

ECCO Board Meeting Minutes for November 2, 2017 at St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church

Minutes recorded and submitted by Monica Smith.

Board members present: President Ralph Knox, Vice President Gary Farland, Treasurer Klaus Obergfell, Secretary Bobbie Keller, Tim Haas, Marya Morstad, Rhoda Reighard, Mary Sabatke, Luke Schaan, Judy Shields, Caroline Vaaler and Jonas Walter.

Board members absent: Amy Rutherford

### **Announcements**

- Minneapolis 2040 is an update to the City's Comprehensive Plan, a document that shapes how Minneapolis will grow and change. Board members are encouraged to attend one of the upcoming open houses to provide feedback on housing, design of new buildings, how we use our streets, job creation and more:
  - Saturday, December 2, 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., Van Cleve Park, 901 15th Ave SE
  - Tuesday, December 5, 5:30-7:30 p.m., Farview Park, 621 N 29th Ave
  - Saturday, December 9, 10:00 a.m. – Noon, Roosevelt High School, 4029 S 28th Ave
  - Monday, December 11, 5:30-7:30 p.m., Martin Luther King, Jr Park, 4055 Nicollet Ave S

For more information and to sign up for updates, go to [minneapolis2040.com](http://minneapolis2040.com).

- Hennepin County is expected to take up the issue of the Lake Calhoun name change at the Administration Committee meeting on November 21, 1:30 p.m., followed by the full county board on November 28, 1:30 p.m.
- The Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on Monday, November 13, 4:30 p.m. at City Hall, Room 317, to modify occupancy regulations to allow more unrelated individuals to live in one house or apartment.
- The City and Park Board are holding public meetings to comment on the proposed 2018 budgets on Wednesday, November 29, 6:05 p.m. at City Hall and Wednesday, December 6, 6:05 p.m. at City Hall. The budget will be adopted on December 6.
- Election day is Tuesday, November 7. Ranked-choice voting will be used for municipal offices.
- Calhoun Square is not hosting the holiday tree lot this year.
- Hennepin County Adult Probation staff is seeking partners for a toy drive for their clients' children during the holiday season.

### **Committee Reports**

#### **Livability Committee**

- The ECCO Board electronically approved a joint ECCO/CIDNA letter to the City regarding green infrastructure for the Hennepin Ave reconstruction.
- The Livability Committee electronically approved a letter opposing a proposed building in Linden Hills within the Shoreland Overlay District at the request of the Linden Hills Zoning Committee. The City Planning Commission approved the project.
- Sons of Norway project: Ryan Companies attended the October 16 Livability Committee meeting. The information presented was similar to that presented at the ECCO Annual Meeting. Residents expressed concern about the density and height on 31<sup>st</sup> St. Ryan

expects to submit plans to the City soon; a public hearing will be held in January. Ryan is hosting an open house on Tuesday, November 7, 3:30-5:00 p.m. at Sons of Norway.

The next Livability Committee meeting is Monday, November 20, 7:00 p.m. at St. Mary's. The committee will draft a formal response to the Sons of Norway project.

#### **NRP, Gary Farland**

The committee is reviewing ideas for spending \$115K of NRP funds. The committee is working on a lead testing program and considering options for a traffic study.

#### **Social Committee**

The next Happy Hour is Monday, November 13, 5:00-6:30 p.m. at Lake & Irving.

The Social Committee is planning the annual Holiday Caroling for December 12.

#### **Friends of the Walker Library, Mary Sabatke**

The group did not meet last month. Book donations are being accepted for the book cart.

#### **Midtown Greenway Coalition, Tim Hass**

The board will hold a retreat on Saturday, November 4.

A feasibility study is being considered to examine a possible extension of the Greenway across the Mississippi River to St. Paul.

#### **Calhoun Refectory Concession, Al McMurchie**

Al McMurchie was ECCO representative to a selection committee for a new restaurant concession at the Calhoun Refectory. The committee voted to select a new vendor (Al cast the lone vote to support the bid by Tin Fish employees). The formal vote by the Park Board has not been scheduled. The ECCO Board will discuss further at the December meeting.

#### **Staff Report, Monica Smith**

- The ECCO Board voted to extend the NRP Phase II implementation contract set to expire on 12/31/17.
- The ECCO Board reviewed a security grant for a duplex. Each unit is eligible for the \$100 one-time grant.
- The board will discuss options for removing the broken irrigation system on the 31<sup>st</sup> St median (at Irving Ave) at the December meeting.
- The ECCO Board approved contributing \$15 toward the expenses for the Ward 10 Candidate Forum.
- The Community Connections Conference is being planned for Saturday, February 10, 2018.

#### **Wine Tasting Fundraiser**

The successful event was held on Thursday, October 26.

ECCO's fundraising goal was \$3,500. We are still collecting money from board members who

sold tickets. A full report will be provided next month.

**Board Alternate Appointment**

The ECCO Board voted to appoint Dane Stimart to the vacant Board Alternate position.

**Officer Elections**

The following ECCO Board officers were elected: Ralph Knox, President; Gary Farland, Vice President; Klaus Obergfell, Treasurer; and Bobbie Keller, Secretary. The ECCO Board approved a motion to have Monica Smith write the board meeting minutes.

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

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