

Minutes taken by Ericka Palmer

Board members present: President Ralph Knox, Vice President Luke Schaan, Secretary Ericka Palmer, Gary Farland, Bobbie Keller, Marya Morstad, Mary Sabatke, Caroline Vaaler, and Jonas Walter.

Board members absent: Treasurer Klaus Obergfell, Nathan Campeau, and Alex Cleberg.

Guests:

ECCO residents: Tim Haas, Jan Scott, and Jon Silverman.

REPORT: LISA BENDER, CITY COUNCIL MEMBER, absent

Board Member elections to fill vacancies

Approved nominations to the board:

- Jonas and Jennifer Walter will co-fill a board seat.
- Rhoda Reighard was elected as a board member.
- Tim Haas was elected as a board alternate.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Super Sale — Saturday June 3, 9am-3pm

- Volunteers needed.
-

ECCO Street Party — Saturday June 3, starting at 5pm

- Volunteers needed.
 - The evening begins with a performance of "Coyote Stories," a collection of American Indian stories performed by The Little Coyote Puppet Theater at 5pm
- Community potluck dinner, games for all ages and music! Hot dogs, veggie burgers and beverages provided by the ECCO Board.

Happy Hour — June 12, Lake & Irving, 5-6:30pm

Labor Day — Monday, September 4

- The board approved the budget to hire Hermey the Clown.

Wine Tasting Fundraiser — Thursday, October 26

- Planning continues for the October event.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Livability report— Recap from May meeting:

Hennepin Ave Reconstruction:

- The committee continues to discuss the project. We have not heard from CARAG about any meeting to discuss a joint response.
- ECCO received a response from Public Works acknowledging ECCO's letter listing concerns. Public Works identified areas where their plan matches up with ECCO's feedback and gave justification for decisions that do not align with ECCO's requests. Lisa Bender will be meeting with the director of Public Works.
- The next Transportation and Public Works Committee meeting is June 6; Hennepin Ave is not on the agenda. The next meeting for TPW is June 20. That agenda has not been posted.

Sons of Norway: CPM confirmed that they purchased the apartment building at 3014 Holmes Ave but denied it has anything to do with the Sons of Norway redevelopment at this time.

Mentioned panhandlers in ECCO and the change in park police policy to leave them alone, unless they are causing disturbance or blocking/hindering traffic. The Mpls City Attorney has taken the stance that panhandling is a freedom of speech issue.

The next meeting will be Monday, June 19, 7pm at St. Mary's.

Communications report —Caroline Vaaler

- Spring postcard went out last month; this was our first postcard of the year.
- The board approved hiring the Southwest High School Gymnastics team to distribute fliers for the Labor Day event.

Social — Alex Cleberg, absent

- See event report above
-

Green Team —

- In need of representation
- Nothing to report

Friends of the Library Report — Mary Sabatke

- The art installation will be revealed soon.
- Several good programs happening:

- One on brewing beer this Saturday, June 3

- Famous women buried at Lakewood Cemetery on Friday, June 9,

2-3:30pm

- Jewelry/Scarf/Handbag sale— during Uptown Art Fair on Saturday, August 5. Donate used jewelry and even broken items for the library to sell to fund community programming.

STAFF REPORT – Monica Smith

Personal Safety Workshop:

- Was held on May 15, in partnership with CARAG.
- About 12 people showed up, both men and women, went well.

Future of Neighborhoods Meeting

- For the year 2020, when our funding from the city will be ending, no new funding source is identified yet. Good attendance.
- City has been holding meetings to help shape future decisions.
- Monica ran through the flow of the meeting, and the questions asked and answered by small groups of attendees.
- Meetings did not discuss options for funding neighborhoods beyond 2020.
- City currently spends \$3 million per year in CPP funding that goes to neighborhood organizations.

Roll over of unspent CPP funds from 2014-16

- The board approved a recommendation to roll over \$5,656.99 of unspent funds from 2014-16 to the 2017 program, staff line item.

Review of NRP funds

- NRP Phase I and Phase II funds were reviewed.
- We need to plan how to spend down funds to meet the threshold of spending 85% of our NRP Phase II funds.
- We should do some kind of organizational identity and vision work to help us communicate our message and drive projects.
- Gary will chair the NRP Phase II Reallocation Committee.

Metro Blooms

- Metro Blooms Project — “Blooming Boulevards” storm water management project. Qualifies for NRP plan. Cost unknown, needs to be investigated.

Senior Center closing at Volunteers of American (36th & Bryant)

- Lost funding from the United Way, closing June 30th. Provided all kinds of programs and meals for seniors.
- We have donated to them in the past.

Bridge for Youth (Rita’s House) grant

- Request from East Isles and CARAG to partner on supporting Bridge for Youth, short term housing for youth in crisis. CARAG is making a grant of \$20,000 and East Isles is giving a \$25,000 grant. A proposal to move \$20,000 from our Phase II Radon line item to provide a grant to Bridge for Youth was approved.

Home security grant request

- The board approved a motion to revise the home security grant to include security cameras. The neighbor's grant was retroactively approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT

- The ECCO Board approved the annual report to be sent to the Minnesota Attorney General by the July 15 deadline.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Ralph Knox

Donation request: Lake Calhoun Sailing School

- Would come from unrestricted funds - have a \$1000 budget for donations to other nonprofits.
- Clarity is desired about how we/the city delineate certain non-profits we can or cannot donate to from NRP funds. Monica will ask the city to provide information.
- A motion for \$500 donation for the Sailing School was approved.

Need representatives for Midtown Greenway Coalition and Greater Uptown Community Partnership.

- Tim Haas is now our representative to the Midtown Greenway Coalition.

July 6 meeting — We may not have quorum. Board member attendance will be determined closer to the meeting date.

Meeting concluded at 9:08pm.