

ECCO Board Meeting Minutes for May 3, 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 Luke Schaan, Secretary Bobbie Keller, Tim Haas, Marya Morstad, Mary Sabatke, Judy Shields, Lee Todd, and Jenny Walter.

Board members absent: Rhoda Reighard, Dane Stimart, and Caroline Vaaler.

Guests: City Council President Lisa Bender; Tina Erazmus, Council Associate; Kelly Wilcox, Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board; and ECCO resident Ryan Brown.

### **City Council President Lisa Bender, Ward 10 Update**

- The new council term began in January. There are five new council members. Her peers elected Lisa Bender president of the council. The council committees have been established and City department heads have all been nominated.
- Hennepin Ave will be reconstructed from Lake St to 36<sup>th</sup> St W this summer. Construction will be done in phases beginning at 36<sup>th</sup> St and working northward.
- Minneapolis 2040, a draft of the Comprehensive Plan, has been published and is open to public comment through July 22. The draft outlines goals and policies for topics such as housing, race equity, environmental sustainability, public health, etc. The City is holding five open house meetings in May (and possibly a Ward 10 specific meeting).
- Neighborhoods 2020 (funding for neighborhood organizations): the mayor is proposing increases in funding for affordable housing in the 2019 budget, which will increase property taxes. The funding discussion about Neighborhoods 2020 may have to wait until later.
- The City is waiting for a plumbing quote before they can remove the broken irrigation system on 31<sup>st</sup> St W (at Irving).
- There is a potential buyer for the Suburban World to use space as an event center.

### **Kelly Wilcox, Design Project Manager, Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board**

The Park Board is beginning a master planning process to create long-term park plans for all neighborhood parks in Southwest Minneapolis (south of I-394 and west of I-35W). There will be many opportunities to provide input to the planning process over the next 12-18 months.

The Park Board would like to set up information tables at upcoming ECCO events.

ECCO does not have any neighborhood parks that are currently identified in the project scope. ECCO has asked if the Loon Lake Trolley Path will be included in this planning process since it was not included in the master plan for Lake Calhoun/Bde Maka Ska.

### **Announcements**

East Calhoun residents organize an annual Ice-Out Plunge at Bde Maka Ska. This year's event is Sunday, May 6, 6:00 p.m. at the 32<sup>nd</sup> St Beach.

Give feedback on infrastructure priorities. The Capital Long-Range Improvement Committee (CLIC) reviews capital budget requests submitted by City departments and independent City

boards and makes recommendations to the mayor and City Council on how those projects should be prioritized and which ones should be funded in the annual CLIC report.

**Public input sessions:**

**Wednesday, May 9**, 6:30-8:00 p.m., Crown Roller Mill Building, [105 Fifth Ave S](#)

**Tuesday, May 15**, 6:30-8:00 p.m., North Regional Library, [1315 Lowry Ave N](#)

**Public hearing:**

People can also speak in favor of or against proposed projects or suggest other ideas by attending the official public hearing on:

**Thursday, May 24**, 6:00 p.m., City Hall, [350 S 5th St](#), Room 319

## **Committee Reports**

### **Livability Committee, Lee Todd**

The April 16 Livability Committee meeting included:

- Beginning discussions about Minneapolis 2040.
- The subgroup working on parking and traffic issues has developed a survey to send out to neighborhood residents to help identify problem areas and potential solutions. The ECCO Board approved funds to print the survey and have it delivered with the Super Sale/Upcoming Events flyer.

Minneapolis 2040:

- People are encouraged to attend the Minneapolis 2040 open house meetings in May.
- Lee Todd will organize outreach to other neighborhoods to have unified feedback to the City.

East Calhoun Parkway late-night noise:

- The Park Police will be asked to enforce the No Parking regulations on the parkway.
- The new signage has not yet been posted; follow-up needed.

The ECCO Board will not be commenting on the proposed changes to the Low Income Housing Tax Credit Program.

Upcoming Livability Committee meeting:

- Monday, May 21, 7:00 p.m. at St. Mary's. The agenda will include a proposed redevelopment at Lake St and James Ave (1711 Lake St and 3000, 3004 and 3008 James Ave).

### **NRP, Gary Farland**

- Fund balances for NRP Phase II were reviewed as we work toward spending down the funds.
- Gary Farland, on behalf of ECCO, will apply for the Kris Nelson Community-Based Research Program. The application is due on June 15 for a student research assistant to work on a project in Fall 2018. Gary will bring more information to the Livability

Committee and to the ECCO Board meeting (June 7).

### **Communications**

A postcard was recently mailed to all residents promoting our spring activities.

### **Social Committee**

- The next Happy Hour is Monday, May 14, 5:00-6:30 p.m. at Lake & Irving.
- The annual Super Sale will be Saturday, June 2. The following board members volunteered to collect the Super Sale signs at the end of the event: Bobbie Keller, Judy Shields, Mary Sabatke, and Lee Todd.
- Marya Morstad is organizing the Street Party on Saturday, June 2, 5:00-8:00 p.m. at 34<sup>th</sup> St W and Irving Ave S. The evening includes a potluck dinner, puppet show and games/music. Volunteers are needed to help.

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

- The jewelry sale is being planned for August. Donations are being accepted any time.
- Donations are also welcome for the Book Cart.

### **Green Team**

Earth Day Clean Up has been rescheduled to Saturday, May 12, 9:30 am – Noon at Bde Maka Ska. Meet near the Refectory.

### **Midtown Greenway Coalition, Tim Haas**

A fundraiser is underway to pay for an engineering study to explore options to extend the Greenway over the Mississippi River on the Short Line Bridge into St. Paul.

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

- ECCO's comments to the Neighborhoods 2020 Roadmap draft were sent to the City.
- The ECCO Board is committed to providing volunteers and selling tickets to a Wine Tasting Fundraiser. A tentative date has been set for Thursday, October 11.
- ECCO received an email asking for a financial gift for a memorial to survivors of sexual violence, which is being planned for Boom Island Park. No action was taken.
- CARAG is requesting that the City install rain gardens on the boulevards as they reconstruct Hennepin Ave. ECCO does not have the capacity to participate.

### **July Board Meeting**

The July board meeting has been rescheduled to Thursday, July 12, 7:00 p.m. at St. Mary's to avoid a conflict with the July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

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