



**North Loop Neighborhood Association
Board Meeting Notes**

**August 26, 2020
7:00 P.M.**

**Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88292338528>
Call-in #: 312-626-6799 (mtg ID: 861 0267 2653)**

7 of 11 Board members were in attendance: Tim Bildsoe, Diane Merrifield, David Crary, Mike Binkley, Jenn Brewington, Jackson Schwartz, and Bri Sharkey-Smith.

Neighbors in attendance: Councilmember Steve Fletcher and Alan Shilepsky.

1. August Board Meeting called to order at 7:04 P.M. by Tim.
2. **Motion is made by Diane, seconded by Jenn, and unanimously approved by the Board to approve the Board meeting agenda with no changes.**
3. **Motion is made by Mike, seconded by Jenn, and unanimously approved by the Board to approve the July Meeting minutes with no changes.**
4. Neighborhood Engagement
 - a. Councilmember Steve Fletcher is hosting virtual coffee meetings on Thursdays from 5-6p to discuss public safety. A lot of residences are experiencing late-night break-ins that involve theft and property damage.
 1. Strategy is to engage residents on the streets so there is more of a neighborhood presence. Lack of business and residential activity is creating desolate streets that are breeding grounds for criminal activity.
 - a. Examples include forming walking groups; creating a grand opening announcement for when businesses are able to fully reopen post-COVID to spur consumer traffic.
 2. Sidenote: Steve and his wife are now North Loop residents.
5. Finance Report – David Crary
 - a. NLNA has approximately \$45k in the bank. We are in a stable financial place.
 - b. Community Participation Plan Modification - Actions to be taken by North Loop Neighborhood Association:
 1. To reallocate the following sources of funds:

- a. 2.1.1.2 Bike Paths/Connections \$2,939.00
 - b. 2.1.1.3 Promote Development of Future Parks \$2,939.00
 - c. N.P. Pedestrian Safety of \$4,000
- 2. These funds will be reallocated to the following strategies:
 - a. 2.1.6 CPP Neighborhood Beautification
- 3. 2.1.6 Beautification of the neighborhood can be used to accomplish the following:
 - a. Building signage
 - b. Trash containers
 - c. Public art
- 4. **Motion is made by David, seconded by Diane, and unanimously approved by the Board to accept the budget reallocations as listed above.**

6. Secretary's Report

- a. Nothing to report.

7. NLNA Priorities and Committees

- a. Community Engagement – Scott Woller & Bri Sharkey-Smith
 - 1. Next Service Saturday is September 12 and includes a Candidate Meet & Greet for local elections at Number Twelve Cider from 1-3p.
 - 2. National Voter Registration Day is September 22nd. Bri is planning to organize and host voter registration centers in the neighborhood.
 - 3. Potentially create another Movies in the Park night due to high attendance at the last movie. Would pick an older, classic film to make the event cheaper to host.
 - a. Movie on National Night Out – September 15?
 - b. Movie on Halloween, like Hocus Pocus?
 - 4. Scott will work to create plans for National Night Out.
- b. P+Z Committee – Francesco Parisi & Ron Sliwinski
 - 1. P+Z Committee did not meet this month.
- c. Communications – Diane Merrifield & Mike Binkley
 - 1. 8,439 website visits in July.
 - 2. Website development is taking place right now.
 - a. Working to finalize Donations and Volunteer forms for the website.
 - b. One open sponsor slot on the website.
 - c. Website updates should be finished in September.
- d. Parks & Beautification – David Crary & Bri Sharkey-Smith
 - 1. Met with Minneapolis Parks Department about James Rice Park and efforts to remove the invasive species in the park. Typically, this work is only done by volunteers, not the Parks department.
 - a. David is going to reach out to organized volunteer groups that already exist to do this work.
 - b. Potentially get some goats for the park.
 - c. Cristy Blake has identified 71 trees to be replaced next year.
 - 2. Parks Department has committed \$250k to the TractorWorks park project. There is still an \$850k gap in funding. If this gap in funding is not closed, the park could become private only to TractorWorks, but the company is working hard to raise the final funds and make it public.

3. Property next to Schaeffer Richardson building – Developers hoping to turn the parking lot into a grassy area pending park dedication fees. They are hoping to close on that property early 2021.
 4. Welcome Park – David found someone to mow the Welcome Park every other week for only \$50.
 - e. Root District – Jackson Schwartz
 1. Mural project is still on track to be completed at the end of September. An art exhibit will also be curated.
 - f. North Loop Dog Park – Mike Binkley
 1. New gravel in the park is hurting some dog's paws. It may take time for the gravel to wear down and smooth out. NLNA will order smaller rock the next time the park needs to be re-graveled.
8. Unfinished business
 - a. No unfinished business.
9. New Business
 - a. Board Vacancy – Jenn Brewington is leaving the Board because her business is no longer in the neighborhood.
 1. Pedro Wolcott is a potential candidate to fill this position. He was a previous candidate for the Board who tied with Jenn in the last Board elections cycle.
 2. Also look into other previous candidates for the Board – the best candidate will be someone who is willing to make the Board a part-time job.
 3. Need to onboard a Volunteer Coordinator.
 - b. Annual Meeting is unlikely to happen in-person in January. Moving forward with virtual meeting plans.
10. The next board meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 30, 2020.

Motion is made by Diane, seconded by Mike, and unanimously approved by the Board to adjourn at 8:45 P.M.