



**North Loop Neighborhood Association
Board Meeting Notes
August 28, 2019
7:00 P.M.**

Colonial Warehouse Co-Working Lounge, 212 3rd Avenue North

6 of 11 Board members were in attendance: Tim Bildsoe, Diane Merrifield, David Crary, Mike Binkley, Dana Swindler, and Bri Sharkey-Smith.

Neighbors in attendance: Michael Rainville from Northeast; Dan Collison from NuLoop Partners; representative from ONE Fermentary; Bruce Lambrecht, NL property owner (Union Plaza, Public Storage and recently 418 N 3rd); Mark from Hennepin County Board, Jerry Johnson from Tower Lofts, Matthew Madison from Tower Lofts, Lolita Davis-Carter - newly appointed NCEC Commissioner of District 5.

1. August Board Meeting called to order at 6:58 P.M. by Tim Bildsoe.
2. **Motion is made by Diane, seconded by Mike, and unanimously approved by the Board to approve the Board meeting agenda with no changes.**
3. **Motion is made by Diane, seconded by Mike, and unanimously approved by the Board to approve the July Meeting minutes with no changes.**
4. Neighborhood Engagement
 - a. Dan from NuLoop Partners presented on the focus of the NuLoop group, which is land-use. They are not a traditional business association, but rather they are a group of developers, contractors, architects, landowners, City staff, and others who are interested in helping develop/re-develop the neighborhood. NuLoop is inclusive of the North Loop, Warehouse District, and a sliver of Downtown West. Advocacy efforts include the redesign of Washington and 3rd Ave N, green initiatives, and talking with ABC Ramps to leverage income to redesign pedestrian ramps. Next meeting is September 24 at the Nordic.
 - b. Michael Rainville is involved with a public safety project in Minneapolis and is asking for NLNA's support in advocating for more police. Please continue calling Councilmember Fletcher and Mayor Frey and spread word to condo-owners, retailers and others to call their representatives. The neighborhood has grown by

75,000 people in the last decade, and the police force is not growing enough to accommodate the influx of people.

1. Northeast has had some success building relationships with police with a sub-station located by Keegan's Pub. They host fundraisers for the sub-station to hire more police.
 - c. ONE Fermentary – brewpub and small kitchen with some wine and liquor (all coming from kegs). October 1 is their desired open date, but may not open until mid-October.
5. Councilmember Engagement – Councilmember Fletcher not present.
6. Finance Report – Irina Brown
- a. ~\$76,000 in assets.
 - b. Continuing to receive donations for the Welcome Park Monument. We have nearly met our fundraising goal – approaching \$60,000.
 - c. Need to follow up on website sponsorships.
7. Secretary's Report
- a. Nothing to report.
8. NLNA Priorities – Committee Reports
- a. Planning + Zoning – Irina Brown
 1. StilHeart Distillery presented at P+Z and is requesting a letter of support for their liquor license.
 1. **Motion is made by Bri, seconded by Mike, and unanimously approved by the Board to write a letter of support for StilHeart's liquor license provided that their music is ambient and that all other music is played in the basement.**
 2. Elite Entertainment presented their nightclub concept for 400 3rd Ave N at P+Z. Did not request anything from the Board.
 1. Bruce has business/property management experience with the 400 strip on 3rd Ave N. That space has had a lot of turnover particularly filled with strip clubs and nightclubs. Previous clubs in that space have a history of attracting undesirable clientele and bringing gangs into the neighborhood, as well as drug and prostitution rings. Concern arises out of the fact that Elite Entertainment has not provided any official business plans or security plans.
 - a. Tim has been in contact with the City about Elite. City said Elite's security plans stated that the waitstaff would be in charge of security. City has suggested NLNA follows up with Elite to request more information and ensure that they don't bypass the neighborhood approval process.
 - b. Community Engagement – Scott Woller
 1. National Night Out was disappointing, ended up feeding a lot of baseball fans from Mankato because of the UMN – "Mankato Night" baseball event. Suggested that we host it at the Nordic next.
 2. Neighborhood Cleanup is this Saturday at 10am. Meet at Whole Foods.
 - c. Parks and Beautification – David Crary
 1. Request to gather people to walk along the river and pick up trash while the water level is low.

2. Welcome Park Monument – we need a permit from the State to get electrical installed. Electrical must be installed in September so we can pour the concrete foundation by October 15. David will get in touch with the artist to determine when he can start creating the monument.
 3. Pedestrian Greenway – meeting with TractorWorks building on Tuesday.
 4. North Loop Park – met with Green Minneapolis who agreed to fundraise for the park but won't start fundraising until the Park Board owns the property.
 5. Started pop-up Monday cleanups at James Rice Park, which have been well attended so far. Next pop-up cleanup is September 9.
 1. Need to sign partnership agreement with Park Board that says we aren't using power equipment, being safe, etc.
 6. Diane sent out the DID Greening & Public Realm Awards voting link – go vote! The North Loop is a finalist in several categories. The voting link is also posted on the website.
 - d. Website and Social Media – Diane Merrifield and Mike Binkley
 1. We had nearly 12,000 website visits in July, which is almost 372/day. 25 percent are being directed from Facebook.
 2. Accessibility assessment of NLNA website will occur soon.
 3. Will start working on a ~ 5-min video for the Annual Meeting.
 - e. Livability and Safety – Dana Swindler
 1. Dana is sending out crime/theft email alerts nearly every day to subscribed local businessowners. Email alert system spreads crime awareness to local businessowners and reduces the frequency of future thefts.
 - f. Civic Engagement – Bri Sharkey-Smith
 1. Moving forward with the Fermenters Group Steve Simon event. Steve will provide information about and educate guests on the electoral process. It is a bi-partisan topic and event.
 2. Request that we produce signs that say, "These views brought to you by the North Loop Neighborhood Association" and place near cleanup sites, with a plug to donate to NLNA for future cleanups.
 3. We will postpone filling the two vacant Board positions until January at the Annual Meeting.
 - g. Historic Preservation and Public Art – Francesco Parisi
 1. Matthew from Tower Lofts will look into the status of the Tunnel Art project. Francesco has been in Italy for the past two months.
 2. Mike is taking over Mark's historic preservation sign project. Mike has created "history of the North Loop" videos for each historic building, to be viewed via corresponding QR codes stamped on the signs. The signs will likely be installed next spring.
9. Unfinished business
- a. No unfinished business.
10. New Business
- a. First planning meeting for the Annual Meeting will be held in October. Tim will send out an email invitation to the Board.
 - b. Potentially install a third Free Little Library outside of River Station with a sign that recognizes the North Loop Neighborhood Association.

11. The next board meeting will be held on September 25, 2019.

Adjourned at 8:31 P.M by Tim.