



**North Loop Neighborhood Association
Board Meeting Notes
October 30, 2019
7:00 P.M.**

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

8 of 11 Board members were in attendance: Tim Bildsoe, David Crary, Dana Swindler, Diane Merrifield, Mike Binkley, Irina Brown, Francesco Parisi, and Scott Woller.

Neighbors in attendance: 1st Precinct Inspector Bill Peterson, Crime Prevention Specialist Renee Ellen, representatives from TractorWorks, representatives from Public Works, residents from Itasca, ElseWarehouse, and Tower Lofts, and the Executive Director of NuLoop Partners.

1. October Board Meeting called to order at 7:05 P.M. by Tim.
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 Mike, seconded by Francesco, and unanimously approved by the Board to approve the September Meeting minutes with the following changes:**
 - a. Under Committee Reports -- Line "c. Parks and Beautification" -- Item 2:
 1. The last sentence should be changed to: Hoping to start *fundraising* mid-October.
4. Neighborhood Engagement
 - a. Larry, Nathan and Christian with Public Works – proposed construction in the North Loop in 2020.
 1. North Loop is a designated resurfacing area.
 1. Resurfacing – method of maintaining pavement infrastructure
 2. Asphalt surfaces will be replaced (mill & overlay technique) with minor curb and gutter reconstruction on the following streets:
 1. 4th St N, 8th Ave N, 1st St N, 2nd Ave N.
 3. Funded through city bonds and taxpayer dollars. Public hearing scheduled for April 7 to talk about the assessment. Property owners will receive a letter notifying them of the hearing.
 4. Targeting August 2020 for construction.
 - b. Inspector Peterson – update on police activity in the North Loop.

1. Lots of crime downtown, but not so much in the North Loop (even at bar close). Though, a burglary ring has recently sprinkled into the North Loop.
 1. Spyhouse Coffee's safe was taken by the burglary ring.
 2. Common issues/complaints in the neighborhood:
 1. Shoplifting at retail.
 2. Feeling unsafe walking at night – increase in the number of people experiencing homelessness.
 3. Motorcycles with cut pipes (produce louder noise) revving their engines late at night.
 4. Thefts from motor vehicles and auto thefts have increased by 75% year-to-date.
 5. Scooters driving on the sidewalks.
 6. Panhandling.
 3. Most violent crime occurs from 3rd to 6th St between Hennepin and 2nd Ave. 1st Precinct is located right in the middle of it all.
 4. There are some police cameras in the neighborhood, but Minneapolis Police currently cannot install more because the software – Milestone – is at capacity. In order to install a new camera, it would have to be taken from a different location.
 1. MPD partners with Public Works, MnDOT, and others to provide camera coverage.
 5. Currently in the process of number-crunching for 2020 bid – should have five more officers next year.
 1. NLNA Board will write a letter to the City in support of more police resources.
5. Councilmember Engagement – Councilmember Fletcher not present.
6. Finance Report – Irina Brown
- a. Upwards of \$85k in the bank, including a reimbursement from the City. Most of these funds are already allocated.
7. NLNA Priorities – Committee Reports
- a. Planning + Zoning – Irina Brown
 1. Elite Entertainment presented at P+Z last week to ask for support for their liquor license. P+Z has chosen not to provide a letter of support due to extreme opposition from the neighbors and a lack of faith in the personnel running the business.
 1. Additionally, while Elite did provide a security plan at this meeting, it wasn't entirely comprehensive and their business plan lacked important details.
 2. The City is adding a condition that Elite provide valet service in order to obtain their liquor license.
 3. Joe McErlane stepped down as Co-Chair of P+Z. Irina Brown asked Francesco Parisi to serve as Co-Chair. Francesco accepted to serve.
 - b. Community Engagement – Scott Woller
 1. October 31 from 5 - 7:30: Trick or Treating Halloween event at Nordic Plaza. Live music, candy, roastables, and prizes for best kids costumes and best pet costumes.
 2. November clean-up is TBD based on weather.

3. December 14 at 5pm: Annual outdoor holiday movie at Target Station.
4. Annual Board Meeting planning meeting happened two weeks ago. Another one will be scheduled for November.
- c. Parks and Beautification – David Crary
 1. Welcome Park monument has received City approval. Construction will start the first week of November.
 2. North Loop River Connection and Public Park (4th Ave Park to the river).
 1. Park Board will approve the project in November.
 2. Work with Green Minneapolis on the funding – meeting on November 13.
 3. TractorWorks will have to demolish part of the annex which may present a barrier with HPC.
 3. 3rd St Park should be approved by Park Board by January 1.
- d. Website and Social Media – Diane Merrifield and Mike Binkley
 1. 11,000 website visits in September which translates to ~370/day. 1,500 of those visits came from Facebook. Website visits have dropped and will likely continue to drop over the winter months.
 2. Waiting for sponsorship updates to add to the website. All updates will be made by November 15.
 3. Scott looked into online donation systems we can use. Top platform appears to be Classy.
 4. Reached 5,000 followers on Instagram, and gaining 30 more followers each day.
 1. Now that NLNA's social media presence is growing, the Board should meet about creating a consistent brand and messaging. What is our focus on social media?
- e. Livability and Safety – Dana Swindler
 1. It is clear from the 1st Precinct's presentation that the police cannot do it all. To minimize crime, businessowners need to take some ownership and responsibility, such as installing their own cameras, being proactive about kicking people off of their property, and communicating frequently with other businessowners in the area.
- f. Civic Engagement – Tim Bildsoe
 1. November 12 from 5:30 – 7:30: Drinks and Democracy happy hour event at Modist Brewing.
 1. Secretary of State Steve Simon will present.
 2. Voter registration information will be available.
 2. Tim asked Governor Walz to speak at a similar event in December, and he has agreed. Date is TBD.
- g. Historic Preservation and Public Art – Francesco Parisi
 1. Tower Tunnel art is complete and installed, only waiting on a map superimposition.
 1. City approved Tower Tunnel signage to be installed soon.
 2. Need to host a thank-you event for donors.
8. Unfinished business
 - a. City and NLNA will host a happy hour party at Modist for the road construction work. Part celebration, part presentation for how the construction will continue into next year.
 - b. A Little Free Library will be installed at River Station – can First Service install it?

9. New Business
 - a. No new business.

10. The next board meeting will be held on November 20, 2019.

Adjourned at 9:08 P.M by Tim.