Attendees

*Board members and staff present marked with “X”*

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Ben Osborn – Vice Chair | X | Carrie Henning-Smith - Secretary | X |
| Jake Schwitzer- Chair | X | Katie Krisch - Treasurer | X |
| Courtney Laufenberg (Staff) | X | Rhonda Fields | X |
| Bob Jorgenson | X | Andrea Budke |  |
| Cory Schaffhausen | X | Cassie Batinich |  |
| Allan Cummins | X |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |

Meeting called to order: 7:02 PM. This meeting was held in person with some members joining via Zoom.

Agenda Item 1: Councilmember Schroeder Update

Councilmember Schroeder provided an update.

* Coming up off eviction moratorium, and those individuals will now have representation as they’re going to court.
* Election on Tuesday, 11/2. Early voting is happening now, otherwise find polling place for day-of.
* In the middle of budget season now. Public hearing coming up. First is on 11/16, before next HPDL meeting. Also one on 12/1. Covers Mpls budget, including what neighborhoods will get. If submitted testimony last year, should do so again this year. He’d advise written testimony so it’s part of the record.
* Likelihood of base funding for neighborhoods being increased is unclear going forward. Still not up to full staffing level in city; lots of staff burnout. Trying to address in budget by hiring people back and providing benefit pay for working last year. But, worth it to keep pushing on base funding.
* City staff have been focused on improving accessibility of intersections thanks to efforts from Michael and Sidewalk Repair Hunters.

Agenda Item 2: Application Reviews NNF and EEF

* Ben provided a summary of funding situation, including legacy funds, at approximately $265,000. Those funds are not part of our annual allocation, but can be used for special projects.
* Current funding is CPP (Community Participation Program). Will have ~$50,000 at the end of this year that will be rolled over in new programs start in 2022. But, unused funds can be pulled back by city, so funds should be allocated before 2022.
* Eligible to apply for two pots of funds starting in 2022. One is Neighborhood Network Fund (NNF), and can apply for up to $45,000, which will be a cut from where we have been. In 2023, that will go down to $30,000 for operations.
* Second pot of money is Equitable Engagement Fund (EEF), which is focused on reaching under-represented groups in neighborhood. We are eligible for $55,000 for 2022.
* Two applications were submitted to the city for those two pots.
* In applications, NNF included operating costs, such as rent, staffing, software costs, etc. Meetings and community events were also included in that budget.
* EEF application included events, including Picnic in the Park, Frost Fest, Earth Day, the garage sale, garden walk, and other neighborhood-led initiatives, like the Black Voices little free library and the sidewalk accessibility project.
* *Motion to approve NNF application by Ben; seconded by Katie. Motion passed unanimously.*
* Suggestion to allocate $30,000 for Pearl Park shade structures from CPP and EEF budgets. That would fund more than half of total cost for five shade structures. Full price for all shade structures was $54,000. Courtney provided historical perspective that board has done capital improvements at neighborhood parks in the past. Pearl, in particular, is the biggest chunk of land drawing people into the neighborhood from across the city.
* *Ben moved to approve EEF application, with amendment for $30,000 for shade structures at Pearl Park. Jake seconded. Motion passed unanimously.*

Agenda Item 3: Organizational Documents

* Katie reviewed changes to bylaws, including three major changes:
  + 1. 6-year term limit (can run again after two-year break; would start after new bylaws take effect in 2022.) Terms would be in two-year increments, and would need to re-up every two years.
  + 2. City has suggested that we can have representatives from organizations in neighborhood on board, including places of worship, businesses, schools. They would be one of the at-large seats. Would not include residency requirements for those representatives.
  + 3. Currently we require 3 from each neighborhood (Page, Hale, Diamond Lake.) Proposed new bylaws have 2 from each neighborhood with the rest at large. Would provide a balance, but increase flexibility.
* *Ben made motion to approve bylaws as submitted by Katie; Jake seconded. Motion passed unanimously.*

Agenda Item 4: Annual Meeting Planning

* Annual meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 10. Jake will provide presentation, mostly forward looking for board members.
* Presentation can include accomplishments from past year (security rebate program; passing Pearl Park shade structure funding; voter education forums; little free library support; etc.), planning for new year, new financial reality, and call for new board members.
* Anyone interested in running can say something about themselves briefly; online voting will be open for 24 hours after meeting.
* Cory will help set up vote system.
* Suggestion to bring in external speaker, potentially someone from Park Board to talk about Pearl Park improvements.
* Board members are expected to attend and are welcomed to encourage others from the neighborhood to attend, too.

Agenda Item 5: New Business and Other Project Updates

* Courtney ran through calendar with potential events, given funding situation:
  + January - Frost Fest – would need to be all outdoors. Have funds to rent tent and put up heaters.
  + March – Crime and safety meeting. Usually invite police, city council member, etc. Can do it via zoom. Involves a postcard and lining up speakers.
  + April – Earth Day. Put up table and hand out supplies.
  + May – Garage sale. Admin heavy, and have paid for software to do it.
  + July (last Thursday, 7/28) – typically Picnic in the Park. Outdoor event. Would need to go through Park Board.
  + October/November – Annual meeting.
* Going forward, City will also ask for neighborhood election days in May.

Other New Business

* Michael shared information on winter sidewalk reporting activities.
* Mapping – Bob did work on mapping demographics of neighborhood using software. Used Census block data, but that has limited data. Next level up is block group, which provides more detailed information.
* Hiring – have position description ready. Based on feedback from Rebecca and changes to funding, will start by targeting someone with admin skills. Organizational leadership and engagement in community will be secondary skills. Will post in the next couple of weeks and have it budgeted at 15 hours/week. Potential for bumping that up in the future depending on funding.

**Meeting adjourned: 8:16pm**