



**NORTH  
LOOP**  
NEIGHBORHOOD

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**North Loop Neighborhood Association  
Parks + Placemaking Meeting Notes  
Date 2/9/2022  
Time 6:00 pm**

1. **Committee Members in Attendance: David Crary, Tony Burke, Andrew Schafer**
  - a. Virtual Attendees: Amber Taft, Quentin Misiag, Sarah Holland, Edward Eroo,
  - b. Absent: Bri Sharkey-Smith Andrew Morse
  - c. **Committee called to order at 6:10 pm**
  
2. **Ella with The Musicant Group working with ramps A, B, & C Ramps**
  - a. The Musicant group is a Local Minneapolis group that uses a holistic approach to create space. The Musicant Group is working with the city to create a public art plan for ramps A, B, & C.
  - b. Goal is to expand the use of public art in the ramps, making the ramps feel safer and better connected to the community
  - c. Viewed a slide deck created by the Musicant Group with the programming that has started in this space.
    - i. Example of work they've started: Ramp C Community Court- Started with small improvements to show what could be done with empty space
      1. Questions from NLNA: How was this publicized? Most people hadn't heard of the space upgrade, or the events held here
      2. NLNA will be in better communication with work being done at Ramp A, B, & C. Future events can be planned together
      3. Suggestions for this space: Pop-up pickleball courts, Food trucks by T-3 building, wayfinding signs, retreat from work
    - ii. Inside Ramp C, a hallway in the skyway has just been outfitted with a "mural" (vinyl wrap)
      1. Inspired by the North Loop neighborhood and different modes of transportation
      2. Suggestions for more art: Art that depicts the local landmarks in the Area such as the Twin's Stadium. Engage local small businesses in a Pop-Up setting (i.e., Lucille's Mobile Market)

- d. Working on more than just art, also utilization of space
  - e. Ella is interested in what NLNA Parks would like to do in Ramp C
  - f. Great introduction to see how Public Art will work in the North Loop
  - g. Questions for Ella: Budget, Commissioning Artists, Breadth of work
- 3. Reviewing Data from last week's Parks + Pint's listening session for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Street Park (Andrew Schafer)**
- a. Themes
    - i. Word Association
      - 1. Very similar to the 1<sup>st</sup> listening session's result- "Green", "Trees", etc.
      - 2. "Dogs" is a new addition
    - ii. Other desires from the community: A place for community gathering, Year-round programming, People-watching, Relaxing
  - b. How do you see time in the park?
    - i. Activity, Gathering, and Relaxing ranked high
    - ii. Mentions of a Garden came up
  - c. Concerns for the Park?
    - i. Cleanliness & Safety were the top two concerns
    - ii. Aesthetic- concerned about grass and plants being damaged
    - iii. People do not want a playground in this location
    - iv. Concern about the park's audience after hours
  - d. Park Features Suggested
    - i. Landscaping was the highest frequency
    - ii. Utilities- bathrooms, water fountains, Wi-Fi, phone charging stations, coffee shop
    - iii. Outdoor movie screen, Bocce/Curling court, Frisbee Golf, Zen Garden, and an aesthetic fountain were also suggested
    - iv. Programming around Food Trucks
  - e. Next Steps
    - i. Aggregate data collected from the NLNA Instagram, Listening Session's 1-3, Distribute survey more thoroughly
    - ii. Settle on top 3 Goals
    - iii. Create proposals meant to satisfy those objectives
    - iv. Have community vote on layout proposals
    - v. Create a rough programming schedule
    - vi. Have community vote on programming
- 4. Friends of the Mississippi (David Crary)**
- a. Meeting Tuesday, March 1<sup>st</sup> at Prye's Brewing
  - b. Friends of the Mississippi has been studying James I. Rice Park for 6 months, they are coming up with suggestions for how it can be improved
    - i. Friends of the Mississippi can help move NLNA Parks + Placemaking Committee's goals forward by coming to this meeting

- ii. Friends of the Mississippi want to work with NLNA to advance the committee's goals
  - iii. Some NLNA Goals:
    - 1. Extend Gravel Walkway to the playground by the river
    - 2. Pulling out 3 huge pylons in the river into the park
    - 3. Introduce more native, hardwood trees to the park and raise the tree canopy to allow for more sunshine and native plants to grow
5. **Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (David Crary)**
- a. NLNA is working with MPRB staff on volunteering issues
6. **NLNA Board Relationship (Tony Burke)**
- a. Committee having a few communication issues with NLNA Board
  - b. No prior relationship means Park + Committee requests are lower on totem pole.
  - c. Parks + Placemaking is a new committee that would like to establish stronger relationships with board members
7. **Ridwell (Tony Burke)**
- a. New company that has just entered the market in Minnesota
  - b. They specialize in Hard-to-Recycle Items
  - c. Not available in the North Loop yet- Tony suggests tying pickups or local drop off sites available at Sunday Services, establishing interest in the neighborhood
8. **Meeting Times (Andrew Schafer)**
- a. Andrew makes a motion to set the official meeting time to 6:00pm, the committee unanimously decides to approve this change
9. **First Sunday Service begins March 12<sup>th</sup>**
- a. 9 am city litter cleanup, 10 am parks litter cleanup

**The Committee adjourned at 7:38 pm**