



Board of Directors Meeting Agenda

April 29, 2026; 6 to 7:30pm

1. 10 of 11 Board Members in attendance: Scott Woller, Andrew Morse, Louis Raymond, Ali Odenthal, Mary Binkley, Kyle Ingebrigtsen, David Crary, Diane Merrifield, Gwen Hollins, and Jeff Vranicar. Caroline Blackford resigned from the board via e-mail the afternoon of April 29.
 - a. Guests in attendance: Henry Jarvin, representing Michael Rainville Ward 3 Councilmember. Griffin and Taylor, neighborhood residents. Sharon El-Amin, Hennepin County Commissioner candidate for District 2 with Sam, her campaign manager.
2. Meeting is called to order by Binkley at 6:01 pm
3. Binkley calls for a motion to approve the April meeting agenda. Woller makes a motion, Crary seconds the motion. The board passes the motion unanimously.
4. Binkley calls for a motion to approve the March meeting minutes. Woller makes a motion, Crary seconds the motion. The board passes the motion unanimously.
5. Neighborhood Engagement:
 - a. Councilmember Rainville update – Henry Jarvin
 - i. Team has been meeting with city staff about adding crosswalk art in the North Loop to improve pedestrian safety. Have started this in South Minneapolis with good response. Dates are upcoming. Asking for NLNA's help to promote when applicable.
 - ii. Meeting with Uber in the coming weeks to discuss geo-mapping and drop off/pick up zones. Stressing importance of adhering to these.
 - iii. Received complaints about food delivery vehicles blocking in parked cars on Washington. Reviewing possible options.
 - iv. Discussed dead end loading area near Puralima, NLNA recommended adding a "No Outlet" sign to help avoid confusion for drivers.
 - b. Special Guest: Sharon El-Amin, Hennepin County Commissioner candidate for District 2.
 - i. Provided an introduction and rationale for running for Hennepin County Commissioner, District 2. Reviewed her experience and community connections along with her goals of focusing on housing inaccessibility, mental health resources, pedestrian safety, and building up local businesses.

6. March Financials – Vranicar

- a. Quarterly payment request to City
 - i. Rock-Hantge will request quarterly reimbursements from Minneapolis. Have so far requested \$2000 for insurance and communications outreach.
 - ii. Pending reimbursement request for Resource Kits developed and provided to Metro Transit this winter. Crary working to find receipts.
- b. Approve 2025 tax return and State of MN Charitable Org filing (**vote required**)
 - i. Tax return documents for 2025 reviewed by Vranicar, Binkley, and Crary prior to board meeting. Based on feedback from 2024 tax documents, more description was added on various expenses. **Vranicar calls for a motion to approve the 2025 tax return documents. Raymond makes a motion, Crary seconds the motion. The board passes the motion unanimously.**
 - ii. Reviewed State of MN Charitable Org filing documents. **Vranicar calls for a motion to approve the filing. Raymond makes a motion, Ingebritson seconds the motion. The board passes the motion unanimously.**
- c. Smart camera + iPad purchase for meetings – Binkley (**vote required**)
 - i. Binkley proposes purchasing a smart camera and iPad for NLNA. This would help with meeting guests that are attending board and subcommittee meetings virtually. The iPad could also be used for collecting donations and facilitating entry to ticketed events. **Binkley calls for a motion to approve the purchase of these items with a \$700-\$1000 budget. Raymond makes a motion, Merrifield seconds the motion. The board passes the motion unanimously.**

7. Community Engagement – Woller

- a. Candy Grab success/Future events ideas
 - i. Egg stuffing volunteers filled 6000 eggs in one hour. Candy Grab was well attended.
 - ii. Not planning for a North Loop Food Truck Fair for 2026.
 - iii. Future Event Ideas:
 - 1. Key to the North Loop: Design and offer for purchase a physical “North Loop key” for North Loop residents to receive discounts at participating vendors in the neighborhood. Could incorporate local

artists to design the key. Anticipated roll out in Fall 2026. Binkley will reach out to local artist.

