

Meeting Minutes 3/27/2023

Attendees

Board members and staff present marked with "X"

Ben Osborn – President	x	Allan Cummins – Vice President	
Cory Schaffhausen – Treasurer	x	Ann Zawistoski - Secretary	x
Charity Huot Benedict (Staff)	x	Rhonda Fields	x
Bob Jorgenson	x	Andrew Verdin	x
Frances Roen	x	Nathan Sterner	x
Tess Korbesmeyer Holman	x	Michele St. Martin	

Guests: Michael Sack, Emily Koski, Hannah Gullickson, Joyce, Barb

March Meeting called to order: 7:03 PM . This meeting was held hybrid (in person and on zoom)

Agenda Item 1: Approval of February Minutes,

- Updated list of guests
- February minutes approved

Agenda Item 2: **Councilmember Koski Report**

Councilmember Koski gave an update

- Glad to see signs of Spring
- Next Ward 11 safety meeting is April 11 7:00-8:30 at Pearl Park featuring Dept of Community Safety
- Potholes, please report to 311. Email or mobile app are better than phone
- Seeking applicants for audit committee, apply at this link <https://www.minneapolismn.gov/news/2023/march/audit-committee/>: deadline extended to Apr. 4. Would be great for anyone interested in oversight, risk management, or government operations
- Tree lottery open through end of the month.
- Resilient yard workshop: raingarden, transform lawn, native plantings <https://bluethumb.org/events>
- Special meeting on Thursday and Friday for Council for briefings on MN Dept of Human Rights about Consent Decree. Open to anyone and will be available for viewing online.
- Thank you for connecting with the developer of the building on Chicago and 52nd
- Michael comment: still holding out hope that the \$10 million for ADA improvements will be approved.

Agenda Item 3: **CenterPoint Energy**, Hannah Gullickson

- CenterPoint's Communications Specialist.
- Working on streets in Hale neighborhood, service lines to new main and replacing a steel main

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- Project will start some time in April, will update Charity with date and where the project will start
- Project information on website:
<https://www.centerpointenergy.com/en-us/InYourCommunity/Pages/ConstructionZoneProjectSites/Minneapolis-Hale-Neighborhood.aspx?sa=mn&au=res> , can sign up for email updates on website
- Each project will have traffic implications
- About 1 block per week
- Gas will be cut off during work, but they will turn it back on and relight pilot lights
- Grass will be replanted, sidewalks will be restored
- No assessment

Agenda Item 4: **Community Member visitor to meeting**, Joyce and Barb

- Barb is interested in helping with Picnic in the Park
- Joyce is interested in updates about the 54th and Chicago development

Agenda Item 5: **Review Annual Report for NCR (Neighborhood Community Relations)**, Ben Osborn

- Annual report written by Charity to compile our work in HPDL
- Motion to approve report, seconded by Frances
- Passed, Report was approved, 7:22 pm

Agenda Item 5: **HPDL Finances Update**, Cory Schaffhausen

- Hope to have Quickbooks document to share soon
- Will have summary of expenses to date compared to budget on a quarterly basis, plan to have it at next meeting
- Plan modification with \$90,000 from NRP funding has been approved and executed. This gives us a cushion for a few years but will need to come up with creative ideas for future
- Charity is meeting with Southside United Neighborhood Network every 2 weeks. Will be an update in the next month and will be a vote whether or not to join
- Will be an opportunity for a PorchFest fundraiser for Southside United Neighborhood, Sept. 16. This will be a trial run of how it works to have an event with support from all neighborhoods. Charity does not believe it would be a large amount of work: help promoting and some volunteer time. The money raised would be shared between all neighborhoods.
 - They are planning on raising \$40,000-\$50,000 total, which would be split among participating neighborhoods, meaning a few thousand dollars for us.

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- The event is where neighbors host live music on their porches, in past it was hosted by Powderhorn Park neighborhood:
<https://www.ppna.org/porchfest>
- Joining with other south minneapolis neighborhoods seems like a good way for us to move forward

