



**North Loop Neighborhood Association
August Board Meeting
Date: 8/31/2022
Time 7:00pm**

1. 9 of 11 Board Members in attendance: Diane Merrifield, Jo Hamburge, David Kisan, Mollie Scozzari, Sarah Traczyk, Scott Woller, Pat Dawson, Ericka Jones, Sina Pleggenkuhle
 - a. Board members absent: David Crary, Margee Lancaster
 - b. Guests in attendance: Council Member Michael Rainville, Henry Jarvenin, Aileen Johnson, Kiana Cook (Lovely Sewing and Arts Collective)
2. Meeting is called to order by Merrifield at 7:04 pm
3. **Merrifield calls for a motion to approve the August agenda and the July meeting minutes**
 - a. **Hamburge makes a motion to pass the August agenda and Dawson seconds the motion. The board votes to pass the motion unanimously**
 - b. **Kisan makes a motion to pass the July meeting minutes agenda and Hamburge seconds the motion. The board votes unanimously to pass the motion**
4. Neighborhood Engagement (North Loop Neighbors and Guests)
 - a. Aileen Johnson- Leader of North Loop Block Club
 - i. The North Loop Safety Block Club walking group began in late March/early April of 2022. The club walks on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday in the North Loop, covering all blocks
 - ii. Neighbors, businesses, Park Police, and MPD are all involved. Walks are driven by crime statistics from MPD. North Loop has been working with other communities (Loring Park, Mill District, Farmers Market) to start up block clubs in neighboring communities
 - iii. Violent crime in North Loop is less prevalent than in the other neighborhoods, which makes it less likely for people to participate

- iv. Block Club wants more participants in the North Loop. Suggesting better ways for the walking club to get more participants, including a Facebook post and a note in the newsletter
 - v. Main concerns are drugs, sex workers, and violence
 - b. Council Member Michael Rainville Update
 - i. Update on Hennepin Avenue Encampment
 - 1. New encampment is under the Hennepin Avenue Bridge consisting of 5 tents, potentially around 9 people
 - 2. There are new services to help people experiencing homelessness from the city and the county
 - 3. Any moving of unhoused people involves the 1st precinct, the park board, and the county
 - 4. Number one goal is to get them the help they need, there is no timeline
 - ii. Washington Avenue (Intersections of 7th and 8th)
 - 1. A pedestrian refuge is a consideration; a concrete barrier in the middle of the road that pedestrians can stand on
 - 2. Waiting for the county to come back at the end of September with official report on the traffic in this area
 - 3. A petition is in the works that NLNA is collaborating on
 - iii. Rainville is in contact with the owners of Cuzzy's to find out who owns the parking lot on Washington and 5th, needs maintenance
 - c. Kiana Cook (Neighbor and Business Owner)
 - i. Non-profit called Lovely Sewing and Arts Collective (in the SPACES Building)
 - ii. Teaches young people (< 16) how to sew and do yoga, bring in banking professionals to teach young people financial skills
5. Finance Report (Merrifield)
- a. Financial Report shared via email. Merrifield has asked for the financials to be broken down to be more detailed in the future
 - b. City of Minneapolis is coming to the next meeting to go over the Equitable Engagement funds, other streams of revenue, and the 2023 funding plan
6. Secretary Report (Hamburge)
- a. Archive Folder now in the Shared Drive
 - i. Found Easement Agreements Crary was looking for
 - b. Remaining Hard Copy Records
 - i. Anything old will be destroyed if it is not deemed important
7. Committee Reports
- a. P+Z Committee (Scozzari)
 - i. A letter was written to Xcel Energy to express concerns about the site development plan they proposed to the committee last month. This letter

will be sent to City staff and Michael Rainville, so they know the communities' concerns. **Hamburge makes a motion to approve the letter, Woller Seconds the motion, the motion passes**

