

North Loop Neighborhood Association Board Meeting Notes September 24, 2014 7:00 PM – 8:30 PM Heritage Landing, 415 1st Street North

Attendees: Philip Ailiff, David Frank, DJ Heinle, Karen Lee Rosar, Diane Merrifield, Brent Nelson

Absent: Mike Faulk, Fritz Kroll, JR Maddox, Adam Schiff, Scott Woller

- I. September Board Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM
- II. September Board Meeting Agenda Approved
- III. August 27, 2014 Board Meeting Minutes Approved
- IV. Finance Report // New Treasurer Needed
 - No Finance Report this month due to Mike's absence
 - Mike is moving out of the neighborhood, therefore a new Board Member is needed. Either a current or new Board Member will become treasurer. Dave Decker is recommended as the new Board Member. David asks all current Board Members to think about the treasurer position.

V. Neighbor Comments

- Stephanie with Above the Fall Sports: Stephanie describes the "Rock the Locke" event on Saturday, October 18 as a guided kayak tour in appreciation of the locke and to raise money for outdoor youth activity; check-in takes place at Muse, a shuttle will bring participants to the River, and the shuttle will return participants to Muse for a concert to follow "a day of fun and adventure"; Karen offers to include digital material on the North Loop webpage
- Jane Pattinson, concerned neighbor: Jane suggests that the neighborhood should become more aggressive about permit distribution for community events, and states she would like City officials to come to North Loop Neighborhood Association Board meetings to hear how (some) neighbors feel about permit distribution; Jane also suggests the neighborhood work on an ordinance related to sex shops and strip clubs in the neighborhood, and recommends reading "Candy Girl" by Diablo Cody for a "real eye-opener"
- <u>Concerned Neighbor</u>: curious if there has been any conversation about making pedestrians more of a priority specifically at 2nd Street and 8th Avenue by the Star Tribune Building; David reports that an intersection improvement update will be reviewed later in the meeting and that the 2nd Street and 8th Avenue

- intersection will be noted, and suggests emailing Jacob Frey's office; Karen recommends talking to City Council about enforcement; DJ suggests posting this observation on 311; Phil states that other people have recognized this intersection as an issue, too
- DeEtte Davis and Ben Doussman, Affirmation House: DeEtte and Ben attended
 the North Loop Board Meeting because they are seeing crime on the rise in their
 neighborhood and are interested in how the North Loop handles "safety and
 livability issues"; David asked if they'd be willing to come back to the Board next
 month to share who they are, what they do, and how the North Loop Board can
 help
- Ed Murphy with Open Your Heart to the Hungry and Homeless: after spending 27 years in St. Paul, Ed moved to the North Loop; organization is located at 333 Washington Avenue North (Union Plaza Building); Ed wanted to introduce himself and stated that he is happy to be here and is excited to see all the change going on in the neighborhood

VI. Committee Reports

- A. Marketing and Promotions Amber Woller for Scott Woller
 - Explore the North Loop is scheduled for Saturday, October 11; 20 participants
 are currently signed up mostly businesses and apartment buildings, a
 couple of individual residences as well; tickets are now on sale; the is a
 fundraiser and an opportunity for visibility for the North Loop; spread the
 word!
- B. North Loop Business Association Brent Nelson
 - More businesses will need to commit to participating before proofs of the shared promotional piece for the Warehouse District Business Association and the North Loop Neighborhood Association will be available; Joanne with the WDBA is currently working on recruiting these businesses
- C. Website Update Diane Merrifield
 - Diane distributes the North Loop Website Report (December 2013-August 2014) included at the end of the meeting minutes; 2,567 visits recorded in August which is double the number of visits when the website was launched last December; mobile visits have jumped from 19% to 27% of total visits; Diane is working with Amber and Scott to include Explore the North Loop information; North Loop Kids has been updated to Downtown Families and related content has been added; still waiting on the Toast logo, but the rest of the advertising material has been collected; Diane to add click through rates to next report; referral sources include Visit-TwinCities, Star Tribune, Minnpost, Minneapolis.cities2night, Heritage Landing, Junction Flats, Wikipedia, and Fritz Kroll
- D. Planning & Zoning DJ Heinle
 - Shag Sushi: A '70's themed sushi restaurant is targeting a November opening dependent on the City- approval process currently under way; the restaurant will be located in an approximately 1000 SF space in Else Warehouse with

