



**North Loop Neighborhood Association**  
**March Board Meeting**  
**Date: 3/29/2023**  
**Time 6:00pm**  
**Colonial Warehouse**  
[Zoom](#) Link

1. 10 of 11 Board Members in attendance: Diane Merrifield, David Crary, Margee Lancaster, Cristy Blake, Shayla Frechette, David Kisan, Blake Peterson, Sarah Traczyk, Scott Woller, Pat Dawson
  - a. Board Members Absent: Ericka Jones
  - b. Guests in attendance: Kyle L (Profeshie) Krystle D'Alencar (HERC) Cam Gordon (HERC) Rica Silvey (WeWork), Henri Jarvenin
2. Meeting is called to order by Merrifield at 6:00 pm
3. **Merrifield calls for a motion to approve the March 28<sup>th</sup> Agenda- Kisan make a motion, Peterson seconds the motion, the board passes the vote unanimously.**
4. **Merrifield calls for a motion to approve the March 1<sup>st</sup> meeting minutes. Peterson makes a motion, Traczyk seconds the motion, the motion passes unanimously.**
5. Neighborhood Engagement (North Loop Neighbors and Guests)
  - a. MN Environmental Justice Table (HERC)- Cam Gordon, Krystle D'Alencar
    - i. Hennepin County has been moving forward with a zero-waste plan. For the first time they are talking about phasing out HERC, the trash incinerator in the North Loop. All the county's waste is burned at HERC.
    - ii. The county has not provided a plan for how they are going to move towards closing HERC, definition of "phase out" is not specific enough.
    - iii. Coalition of many organizations requesting a specific plan from the county about the future of HERC and moving towards Zero Waste. Heritage and Harrison neighborhoods have already signed onto this initiative.

- iv. HERC burns the trash and does filter the air that comes out, but the cumulative effect on our community is not taken into effect.
    - v. Asking that NLNA signs the petition to get a shutdown date for the HERC incinerator as part of the Zero Waste plan.
    - vi. Woller suggests we invite HERC into a meeting to invite to hear their side of the story.
  - b. Potential New NLNA Board Meeting Site- WeWork (Rica Silvey)
    - i. Huge business within the North Loop in the Nordic building. WeWork can offer NLNA meeting space to the North Loop, also promote events and initiatives.
    - ii. Sponsorship opportunities for WeWork.
    - iii. Elevators can be unlocked for neighbors during meeting hours.
    - iv. WeWork will provide NLNA a written proposal for the space usage.
  - c. Profeshie- Kyle L
    - i. New business above Black Sheep Pizza on 6<sup>th</sup> and Washington
    - ii. Does headshots, other photographs. Offering volunteer work for NLNA.
  - d. CM Michael Rainville Update- Henri Jarvenin
    - i. Councilmember Rainville has been talking to Dawson and Jones about going through the North Loop and discussing all intersections that need to be made safer.
6. Finance Report (Lancaster)
- a. Balance Sheet & Income Statement
    - i. 2022 Financials have been finalized.
    - ii. Draft of 990 has been sent to NLNA, Lancaster and Merrifield will review to be finalized.
    - iii. Determined how much funds are available for tree maintenance.
    - iv. River Connection project also has restricted funds.
    - v. **Woller makes a motion to approve the finance report, Kisan seconds the motion, the motion is approved unanimously.**
  - b. Equitable Engagement Fund Update
    - i. Funds are going to support the unhoused community, renter community, and BIPOC community.
  - c. 2023/24 Budget Update
    - i. Old Bookkeeper retiring.
  - d. Funding Strategies (Dawson, Kisan)
    - i. Has the NLNA ever had a fundraiser? Something that could bring in funds in the future.
7. Board Reports
- a. Secretary- This position needs to be filled.
  - b. Neighborhood Engagement (Community, Civic, Business)
    - i. Neighborhood Events
      - 1. Candy Grab (Woller)