- ii. Public Art and Beautification is to be passed off to Parks + Placemaking
- iii. Carrie Reardon is stepping down from the committee, replacement protocol is being discussed
- b. Safety & Livability (Jones, Dawson)
 - i. Committee Progress, Priorities, and Next Steps
 - 1. Encourages all board members to join the Block Club
 - ii. Town Hall
 - 1. A way to authentically engage with the community, amplifying ways to be in community and engage with each other. Physical safety and personal safety are defined different for everyone, we don't want to define what that looks like for the neighborhood
 - 2. The first session will gather NLNA volunteers and engage them in the conversation of how to move forward with inviting the larger community to a Town Hall. An email drafted for volunteers. Meeting would be for volunteers' input, come up with a fall time and date. First listening session will be this Fall
 - 3. This will be an open conversation, not dictated by NLNA. A safe, open space where residents feel like they can speak, diverse individuals represented in the neighborhood. This would be a moderated conversation. Could Equitable Engagement funds be used to pay a moderator for this?
 - 4. Host quarterly town halls, what are themes and topics that come out of these initial conversations about community and safety
 - 5. Could spin off to a Safety & Livability Committee
 - iii. Diane met with the Federal Reserve, they have ideas for connection with the community, building a relationship
- c. Community Engagement (Woller, Dawson)
 - i. Maps/Wayfinding Brochure/Interactive
 - 1. First draft of wayfinding map is ready, the board reviewed it
 - 2. Ovation will be finishing it up in the next few weeks, translating website listings to the flat, printed map
 - 3. On the North Loop website this will be an interactive map, clicking on the location will link to the website/information about the business/location.
 - 4. Distribution- need systems set up so they can be self-stocked, more to come on distribution plans
 - ii. Website Sponsorship Renewals
 - 1. \$4,000 received for website sponsorships, need to hear back from a few other sponsors, option for new sponsors. 10 or 11 sponsors, historically. Looking for 3-4 more. The board discusses ways to further monetize this.

- d. Neighborhood Engagement (Traczyk, Woller)
 - i. National Night Out Update- Successful event, but not going to do it at Target Stadium when there's a game in the future, lost some neighbor-to-neighbor connection
 - ii. Halloween- October 31st, need to find a location for the family friendly event, budget and sponsorships laid out by Woller
 - 1. **Woller makes a motion for \$500 towards the Halloween Party, Traczyk seconds the motion, the board approves the motion**
 - iii. Annual Meeting planning meeting- September 7th, North Loop Corner Coffee from 5:30-6:30pm
 - iv. zAmya Theatre- performance was great, listening sessions to follow and then another performance in 2023
 - v. Service Saturday Calendar- Salvation Army donation drive, NLNA will sponsor and promote this
 - vi. Voter Registration- Send email for sign up for volunteers
 - vii. Sarah Traczyk is speaking at Be the Match staff on behalf of the NLNA about safety initiatives, lunch spots, and more on October 22nd
 - e. Parks + Placemaking
 - i. Committee Update
 - 1. Dog Park- bench was repaired
 - 2. Need financial detail on dog park
 - ii. Recycling
 - 1. A recycling company is coming to recycle large electronics. It would be great to have a save the date thing for this
 - 2. The idea was originally to be at the next service Saturday
 - 3. **Woller makes a motion to spend up to \$1,000 on the large electronics recycling, but not if the event is in 10 days. The recycling event should be pushed out so more awareness can be brought to the event, Traczyk seconds the motion, and the vote passes**
 - f. NuLoop Partners (Traczyk)
 - i. Reach out to NuLoop with what is going on at NLNA, different committees could reach out to explain to the new Executive Director what is going on
 - g. Root District/Farmers Market (Pleggenkuhle)
 - i. The board should be more considerate of timing in the future. Pleggenkuhle proposes mixing up the order of the agenda, so everyone gets a fair chance to speak in the scheduled timeframe of the meeting. Merrifield will send a survey out the board about what time to start meetings
8. **Scozzari makes a motion to Adjourn, Hamburge seconds the motion. The board adjourns at 9:12 pm**