Agenda Item 6: **Communications Update**, Allan

- Newsletter: Big thank you to Allan and to everyone who submitted articles. Newsletter has been sent to printer, and is working on formatting. Should be printed tomorrow. Should be in mailboxes by the end of next week
- Website changes: Tess is updating the board page and would like pictures of each board member. Please send to Tess: tesskorb@gmail.com.
- A few people met recently to look at website issues. Setting up for the garage sale and transitioning files for the Garage Sale. Set up a new google account.
- Discussion of refreshing the homepage. The current page is a template that has been modified and is “glitchy” and is challenging to update. We’re interested in having a cleaner and more modern style. There are a few options:
 - Work amongst ourselves and explore the Wix tools and templates
 - Hire someone to do the work, would probably be a relatively small amount of contract work. We could use money from plan modification. Cory expects it would be \$1,000-\$2,000.
 - Is there anyone on the board who would like to explore the templates and update the website?
 - Send preferences to Charity
 - Question about whether we could pay someone on the board? Not sure if that is a conflict of interest, so will need to figure that out
 - This has been hampering our ability to update and communicate with the neighborhood, so would be a good use of funds.
 - Andrew Verdin offered to take a look

Agenda Item 7: **Earth Day**, Charity / Tess

- Charity and Tess working together to connect with resources:
 - Neighborhood Roots
 - MetroBlooms
 - MN Horticulture Society
 - HPDL: Bee Lawn Seeds
 - Ridwell
 - Field PTA
 - Volunteers for bike check ups
 - Adopt-a-Drain
 - UMN Extension Garden
 - Kellie Kish from Minneapolis or Green Corp member
 - Minnehaha Creek Watershed
 - Nokomis Seed library will provide seeds and kits

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- Hennepin County library books
- Magnets on composting and recycling from Hennepin County
- Need help at 8:45 for setup
- Will have a reading corner
- Branch Basics donated ecofriendly cleaning supplies for raffle
- Looking for help getting the word out to people about the event: Charity will share an invitation
- Cory has 150 pounds of bee lawn seeds, Charity can pick up

Agenda Item 8: **Picnic in the Park**, Tess / Charity

- Charity and Tess are working on the picnic
- Barb has been a great addition to the team and will help coordinate the petting zoo
- Next overview meeting April 14, 12:30 pm hybrid (in the HPDL office / Zoom). Current focus is Sponsorship and Volunteers
- Sponsorships
 - Sponsorship forms will go out in a week or two
- Volunteers
 - Tess will be volunteer coordinator
 - T-shirts for volunteers
 - orientation meeting the week before
- Food
 - Food truck forms coming soon
- Entertainment
 - Same band booked as last year: The Big Throwdown
 - Found 4 face painters and a henna painter
- Interest in a beer garden, but unclear whether that is possible. Lots of extra permitting and hiring police officers
- Last year discussed a pre-sale of wrist band, but didn't have time to do that
 - One of the big obstacles last year was selling tickets, doing a pre-sale would alleviate some of that pressure
 - Would also be helpful to have a card reader, we do have 3 square readers now.
 - Would be good to have an internet hotspot

Agenda Item 10: New Business and Other Project Updates

- New Development Project Name
 - Some board members were at the meeting with the developer and neighbors. About 11 people attended. Some concerns around lights and color and green space were alleviated and addressed by the developer
 - Some neighbors are still concerned about the project, but project is fully approved and construction will start in July.
 - Joyce: many neighbors are just learning about the project

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- 4 levels, retail on main level (possible food hall), 47 units, underground parking for 22 spots.
- Similar project with same developer at 36th and Nicollet (but that development is larger and has no parking)
- This is the type of project that is being encouraged for zoning along Chicago Ave.
- The building will go right up to the alley. The north/south alley will remain. The east/west alley will go away.
- Half of the building is under 4d program affordable housing (<https://www2.minneapolismn.gov/government/programs-initiatives/housing-development-assistance/rental-property/4d/>)
- Have had a few submissions for the Naming contest. Deadline for submissions is April 15
- At next meeting we will pick top 10, will put on social media for voting. Developer chooses from top 3
- Renters strategic plan support-neighborhood day invite.
 - want to spend time in next few months reaching out specifically to renter to welcome them and invite them to events
 - If anyone would like to write a letter, let Tess and Charity know
 - Have renter materials available at Neighborhood Day.
 - if you have any ideas about reaching renters, let Charity know
- Black Stories Black Voices book club on April 19. Email will go out next week
- Neighborhood Day planning
 - City-wide neighborhood day. May 13. We are doing 1 ½ hour.
 - Music lab will set up a small stage
 - Field PTA will have activity
 - ice cream social
 - yard games
 - chance to meet neighbors, let them know what we're doing and introduce ourselves, encourage them to volunteer
 - We have 2 seats to fill, will have election for those

Meeting adjourned: 8:18 pm
