ECCO Board Meeting Minutes for Thursday, January 3, 2019 at St. Mary’s Greek Orthodox Church

Minutes recorded and submitted by Monica Smith.

Board members present: President Judy Shields, Vice President Dane Stimart, Treasurer Gary Farland, Secretary Bobbie Keller, Ralph Knox, Marya Morstad, Nick Muellerleile, Rhoda Reighard, Mary Sabatke, Lee Todd and Jenny Walter. 

Board members absent: Daré Magnus-Lawson.

Guests: Board Alternate David Tompkins.

President Judy Shields called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Announcements

- Organizers of Open Streets are considering having an event on Hennepin Ave (from Franklin to 36th St) on a Sunday in late June or early July 2019. We are waiting for more information.
- The Community Connections Conference is Saturday, February 2. Registration is now open at minneapolismn.gov/ncr/CommunityConnectionsConference.

Coordinator’s Report, Monica Smith

- Southwest Service Area Master Plan: The Park Board will hold four workshops to provide in-person feedback on the initial concepts for each neighborhood park in SW Minneapolis. An online survey will also be available after the first workshop. Below are the dates, times, and locations:
  - Thursday, January 31, 6:00-8:00 p.m. at Lynnhurst Recreation Center
  - Monday, February 4, 6:00-8:00 p.m. at Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Recreation Center
  - Thursday, February 7, 6:00-8:00 p.m. at Whittier Recreation Center
  - Tuesday, February 12, 6:00-8:00 p.m. at Jones Harrison Residence
  Project managers will also attend the February ECCO Board meeting to share plans.
- ECCO Super Sale. Sylvia Kafkas, the long-time organizer of the Super Sale, has retired. The board will need to determine the future of the event. Judy Shields will speak with South Uptown about opportunities to partner on an event.
- ECCO and South Uptown are planning a joint Personal Safety Workshop on Thursday, March 21 at St. Mary’s.
- January is national radon awareness month. Free radon test kits are available as are mitigation grants; contact nrp@eastcalhoun.org.
- Neighborhoods 2020 is a process to determine the future of neighborhood organizations when the designated funding source expires at the end of 2020. The three work groups have finished their work (work groups were: Program Guidelines and Funding; Governance; and Citywide Community Engagement). The proposals from the three workgroups will be published in mid-January for a 45-day comment period. A subcommittee of the ECCO Board will review the proposals and bring comments to the board in February or March.
Treasurer’s Report, Gary Farland and Monica Smith
The proposed 2019 unrestricted budget was adopted by the board.

Committee Reports

Livability Committee, Lee Todd

East Calhoun Pkwy development (3017, 3021, and 3025 East Calhoun Pkwy): The project team is moving forward with a proposal for a 4-story development (a mix of condominium and rental – this will NOT be an assisted living facility as previously proposed). The ECCO Board approved a motion in opposition to the 4-story proposal. The Livability Committee will be drafting a letter for the board to approve electronically or at the February meeting (depending on timing). The Livability Sub-Committee for the project will be meeting with the project team on January 24 and working to schedule a meeting with Council President Lisa Bender. The project will be discussed at the January 21 Livability Committee meeting.

The developer for a proposed project on the SW corner of Lake St and James Ave has asked for time on the Livability Committee agenda in January.

Minneapolis 2040: On December 7, 2018, the Minneapolis City Council directed staff to submit a final draft of Minneapolis 2040 to the Metropolitan Council for their review. The Minneapolis2040.com website now reflects all changes made by the City Council in their Fall 2018 markup sessions. It is expected that the Metropolitan Council will complete their review in the first half of 2019, with the Minneapolis City Council taking final action on the document shortly thereafter.

Changes were made to the Built Form Map for the block between Lake St and 31st St in ECCO to step down from Corridor 6 on the north end to Interior 3 mid-block to Interior 2 at the south end of the block.

The next Livability Committee meeting is Monday, January 21, 7:00 p.m. at St. Mary’s.

NRP, Gary Farland
A committee meeting will be scheduled for late January.

Communications, Judy Shields
Judy will reach out to South Uptown about a joint neighborhood Happy Hour.

Social Committee, Marya Morstad
The Caroling Party in December went well.

The next ECCO Happy Hour is Monday, January 14, 5:00-6:30 p.m. at Lake & Irving Restaurant.
Friends of the Walker Library, Mary Sabatke
Continue to support the Friends by supporting the book cart.

The next meeting is January 28.

Green Team, Dane Stimart
The team is planning a meeting on Wednesday, January 16, 7:00-8:30 p.m. at Brim, 2919 Knox Ave S.

Midtown Greenway Coalition
No report.

Neighborhood Name, Ralph Knox
A notice went out to invite people to join the committee in the January e-newsletter and via an email (to targeted individuals). The committee will be planning a meeting for later in January.

Renter Committee, Nick Muellerleile
Nick is working to identify contact information for apartment building owners and property managers.

President’s Report, Judy Shields
- Tim Haas has resigned his seat on the ECCO Board. The board approved a motion to elevate Jane Connelly from alternate to board member.
- Senior Community Services HOME Program removes snow for seniors in Hennepin County. Workers needed; the pay is $16/hour. Contact Bethany at seasonalwork@seniorcommunity.org or call 952-767-7886.
- Minneapolis Public Works plans to reconstruct Girard Ave between Lake St and Lagoon Ave. The City is considering closing that block to vehicular traffic. For more information, go to minneapolismn.gov/cip/futureprojects/girard-ave-s-reconstruction.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

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