- seating for 80; Shag will be open for dinner until 2 AM; same owners as Rojo Grill
- <u>Traffic Letter Received by the City</u>: David thanks DJ for sending the letter that basically requests that the City help to identify the costs associated with the recommended intersection improvements recognizing the City is in support of the improvements, but does not have the funds to make the improvements at this time; the left turn onto Washington by Whole Foods and the 2nd Ave N/3rd Street N intersection were additionally noted
- 6th Avenue North Reconstruction Project: The City of Minneapolis is hosting an informational meeting regarding the proposed reconstruction of 6th Avenue North from 5th Street North to just north of Washington Avenue is scheduled for October 6 from 5-6 PM at Fulton Brewery; the purpose of the meeting is "to introduce the project to the neighborhood and solicit input from residents and property owners regarding the project to supplement the design guidance contained in the Heritage Streets Plan"; please see the letter from Jeff Handeland, City Street Design Supervisor, included at the end of the meeting minutes
- G. Livability Greening & Lighting Update Fritz Kroll
 - No tree planting plans this fall
- H. Livability North Loop Park Initiative Karen Lee Rosar
 - David reports that the volunteer committee would like more land the property owner is willing to make available, and that the property owner seems unwilling to budge on the decision; it does not seem that there is more land available in another locations either; there is a difference in opinion whether or not what the property owner is making available is sufficient or not; Karen comments she would like to consider a more linear option
- I. Safety and Livability Phil Ailiff
 - Phil and Renee met on September 18 to talk about what's been going on and where the hot spots for crimes are located (near 10th and Curry)
 - Crime statistics only increased slightly around the time of the All Star Game due to the increase of police presence
 - New message rolling out soon: "Don't loan your phone."
 - Chris Dixon was promoted, therefore Heidi Johnston will be taking over Court Watch meetings
 - The City added an additional probation officer.
 - Phil is putting together a table for the St. Stephen's Luncheon on October 9 if anyone is interested.
 - Next Block Club Meeting will be planned after Zombie Pub Crawl takes place
 - Next Pedestrian Advisory Committee Meeting planned for Wednesday,
 October 1 from 4-6 PM in Room 333 of City Hall; Phil's term is up in June
 - Next Court Watch is scheduled for Friday, October 10 at 10 AM at the Main Library

- J. Minneapolis Downtown Families Update David Frank for Adam Schiff
 - David reminds the Board of the "launch event" scheduled for Saturday, September 27 from 8:30 – 10:30 AM at the 4th Avenue Park; David thanks Corner Coffee for their donation

VII. Council Member Presentation – Council Member Jacob Frey

- The 60/40 (food/beverage) law was repealed
- Voting hours will be extended as a part of the No Excuse Absentee Vote effort; City Hall is currently open its regular hours Monday-Friday from 8 AM until 4:30 PM for absentee voting, but extended hours will begin on October 20 from 7 AM until 6 PM Monday-Friday, 9 AM – 4 PM on Saturdays, and noon until 5 PM on Sundays.
- Ryan Companies was approved to develop Block 1; the green space in front of the stadium will remain public space; fundraising goal is set between \$6-10 million
- Plans for the boutique hotel in the North Loop are moving forward
- Socialista is doing well
- Merchant is set to open in November
- 2nd Street and 3rd Avenue Traffic Study revealed issues; Council Member
 Frey states he would like to hear the neighborhood's input regarding the most
 affective improvement options; options include increasing the size of signage,
 adding highlighting, installing left turn-stop for pedestrians, installing a zebrastyle crosswalk, west-bound signal indication, etc.
- SWLRT was approved; Karen thanks Council Member Frey; Council Member comments that is "nothing but positive for downtown and the North Loop Neighborhood"

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Revolving Loan Fund Update David Frank for J.R. Maddox
 - No update
- B. Farmers Market Advisory Group Update Karen Lee Rosar
 - Implementation phase of for the Nicollet Mile project now underway creating excitement and "good nervousness"
- C. 2020 Partners Update Karen Lee Rosar
 - Meeting planned for the first week of October
- D. DNG Update DJ Heinle
 - Meeting planned for Monday, September 29
- E. Pedestrian and Bicycle Update
 - David reports that cost estimates will be available next month

IX. NEW BUSINESS

• Karen recommends seeing "The Starfish Throwers," a documentary film about three compassionate individuals including one local gentleman's efforts to feed the hungry; "a lot of the film in the movie is taken in the North Loop"

Meeting adjourned at 7:55 PM.

