Welcome to the ECCO neighborhood!

Years ago new neighbors would have been welcomed with a basket of information and perhaps a few goodies. In that spirit here is a modern version, a virtual welcome basket, to provide information about your neighborhood and ways that you can choose to connect with your new neighbors. Minneapolis invests in identifying, fostering and supporting its neighborhoods across the city.

The ECCO neighborhood is bounded by Lake Street on the north, Hennepin Avenue on the east, 36th Street on the south, and Bde Maka Ska on the west. Our population is around 3000 of which 2/3 are renters. Many of the homes were built in the early 1900’s, and we have a broad mix of single family, duplexes, multiplexes, condos, and apartment buildings.

The ECCO Neighborhood Association was established in 1956 and has continued uninterrupted to the present day, with a few name changes along the way. In its role as a communication service provider, the neighborhood association relies primarily on the ECCO neighborhood website and email communication through our e-newsletter. You can visit the website at ECCOneighborhood.org and register for the e-newsletter. On occasion we will use post mailing when it is necessary to reach all residents, but these are less frequent due to cost.

Each year the neighborhood elects an all-volunteer ECCO board to serve as an organizing body to promote communication and events in the neighborhood as well as to provide an interface to city organizations (council, commissions, mayor, services), other neighborhoods and the local business community. ECCO residents (age 18+) are eligible to serve on the 13-person board. The board establishes a variety of committees, which all neighbors can join as they choose. The standing committees address everything from interfacing with developers to environmental initiatives, from public safety to event coordination, from engaging with the city community outreach entities to addressing diversity and inclusion in our neighborhood. All of the committees are listed on our website.

Historically, a typical year would include large neighborhood events such as a neighborhood wide Super Sale in June, a Labor Day Celebration, a multi-neighborhood supported wine tasting event in the fall, and the annual ECCO board elections in October. We also host smaller events, such as regular monthly social gatherings, candidate forums and a wide range of informational events for everything from rain gardens to diversity seminars.

If you want to get involved or just be informed of what is going on, the best way is to register for the e-newsletter on our website. The newsletter is sent directly to you and is where you will hear about upcoming events, the committee meetings, the monthly board meetings, city decisions affecting the neighborhood and a host of other things. Currently our meetings are virtual and all neighbors can join anytime by requesting the Zoom invite link. When it is safe to gather we will return to in-person meetings, which are usually held at St Mary’s Church (35th and Irving), but we are hoping to maintain a method for folks to join these meetings remotely as well.

One of the key priorities of the ECCO Neighborhood Association is to make it as easy as possible for neighbors to connect with each other, to participate in areas of common interest, to stay abreast of actions and news in the broader communities of our city, but most of all to facilitate our common sense of community.

ECCOneighborhood.org