

**North Loop Neighborhood Association**

**Board Meeting Notes**

**June 29, 2016**

**7:00 PM**

**Heritage Landing, 415 1st Street North**

**Attendees**: Philip Ailiff, Tim Bildsoe, Bryan Hollaway, Fritz Kroll, Diane Merrifield,

Francesco Parisi, Katie Day, DJ Heinle

**Absent:** JR Maddox, Scott Woller, David Frank

1. June Board Meeting called to order at 7:02 PM; those in attendance introduced themselves by stating names and building of residence or business of employment in the neighborhood.
2. **A motion is made (Bryan), seconded (Tim), and approved by the Board to approve the March Board Meeting Agenda.**
3. **A motion is made (Tim), seconded (Bryan), and approved by the Board to approve the May 25, 2016 Board Meeting Minutes.**
4. FINANCE REPORT–Tim Bildsoe

* Copies of meeting minutes and financials were sent in advance of the meeting. This included balances on checking and savings for May. A draft budget has also been sent to the board. Tim looked at expenses over the last few years and got an idea of the typical expenditures. What was the first draft from last meeting and made some changes. Tim will present another draft budget that is more developed.
* Robert Thompson with the City of Minneapolis is here to help look where funds are coming from.
* NLNA got an extension on filing taxes. Everything is rolling along and hopefully July has more updates.

1. NEIGHBOR COMMENTS

* NRP Update
  + Presentation by Robert Thompson, City of Minneapolis, Neighborhood Support Manager- manages funding for neighborhood programs. Working with 9 other neighborhood organizations. Also helps with auditing and insurance for these neighborhood groups.
  + **Neighborhood Revitalization Program / Community Participation Program funds overview** – NRP ended in 2011. It was a 20 year program focused on bottom up planning and core funding was supposed to be for housing. Robert thanks all for the work that was put in as volunteers. As the NRP was expiring, in 2010 the Community Participation Program was developed. A Community Participation Program contract was for 3 years. NLNA needs to develop another 3 year plan next year. NLNA is currently under a $115,000 original contract with about $76,000 left from CPP funds. Robert gave the board a report that shows the funds that are available with an overview of how they can be used, how the funds were allocated when the current contract was put in place and how funds can be reallocated if that is something the board chooses to pursue.
    - What can CCP funds be used for? Some examples include: Staffing, office/supplies, website, accounting, travel, communication, door knocking, planning activities, newsletters/newspapers, events (no food/beverages), community building activities on behalf of city, small computers, fundraising expenses (capital campaigning, hire development director, etc), National Night Out (DJ asked for clarification), administrative costs, accountant made available for neighborhood groups. Call Robert with any questions.
    - North Loop currently has a total of just under $260,000 available in NRP Phase II funds and Community Participation Program funds. Just over $157,000 in NRP funds to implement projects in Phase 2 was approved in 2008. By law, 52.5% of NRP funds City-wide must be used on housing activity. This translates to 70% of each neighborhoods Phase 2 NRP funds must be dedicated to housing activity. There are suggestions on how to meet this housing requirement on the provided report. An example includes non-profit assistance, loans for non-profit developers, construction developers, once used for housing and is paid back it can be used for other things. Fritz mentioned that neighborhoods can use money as leverage. Robert also explained that the neighborhood group could say to these groups we will give you $X amount if you make a project to certain standards. Create RFP. Or, take existing buildings and make it affordable. Francesco asked if the housing funds could cover landscaping? Robert said it would not cover just landscaping, but rain gardens may be eligible because they mitigate soil conditions. Francesco also asked if it would cover lighting like pedestrian lights/ yard lights for security or decorative lights to highlight historic preservation.
    - In the report Robert provided there is a list that shows how the NRP funds were allocated when the funds were established. The money can be reallocated, however it is a process that involves varying degrees of community notice and city approval. The bigger the change the more process is required. Allocations reflect where money is right now. The plan was most likely worked on in 2006 and 2007 and approved in 2008.
    - A copy of the report Robert provided can be found online on Minneapolis Neighborhoods section of the City of Minneapolis website. The guidelines are also online.
* Neighborhood Comments
  + Francesco provided a comment on behalf of a few neighbors. There is concern over the recent removal of signage painted on bricks of the Tractor Works Building. They noticed a construction worker dismantled one of the stones, and removed bricks with the sign.
    - DJ suggested that this concern be forwarded to the Historic Preservation Committee to see if there were aware of it. While the incident was occurring it raised question of how to take action on it while demo was occurring. The concerned neighbor tried to call 311 but no response.
* Francesco also mentioned new plastic tube barrier parallel to crosswalk that were recently installed. DJ explained that they are pretty normal and prevents parking too close to an intersection to better allow for right hand turns. DJ also mentioned that the barriers were actually something that was lobbied to get those added.

1. COMMITTEE REPORTS
2. Marketing and Promotions/ North Loop Businesses – Scott Woller Not Present

* Diane shared on behalf of Scott that on August 26th Star Wars Force Awakens will be shown at Target Field Station. At the last board meeting Scott was requesting a check for this event that was approved at last meeting. $700 for movie night. $200 for operator. Currently looking for event sponsors as well.
* August 2nd is National Night Out. Last year NLNA supported the event with $500, this year organizers are requesting $1000 for a National Night Out at Target Field Station. A motion is made (DJ), seconded (Bryan), and unanimously by the Board to support the Target Field Station National Night Out event with $1000 contribution.
* Open Streets Dowtown will take place on Sunday July 10th. Jake from Open Street organization stopped by at the end of the meeting to request funds/extend opportunity to participate for the the Open Street Downtown event. Phil mentioned that the PAC Committee will have a table at the event as well.
* Fritz mentioned that the night out in north loop events that take place on the last Thursday of each month from 5-8 pm have been a great success and would be something to share on our website to cross promote.

