



North Loop Neighborhood Association

July Board Meeting

Date: 7/26/2023

Time 6:00pm

TractorWorks Building

[Zoom](#) Link

1. 8 of 10 Board Members in attendance: Diane Merrifield, David Crary, Cristy Blake, Shayla Frechette, Jeff Sondag, Sarah Traczyk, Scott Woller, Pat Dawson
 - a. Board Members Absent: Blake Peterson, Margee Lancaster
 - b. Guests in attendance: Henri Jarvenin; Ryan and Katie- residents of the North Loop, observing for a social works class.
2. Meeting is called to order by Merrifield at 6:00 pm
3. **Merrifield calls for a motion to approve the July Agenda. Dawson make a motion, Crary seconds the motion, the board passes the vote unanimously.**
4. **Merrifield calls for a motion to approve the June meeting minutes. Blake makes a motion, Crary seconds the motion, the motion passes unanimously.**
5. Neighborhood Engagement (North Loop Neighbors and Guests)
 - a. CM Michael Rainville Update - Henri Jarvenin
 - i. Says they had a productive meeting with the public works people about 2nd Street, and that Public Works is working on it.
6. Finance Report (Lancaster)
 - a. Balance Sheet & Income Statement
 - i. No updates
 - b. Food Truck Fair Financial Results
 - i. Woller says with considering city expenses, they probably will have made \$10,000. Woller says the outcome is positive financially. It's difficult to put on a big event without losing money, so it was overall successful.

- ii. Woller would love to see a strategic partnership with the city going forward. This is a big event for the North Loop, and 45% of the funding is used for permits from the city. The permit process can be difficult, expensive, and time-consuming.

c. 2023/24 Budget Update

- i. Merrifield says in the next couple of days they will be reaching out to the eleven website sponsors and getting their commitment for website funding (\$1,000) for the coming year.
- ii. Blake says there's a lot of people who are interested in doing the sponsorships.
- iii. Woller says they should send invoices for this on Square so they don't have to deal with checks.

d. Accountant/Bookkeeper

- i. Lancaster is waiting for Merrifield to send a contract for the new bookkeeper.

7. Board Reports

a. Business Engagement Strategies Update (Blake)

- i. Blake says the businesses have provided ideas for engagement strategies, and they will review these ideas.

b. Funding Strategies Update (Dawson)

- i. Would like to have a funding strategy meeting in the Fall with input from many people. Dawson is willing to put it together and organize this, but there needs to be a comprehensive plan. It would be great to have businesses attend and hear their thoughts.
- ii. Needs to create an active plan for sponsorships and revenue streams.

c. NuLoop Partners (Traczyk)

- i. NuLoop Annual meeting occurred July 25th, 2023.
- ii. Elevate Hennepin is a county effort to elevate small businesses.
- iii. Twins and Ballpark Authority are making security updates while the Twins are away.
- iv. Metro Transit has a couple updates. Glendale Bridge is reopening soon, Royalton station is going to be called Royalton Station at the Farmer's Market

d. Neighborhood Engagement (Community, Civic, Business)

- i. Food Truck Fair Review (Woller)
 - 1. Attendees enjoyed the events, was a success. Volunteers who helped were excellent.
 - 2. Challenge points mostly revolved around city expenses, and trash and recycling management. Had 65 trash bins but needed closer to 90, but July is a busy month for events and trash and recycling companies are mostly already reserved.

3. If NLNA wants to do the Food Truck fair again, there needs to be a reinvention. Sponsorship should be an early priority, and city partnership is a must.

ii. Service Saturdays

1. Tracyzk says the September Service Saturday is going to be a school supply donation drive.
2. Katie (resident) suggests reaching out to NL Teachers via socials, etc. to find Amazon Wishlists and buy supplies that way.
3. Blake says the average cost is \$278/student, and Tracyzk says they can use that as an incentive to donate.
4. Woller says you could fill a room with supplies and then have NL teachers come and “shop” from all the supplies.

iii. National Night Out Update - Woller

1. National Night Out is occurring on August 1st at 6:00 PM. Woller says they need to communicate with the Twins about vending food, as the Twins have the sole rights to vending food at Target Field Station.
2. Still in need of volunteers for the evening.
3. Woller says this would be a great opportunity to do an engagement table.

iv. North Loop Kids (Frechette)

1. One issue NL Kids has been running into in regards to having their meetups on the first Saturday of the month is it has been lining up with major holidays.
2. Attendance at the meet-up at Pacifier was a little disappointing, but it was right around the Fourth of July so lots of families were out of town.
3. No event in August. Hosting kids’ day at the Farmers Market on September 23rd. October is planned to be a Halloween event. Will have a table at National Night Out.
4. Idea by Blake to engage kids with civic engagement, such as picking up trash etc. Sondag suggests creating lists for family-friendly options within the NL. Creating a resource tab, flyers, etc.

v. zAmya/Avivo City of Minneapolis Partnership - Dawson/Jones

1. Looking at creating an event in conjunction with Service Saturday in November.
2. Meeting with Avivo at 4:00 on Monday to discuss what that would look like.

e. Communications

- i. August Newsletter- Mike Binkley has the line-up for the newsletter.

f. Safety + Livability (Dawson, Crary)

- i. Pedestrian Safety Update - (Dawson)
 1. Neighborhood meeting took place and went well.

2. Merrifield mentions that of the 10 concerns brought up at the annual meeting, four were safety related.
3. Last time there were significant advancements made on 2nd Street was when Washington was closed to make improvements to the bridge.
- ii. Avivo Trash Pick-up
 1. Partnership has been working well, Avivo people are happy, and the residents have seemed to respond well. Partnership needs a volunteer to keep the people moving, there's a social aspect to it. 11:00 on Tuesdays.
- g. Parks + Placemaking (Crary, Blake)
 - i. Committee Report - Crary
 1. Last September P+P wrote a letter to the Park Board about the lack of parks in the North Loop, and park dedication fees.
 2. Someone gave Crary some ideas on how to get the Park Boards attention. Encouraged them to come to the park committee meeting and give a 3-minute presentation and invite them to the North Loop meetings.
 - ii. Membership
 1. Lost two committee members, actively looking for new members. Crary sent out an email to 57 potential members and got some responses.
 2. Public Art will have to have a new person to focus on that.
 - iii. Trees (Blake)
 1. P+P can water three more times after this week.
8. Marijuana Smoking in Public Parks - Ordinance Vote
 - a. Merrifield got an email from Park Commissioner Elizabeth Schafer asking if the board could vote on an ordinance to eliminate marijuana smoking in public parks.
Merrifield makes a motion to vote on the ordinance to eliminate marijuana smoking in public parks. Woller seconds. Motion passes unanimously.
9. The Board adjourns at 8:01 pm