



CEDAR ISLES DEAN NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES, May 11, 2016

The annual meeting was held at the Jones-Harrison Residence. 40+ residents attended.
Staff: Monica Smith

Chair Craig Westgate called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m.

Council Member Lisa Goodman, Ward 7

The City Council passed comprehensive funding for parks and streets.

CM Goodman has authored a resolution honoring *Hill & Lake Press* for 40 years of service to our neighborhoods. The resolution will be read and adopted by the full City Council on May 13.

Hennepin County Commissioner Marion Greene, District 3

The Mutlimodal Transportation Study was recently completed for the area around the proposed West Lake Station. The study was a result of the Memorandum of Understanding between the City and Met Council for Southwest LRT. Projects were ranked into three categories:

- Items that will be implemented by the Southwest LRT Project Office during construction of light rail.
- Short-term – projects that the City can put into capital planning.
- Long-term – recommendations that require additional funding.

Southwest LRT: The Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) is expected to be published in mid-May. The county is expected to pass a resolution regarding freight rail safety in the Kenilworth Corridor. The plan is for the Met Council to own the land in the Kenilworth Corridor.

Representative Frank Hornstein, District 61A

Rep. Hornstein will also present a resolution honoring *Hill & Lake Press* in the House.

The state legislature is in the final days of the session and it is unclear what is going to be resolved (including state funding for Southwest LRT). Negotiations continue about the \$900 million surplus.

Legislation is advancing on rail safety.

Southwest LRT: Hornstein will continue to demand that co-location be addressed in the FEIS.

A bill to reform the Met Council is moving forward with bi-partisan support.

Announcements

- Sign up for CIDNA's monthly e-newsletter by sending a request to info@cidna.org or text CIDNA to 22828.
- Craig Westgate thanked the many neighbors who volunteer their time in the neighborhood and invited all those interested to join the board or a committee.
- CIDNA is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Donations to CIDNA are encouraged and are tax deductible.

Hill & Lake Press

Mike Wilson reported that the *Hill & Lake Press* is celebrating its 40th anniversary. A celebration will be held on June 14. Residents are encouraged to become involved with the paper by submitting articles.

Approval of minutes

The minutes from last year's annual meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report

Roger Klimek shared a year-over-year comparison of CIDNA's finances. CIDNA has \$15,442 in unrestricted funds; the remaining funds are restricted to NRP or CPP programs.

NRP Committee, Claire Ruebeck

The committee facilitates allowable projects and identifies funding that improves the neighborhood.

CIDNA's NRP and CPP funding was reviewed.

The Park Board recently approved the CIDNA-funded design plans for Cedar Lake South Beach. A funding source to implement the plans is yet to be identified.

Two additional park benches were installed last month at Cedar Lake South Beach (funded by CIDNA). Barbara Lunde was thanked for her leadership on this project.

Volunteer opportunities: South Beach Clean Up Crew, Saturday, May 14, 9:30-10:30 a.m.; and CIDNA Garden Group, Saturday, May 31 (then 4th Saturday of the month from June-Sept), 9:00 a.m.-Noon at Park Siding Park.

Social events: CIDNA Game Night, Wednesday, June 15, 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Park Siding Park; and the Fall Festival in October.

The committee meets the 4th Wednesday of the month, 3:30 p.m. at Rustica (note: May 25, 2016 meeting will be held at Walker Library). All are welcome.

Lake Calhoun-Lake Harriet Master Plan, Mike Wilson

Mike Wilson and John Wessinger are CIDNA's representatives to the Community Advisory Committee (CAC) for the Calhoun-Harriet master planning process. The last of 12 CAC meetings was held May 10. The plans include a new trail connection between Lake of the Isles and Lake Calhoun (near the Greystar project). The CAC recommended changing the name from Lake Calhoun to Bde Maka Ska. There will be a 45-day comment period and public hearing this summer, after which the Park Board will consider the CAC's recommendations.

Midtown Greenway Coalition, Mike Wilson

The Coalition continues to improve the Greenway by their work with gardening programs, public art, meeting with developers, and the Trail Watch program. The Coalition has gotten the oldest section of the Greenway between Chowen and 5th Ave. added to the city's CLIC 2017-22 listing for a complete mill-and-overlay. Upcoming fundraiser: Greenway Glow, Saturday, June 18, 7:00 p.m. – 1:00 a.m. Members are needed - please join the Coalition!

Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Committee, Steve Goltry

This is a joint committee of CIDNA and West Calhoun residents advocating for safety improvements and provided input for the Multimodal Transportation Study. The current focus is to shift the location of some

of the bus stops to allow better traffic flow and to add more signage and improve the timing of the traffic lights in the Lake St and Excelsior Blvd area.

Land Use & Development Committee, Bob Corrick

The committee works with developers to help shape new projects in the neighborhood.

Current areas of focus:

- Greystar project on Lake Street is nearing completion.
- Trammel Crow project (former Tryg's site) has been delayed due to construction damage to the neighboring property (Loop Condominiums).
- A potential apartment project on the site of the Ministers Life building (between the Loop and Lake Pointe). There has not yet been a proposal from the developer.
- Calhoun Village has a new owner. A major redevelopment is not expected.

Follow news of the committee at www.cidnalanduse.wordpress.com.

Volunteers are needed for Land Use Committee and also the Variance Committee (which address smaller projects in the neighborhood). Contact info@cidna.org to volunteer.

Election of Board Members

Special thanks to outgoing board members Leila Brammer, Elaine May and John Wessinger.

The following slate of returning and new board members was approved. Returning board members: Ed Bell, Lowell Berggren, Stephen Goltry, Rosanne Halloran, Roger Klimek, Barbara Lunde, Sarah Kennedy McCoy, James Reid, Amanda Vallone, Craig Westgate and Mike Wilson. New board members: Jan Nielsen and Vern VanderWeide.

Park Dedication Fee, Craig Westgate

Developers pay a fee (\$1500 per residential unit) to be used to enhance/expand parkland. Funds are to be spent in the neighborhood where the fees were generated. The Park Board will ultimately decide the use of the funds (with neighborhood input). Development in CIDNA has generated \$373,500. The CIDNA Board will develop a process for providing input on potential uses of these funds.

Transportation Committee, Craig Westgate

Craig Westgate represents CIDNA on the Southwest LRT CAC and the Section 106 process (historic preservation).

CIDNA needs to continue to advocate for mitigation and connectivity issues relating to Southwest LRT.

Rail Safety, Claire Ruebeck

Citizens Acting for Rail Safety (CARS) was formed to respond to growing concerns over trains carrying oil, ethanol and other hazardous material. CARS works in the upper Midwest with citizens and public officials to achieve a rail transportation system that respects health, safety, and quality-of-life of people, wildlife, and the environment.

There are 4,400 miles of railroad tracks in MN. Until the country develops alternative energy options, ethanol and fossil fuels will continue to be transported by rail (by law, railroad operators can't refuse to carry any legal commodity). TC&W operates in the Kenilworth Corridor and 17-30% of their business is ethanol.

CARS continues to advocate for education, readiness and transparency.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Next meeting

Wednesday, June 8, 2016, 6:00 p.m. at Jones-Harrison.

Note to CIDNA residents: sign up for our monthly e-newsletter by sending a request to info@cidna.org.

--Submitted by Monica Smith