2. North Loop Swap: Donate something, take something sale. Would plan to do this in early summer and consider hosting multiple times per year depending on response. Planning meeting on Wednesday, May 13th at Itasca Event Gallery at 5:00pm.
3. North Loop Adult Field Day, Aug. 15: Mix of team-based activities to cover a wide range of abilities/interests. Teams will register (fee required). Other expenses may include sound, seating, and prizes/ribbons. Plan to host and 3rd St Park. Will follow up with our insurance provider to discuss the need for a participant waiver. Woller and Ingebrigtsen to spearhead event.
4. North Loop Open House: To be held on 1st or 2nd Saturday in June. Approximately 40 buildings are available for touring. NLNA will support social media promotion. Discuss possibility of offering drink tokens or other discounts to promote local businesses as well. Binkley and Woller to connect for further discussion and planning.
5. Annual Halloween Party: Date set for Saturday, Oct. 31.

8. Business Engagement

- a. Towne Place Suites meeting on May 15 with wedding/event-related businesses to discuss how to package and promote North Loop offerings. Ingebrigtsen and Crary will host/facilitate.
- b. Paws in the Loop success – Binkley
 - i. Event was well received by community and business. Will repeat in the fall to coincide with Towne Place Suites pool closing, where dogs will be invited for a swim.
- c. MSP Magazine ad sponsor update – Ingebrigtsen
 - i. Hosted a Business Social on April 17 to celebrate award winners.
 - ii. Received \$2700 through business sponsorships to cover nearly half the cost of our magazine ad.
- d. Future Business Socials – Ingebrigtsen
 - i. Exploring date/time for additional business socials, consider incorporating themes/areas of focus for each meeting.
- e. Mom's Day Eve – Binkley

- i. Low interest from local businesses – holding off for 2026.
- f. NLNA Tik Tok – Looking for board member/volunteer to take over management.

9. P+Z – Merrifield **(votes required)**

a. Letters of Support/Approvals

- i. Flight Club - 729 Washington Ave (previously The Galley) is requesting a letter of support for proposed changes to the exterior of the building. Specifically looking to add one lighted sign (no dynamics or animation) and add outdoor awnings. All changes are within city regulations. **Merrifield calls for a motion to approve the letter of support. Woller makes a motion, Crary seconds the motion. The board passes the motion unanimously.**
- ii. Else Warehouse is requesting a letter of support to add a lighted, projecting blade sign to better identify the apartment building. **Merrifield calls for a motion to approve the letter of support. Raymond makes a motion, Woller seconds the motion. The board passes the motion unanimously.**
- iii. Rabbit Hole is requesting a letter of support for a dynamic window sign at their front entrance. The sign requires a variance for its size. This was previously functioning but was shut down due to resident complaints and the need for city approval.
 - 1. Plan to reduce sign brightness to 20%, remove animation, and have slower transitions.
 - 2. **Merrifield calls for a motion to approve a conditional letter of support if Rabbit Hole meets the mentioned sign changes and involves the Historic Preservation Commission. Woller makes a motion, Ingebrigtsen seconds the motion. The board passes the motion unanimously.**

10. Parks – Crary/Morse

a. Friends of Owamniyomni – Morse

- i. Group is developing area near the river to add natural grasses and walkways and improve access to the river.

b. Earth Day Success – Crary/Morse/Binkley

- i. 30 volunteers at event

c. Park Board Commissioner Riverfront Walks – Crary/Morse

- i. Trying to move on Bassett Creek redevelopment/reforesting area and spend Park Dedication Funds in this area.
- d. Zero Waste Initiative
 - i. Presenting to 5th Ave Lofts/Security Warehouse Lofts HOA in May
 - ii. Clean Water is applying for funding grants, expected in July/August
- e. Dog Park – Crary
 - i. MNDOT has not approved dog park, but NLNA/MPRB received email with questions from them. Overall, forward progress is being made.

11. Communications – Binkley

- a. Documents submitted to the city for Equitable Engagement Funds implementation for 2023-2025. Part of the submission requires that it is reviewed by the Board.
Binkley asks for a motion for the board to approve this submission. Woller makes a motion, Vranicar seconds. The board passes the motion unanimously.
- b. Meet Minneapolis Partnership benefits/resources
 - i. Binkley continuing to engage. Looking for ways to share educational information with local businesses/residents.

12. **Binkley calls for a motion to adjourn. Woller makes a motion, Crary seconds the motion. The motion passes unanimously. The Board adjourns at 7:28 PM.**