ECCO Board Meeting Minutes for January 4, 2018 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 Jenny Walter.

Board members absent: Amy Rutherford

ECCO residents: Livability Committee Chair Susie Goldstein and Board Alternate Lee Todd. Residents Ryan Brown, Tamara Kaiser, Bob Hentges, Greg Lehman, Jaana Mattson, Lara Norkus-Crampton and Erik Storlie.

Guest Speaker: Heather Worthington, Director of Long Range Planning, City of Minneapolis

Minneapolis 2040 is the City’s 20-year Comprehensive Plan, which will direct the physical and economic development of the City into the future. The Metropolitan Council requires that cities in the metro area update their Comprehensive Plan every 10 years to meet state law and regional planning requirements.

Equity and affordable housing are key factors in the plan.

A community Open House is being planned for Tuesday, January 23, 6:00-8:30 p.m. at Plymouth Church, 1900 Nicollet Ave.

Next steps: A draft of the Comprehensive Plan will be submitted to the City Council in March 2018, followed by a six-month comment period. Community engagement opportunities will be scheduled in spring/summer 2018.

For more information: minneapolis2040.com.

Announcements

- The Lake Calhoun Sailing School sent a letter thanking ECCO for the $500 donation for scholarships.
- Rita’s House Grand Opening will be Thursday, January 18, 5:00-6:30 p.m. at 2200 Emerson Ave S.
- The City of Minneapolis is developing a resilience strategy to better prepare for, withstand and bounce back from today’s biggest challenges such as housing challenges, aging infrastructure, natural disasters, racial inequities and a changing climate. For more information, go to minneapolismn.gov/resilience.

Committee Reports

Livability Committee, Susie Goldstein

Sons of Norway project:

- Tony Barranco from Ryan Companies attended the December 18 Livability Committee meeting to report that Ryan submitted their plans to the City for the Sons of Norway project. Ryan is applying for a Planned Unit Development (PUD), rezoning of 3016
Holmes from R4 to R6, variance to increase max lot coverage of 3016 Holmes and an alley vacation.

- The Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on Monday, January 22, 4:30 p.m. at City Hall.
- The ECCO Board decided to slightly revise the letter of opposition approved in December 2017 by adding information about the traffic study and including the names of board members. The letter will be revised and circulated to board members for electronic approval.
- Ralph Knox will contact other neighborhood organizations to ask for support of ECCO’s position.
- The January 15 meeting of the Livability Committee will include discussing strategies for commenting at the public hearing.

East Calhoun Pkwy project:
- The owners of the properties at 3017, 3021 and 3025 East Calhoun Pkwy have asked to be on the agenda for the next Livability Committee meeting to reopen the discussion about development options.

James and Lake St:
- Finance & Commerce reported that four residential properties on the SW corner of Lake St and James Ave have been sold.

The next Livability Committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 15, 7:00 p.m. at St. Mary’s. The agenda will include Sons of Norway and East Calhoun Pkwy projects.

**NRP, Gary Farland**
The committee will hold their next meeting on Tuesday, January 9, 7:00 p.m. at St. Mary’s.

**Other Committee Reports**
The other committees did not provide reports due to meeting time constraints.

**Officer and Board Appointments**
Treasurer Klaus Obergfell resigned his position as board member and Treasurer. The ECCO Board unanimously appointed Luke Schaan to serve as Treasurer and Lee Todd to be elevated from alternate to board member. Thank you to Klaus for his service to the neighborhood.

**Staff Report, Monica Smith**
- ECCO and CARAG are planning a Personal Safety Workshop on Saturday, March 24, 10:00 a.m. (location to be confirmed).
- The Community Connections Conference will be Saturday, February 10, 2018.
- The 2018 unrestricted budget will be presented next month.
April Board Meeting
The April 5 board meeting conflicts with Minneapolis Public Schools spring break. The April meeting will be rescheduled to Thursday, April 12 to ensure better attendance.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

The next ECCO Board meeting is Thursday, February 1, 7:00 p.m. at St. Mary’s Greek Orthodox Church.