1. Website – Diane Merrifield

* Report sent out to everyone in advance of the meeting. The trend is positive with over 4000 visits. Top referrals are Visit Twin Cities and Diane is getting “contact us” inquires about 1 per day.

1. Fritz shared that he is well on his way to getting 10 business that sponsor ads on the website for $500 each. If there are other businesses that may be interested in purchasing an ad they should be directed to Fritz.
2. Planning + Zoning – DJ Heinle

* June Planning & Zoning meeting was cancelled. DJ suggests a smaller meeting to prepare a specific list of topics to bring to a meeting with the City.

1. Livability – Greening & Lighting Update – Fritz Kroll

* In regards to planting trees on Washington Avenue there are concerns about easements, basements, and utilities. Mark, a neighborhood resident, mentioned that he has reported about 19-20 issues with trees and some have already been replaced or fixed because of his reports.

1. NL park update – Katie Day

* No actionable updates. The Park Committee has been in contact with Kit. Interest remains from developer and neighborhood remains very high. Master plan has not been put out for public comment. City working on master plan revisions and after that they go out for public comment. The committee is also starting to think of other green space locations to capitalize on other green space as it becomes available. Ultimately the committee hopes to put together a plan to present to P&Z and board approval eventually.
* Greco is organizing a neighborhood block party to celebrate neighborhood greening. Interested volunteers are encouraged to reach out to them. Question that came up from park meeting was “What role do we want to play?”. They are hoping to have an opinion on this by next meeting.

1. Safety and Livability – Phil Ailiff

* There were 2 thefts from motor vehicles at River Parkway and a parking ramp.
* There was another shooting that began outside of Pizza Luce. There is an ongoing investigation. That is two incidents in the last three months. One person that left the exchange got into a car of a stranger that was robbed at gunpoint. (Not in North Loop)
* Arrests for curfew violations: 9-14 years old. Disturbance with a family taking photos. They were arrested.
* The next block club meeting will be on July 21st 6pm at Dunn Brothers.
* The next court watch meeting will be on July 8th, 2nd Floor Hennepin Library.
* The next Pedestrian Advisory Committee (PAC) Meeting is planned for July13th 4 PM in Room 333 of City Hall.
* The next PAC program policy sub committee meeting will be on July 25th
* Phil handed out a Fireworks Facts sheet
  + If neighbors have fireworks complaints- Ask that people do not phone in complaints to 911, this jams up the lines. Noise complaints go through 311.
* Bryan suggested it might be good for Phil to ask his contacts with PD if there are any initiatives they would like for the North Loop to focus on. There are possible allocations for crime reporting and crime software or hardware. Phil will ask his contacts about crime prevention initiatives to fulfill that allocation.

1. Sustainability/Community Garden – Bryan Hollaway

* A neighborhood resident, Mark, reached out about pursuing a community garden by 730 lofts. The board encourages him to pursue that. There is a suggestion to reach out to Schafer Richardson for information. Mark and his wife indicated interest in bringing forth a plan at the next meeting.
* Farmers Market- consultant for expanding the farmers market.
  + Upgrade market as it is. Add bathrooms and logistics.
  + Purchase property between proposal for 2 story indoor space/ market and non profits.
  + City Council weigh in July or August. Hopefully on mayors budget in fall. Not necessarily related to Southwest LRT.

1. NEIGHBORHOOD PRIORITIES

* Priorities were discussed and decided at the recent board retreat. The five priorities are listed on agenda.
* Infrastructure Investment – Tim will go to city to share NLNA priorities for infrastructure. Tim is looking for very specific initiatives about infrastructure to bring to the City. DJ also requested that these specific requests are shared with him as well before the meeting with the County next month.
* Pedestrian Safety – No Update
* On-Street Parking – No Update
* Affordable Housing – No Update
* Beautification – Tim- Thanks for all that participated in clean up. The last clean up took about an hour and the adopt a street signs are now up. They are looking to schedule the next clean up before Labor Day.

1. OLD BUSINESS
2. NRP funding update – JR Maddox not at meeting.

* No update

1. 2020 Partners Update – David Frank not at meeting

* No update

1. DNG Update –

DJ- DNG meeting in May. The Mayor is late in developing the budget. Funds are expiring this year for TIFF Districts. Neighborhoods are very concerned about losing that money. It is suggested that a resolution could possibly be drafted to try to continue that funding.

1. NEW BUSINESS - No Updates.

ADDITONAL COMMUNITY COMMENTS

* Ethan Fawley- Minneapolis Bicycle Coalition
  + Open Streets Downtown is a bike oriented street festival happening in the North Loop & Downtown on July 10th. Bryan and Scott recently met with Ethan and encouraged him to present to board and possibly request funds to support this event. Last year the NLNA provided a support for this event and they would like to ask for support again this year. Ethan shared that they would also love to have the NLNA participate in the event with a table or booth if that is something they are interested in.
    - Last year NLNA supported this event withw $1000. A motion is made (Bryan), seconded (Fritz), and unanioumsly approved by the Board to support the Open Street Downtown event with $1000.

Meeting adjourned at 8:37PM