



**North Loop Neighborhood Association
Board Meeting Notes
November 18, 2020
7:00 P.M.**

**Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88294814611>
Call-in #: 312-626-6799 (mtg ID: 882 9481 4611)**

9 of 11 Board members were in attendance: Tim Bildsoe, Jackson Schwartz, Diane Merrifield, Pedro Wolcott, David Crary, Mike Binkley, Scott Woller, Bri Sharkey-Smith, and Francesco Parisi.

Neighbors in attendance: Cristy Blake, Patty Connelly, Susan Engel and Nora Hannon

1. November Board Meeting called to order at 7:03 P.M. by Tim.
2. **Motion is made by David, seconded by Diane, and unanimously approved by the Board to approve the November Board meeting agenda.**
3. **Motion is made by Diane, seconded by David, and unanimously approved by the Board to approve the October Meeting minutes with no changes.**
4. Neighborhood Engagement
 - a. Organics Recycling -- Cristy, Patty, Susan and Nora
 1. Recycling spots will be located in the Colonial Warehouse lot and in the surface parking lot behind Freehouse.
 - a. Need to address Mitch's (owner of CW) concerns about the recycle spot. Perhaps add some planters or other greenery to conceal the bin.
 1. \$18 collection fee must be routed through an existing utility bill.
 1. Colonial Warehouse is willing to put this on their bill and have NLNA reimburse.
 2. Need to ask CEDARst if they are also willing to do this for us at the Freehouse location.
5. Finance Report – David Crary
 - a. NLNA is in a solid financial position, however we need to control expenses for 2021, as the City will not have extra funds to designate to NLNA.

6. Secretary's Report

- a. Nothing to report.

7. NLNA Priorities and Committees

a. Community Engagement – Scott Woller & Bri Sharkey-Smith

- 1. Scott looked into using Slido for the Annual Meeting.
 - a. Software includes a live voting process; a vetting option to make sure voters are from Minneapolis, and that only one person from each North Loop business is voting; live “Questions” section that is visible to admin but not to the public; ability to shift between multiple presenters; ability to embed videos; a virtual version of sticky notes for guests; and more.
 - a. All feedback would be gathered through Slido (supports up to 1,000 participants).
 - b. Guests can join through Zoom.
 - c. **Motion is made by Tim, seconded by Scott, and unanimously approved by the Board to contract with Slido for a one-time fee of \$199.**
- 2. Mike will create a video compilation of interviews with NLNA Board members about what they do for the neighborhood. This will be presented at the virtual Annual Meeting.
- 3. There will not be a Service Saturday in December.

b. P+Z Committee – Francesco Parisi & Ron Sliwinski

- 1. Avivo Village of the North Loop, previously known as the Indoor Villages, will be operating their tiny homes for individuals experiencing homelessness starting in December.
 - a. They need to create an outdoor, fenced-in area for tenants to smoke. The fence needs to be tall enough to prevent outside guests from entering the Village.
 - b. The P+Z Committee nominated Jo Vos to be the P+Z representative on the Good Neighbor Agreement between Avivo and NLNA. Jo will work with Bri to draft this agreement on NLNA's behalf.
- 2. The Federal Reserve Bank confirmed that their current fencing is temporary and provisional. They will present the design of a new, permanent fence to the P+Z Committee in December.
- 3. Red Cow and Red Rabbit have added plastic pergolas and sheds that look tacky and do not match historic preservation guidelines. This was not approved by the P+Z Committee. Tim will reach out and inquire about the intention and permanency of these pergolas.

c. Communications – Diane Merrifield & Mike Binkley

- 1. Website
 - a. Mike's stories and videos continue to attract the highest number of visits to the website.
 - b. October visits are down 18% from October 2019. Likely a result of COVID and a lack of activity in the neighborhood.
 - c. Contact Us inquiries also down about 25%.
 - d. Number of subscribers continues to increase.
- 2. Five more historical building plaques have been installed in the neighborhood.

- d. Business Engagement – Dana Swindler
 - 1. Stores are diversifying their approach to Black Friday. Some will stay closed, and others will be open but promoting “Cyber Friday”.
 - a. Mike is going to help create promotions and advertisements for holiday shopping in the North Loop.
 - e. Parks & Beautification – David Crary & Bri Sharkey-Smith
 - 1. Friends of the Mississippi River (FMR) has contacted other organizations to help with the restoration of James Rice Park. The park is gaining attention and helping hands, thanks to FMR!
 - a. David is going to finalize the contract with FMR to formalize the partnership.
 - 2. TractorWorks is not going to start demolition on the park project until they get a commitment of \$800k from the community by June.
 - f. Root District – Jackson Schwartz
 - 1. City has approved CPED’s recommendation on zoning variances for the Shelby Commons project.
 - 2. Some random vandalism happening in the district on the weekends. Keeping an eye on video footage to make sure it’s not a reoccurring issue.
 - g. North Loop Dog Park – Mike Binkley
 - 1. Nothing to report.
8. Unfinished Business
- a. No unfinished business.
9. New Business
- a. **Motion is made by Diane, seconded by David, and unanimously approved by the Board to approve the Board Resolution that states the Annual Meeting on January 27, 2021 will be hosted online.**
10. The next board meeting will be the Annual Meeting held on Wednesday, January 27, 2021.

November Board Meeting is adjourned at 8:38 P.M.