North Loop Website Report (December 2013 - August 2014) Source: Google Analytics

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Visitor Flow: Majority of visitors are coming to the site via the Home Page (most common pages visited include the directory, about the North Loop, Stay in the Loop, About NLNA, DT School)

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Traffic Source	2013	2014							
	December	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August
Organic search (search engines)	72.15%	%05'99	68.05%	%86.99	69.93%	68.06%	74.55%	72.01%	72.03%
Direct to Northloop.org	18.29%	24.63%	18.91%	20.42%	18.88%	19.01%	19.01% 14.96%	15.51%	18.23%
Referral from other site	9.18%	8.23%	10.77%	11.12%	8.28%	11.05% 7.25%	7.25%	11.20%	8.10%
Social media	.39%	.64%	2.28%	1.49%	2.92%	.07%	3.24%	1.29%	1.64%

^{*} July/August referral sources included Visit-TwinCities, Star Tribune, Minnpost, Minneapolis.cities2night, Heritage Landing, Junction Flats, Wikipedia, Fritz Kroll...



Department of Public Works

Steven A. Kotke, P.E. City Engineer Director

350 South 5th Street - Room 203 Minneapolis MN 55415

Office 612 673-3000 Fax 612 673-3565 TTY 612 673-2157 September 19, 2014

RE: 6th Avenue North Reconstruction Project

Dear Property Owner/Tax Payer,

You are invited to attend an informational meeting regarding the proposed reconstruction of 6th Avenue North from 5th St North to just north of Washington Avenue (location map attached). The City of Minneapolis has identified this corridor for roadway and sidewalk improvements scheduled to begin construction in 2016. This project falls within a historically designated area and is subject to recommendations included in the City's *Warehouse District Heritage Streets Plan*. The purpose of the meeting is to introduce the project to the neighborhood, and to solicit input from residents and property owners regarding the project to supplement the design guidance contained in the *Heritage Streets Plan*. This is the first project meeting for the 6th Avenue Reconstruction Project. The City plans to conduct follow-up meetings with property owners, neighborhood groups as well as additional general informational meetings over the fall and winter, to assist with the design process and incorporate input from the community prior to seeking City Council action in early 2015.

The meeting is scheduled for October 6^{th} at 5:00-6:00 PM. A brief presentation will be given at 5:00 PM. The meeting will be held at the Fulton Brewery taproom (the bar will not be in service during this meeting).

Fulton Brewery 414 6th Avenue North Minneapolis MN 55401

If you are unable to attend or need this material in an alternative format please call Lee Mann at 651-604-4850 or email lee.mann@stantec.com to make arrangements for receiving the information presented at the meeting. Deaf and hard-of-hearing persons may use a relay service to call 311 agents at (612) 673-3000. TTY users may call (612) 673-2157 or (612) 673-2626.

Attention: If you have any questions regarding this material please call 311 Hmong - Ceeb toom. Yog koj xav tau kev pab txhais cov xov no rau koj dawb, hu (612) 673-2800;

Spanish - Atención. Si desea recibir asistencia gratuita para traducir esta información, llame al teléfono (612) 673-2700;

Somali - Ogow. Haddii aad dooneyso in lagaa kaalmeeyo tarjamadda macluumaadkani oo lacag la' aan wac (612) 673-3500

We look forward to meeting you and hearing your input on this project.

Sincerely,

Jeff Handeland

City Street Design Supervisor

Call Minneapolis

City Information

www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us Affirmative Action Employer

Location Map

6th Avenue North Reconstruction Project