- a. April 8<sup>th</sup> is the event date, preparation on April 1<sup>st</sup>.
  - b. Many people have RSVP'd on Facebook, more than last year.
- 2. Food Truck Fair (Woller)
  - a. Need to nail down a location for the event.
  - b. No sign up until a location is finalized.
- 3. Earth Day Cleanup (Woller, Traczyk, Crary)
  - a. Event is on April 22<sup>nd</sup>.
  - b. Discrepancy on social media versus posters. Plan on meeting at 9:00 at Corner Coffee and 10:00 at James I. Rice Park.
- ii. Map/wayfinding brochure/interactive (Woller, Kisan, Traczyk, Merrifield)- Businesses have been receiving these and are interested in having more. Discussing distribution efforts.
- iii. North Loop Parents/Kids (Merrifield, Frechette)- This initiative will have a presence at the Candy Grab event.
- iv. zAmya/Avivo City of Minneapolis Partnership Grant Request
  - 1. zAmya partner with a neighborhood association to apply for work with Avivo.
  - 2. Avivo litter pickup starts next Wednesday.
- c. Communications (Frechette)
  - i. April Newsletter- newsletter will be out by the end of the week, including April events, zAmya award, and a promotion of events at the Fillmore.
  - ii. Communication Strategy/2023 Plan
    - 1. Ramping up LinkedIn presence.
    - 2. Blake Peterson helping with social media.
- d. Planning + Zoning Committee (Peterson)
  - i. Committee Update
    - 1. NOLO's rooftop redesign was denied by HPC but the City overruled it. They are coming to P+Z to present.
    - 2. Three letters of Appropriateness
      - a. Underground Wine Club- **Merrifield makes a motion to approve letter of support, Woller seconds the motion, the motion is approved.**
      - b. 200 N 1<sup>st</sup> Street, New Restaurant- New opening for a door, **Woller makes a motion to approve a letter of support, Traczyk seconds the motion, motion is approved.**
      - c. Commuter Foundry- Seeking a letter of support for a steel canopy overhang for pedestrians near the building entrance. **Woller makes a motion to approve a letter of support, Kisan seconds the motion. The motion is approved.**

- ii. Formation of new Subcommittees
      - 1. Formed a Commercial Sub-committee led by Scozzari, this will create a list to provide to developers with suggestions in the neighborhood.
      - 2. Parisi will be a liaison between P+P and P+Z.
  - e. Safety + Livability (Jones, Crary)
    - i. Washington Avenue Pedestrian Safety- Weather permitting on construction to begin for raised crosswalks.
    - ii. Committee- unable to find enough interest in the community to form a Safety + Livability committee.
    - iii. Self-Defense Class- clarifying potential future dates and events.
    - iv. Urging board members to join nighttime safety walks.
    - v. CM Rainville and Police Chief looking to have a safety update meeting for neighbors.
  - f. Parks + Placemaking (Crary, Kisan)
    - i. Park Dedication Fees of \$1.1M
      - 1. A letter was written by P+P discussing what they would want done with this money.
      - 2. A meeting has been set up with the city's parks superintendent to discuss this.
    - ii. Goats/MPLS Parks Foundation Grant Request
      - 1. Applied for a grant to get goats to eat the invasive species along the river.
      - 2. "GOAT Fund Me" page to raise funds for the balance of the cost.
    - iii. Bridge Concept (Kisan)
      - 1. Working with Pedro Wolcott about the bridge in front of Guaycaya Bistro.
      - 2. NLNA cannot be the leader of this project without knowing community support behind this.
      - 3. Washington Avenue Bridge Coloring Contest on May 20<sup>th</sup> at Guaycaya Bistro.
    - iv. BKV Architects reached out about a **Park Lit?** could be in the North Loop- they will be coming to the next P+P meeting.
  - g. NuLoop Partners (Traczyk)
    - i. Wanting more visibility towards the farmer's market.
    - ii. Service Saturday Ideas- reviewed list of event ideas to be paired with Service Saturday.
8. Old Business
- a. Board Meeting Location
  - b. Potential to have Google Accounts for members, \$3 for each email per month.

**9. The Board adjourns at 8:15 pm**