

Citizens for a Loring Park Community (CLPC)
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES
Monday, May 9th, 2011

Hosted by: Loring Park Office Building / 430 Oak Grove, Room #207

Boardmembers present: Gary Gliem, John Van Heel, Mike Marn, Janine Jelks-Seale, Neil Reardon, John Novak, Greg Renstrom, Brad Conley, and Diane Moe.

Boardmembers absent: Christopher Hoffer, Pat Hafvenstein

Staff present: Jana Metge, CLPC Coordinator

I. The meeting was called to order at 6:38 p.m. by President Gary Gliem. Gary welcomed all and asked Jana to go through the announcements:

- Community Sing – Tuesday, May 17th @ 7:00 p.m. @ Loring Park Com. Center
- Livability Committee - Wednesday, May 18th @ 6:30 p.m. @ Loring Park Com. Center
- Land Use Committee – Mon., May 23rd - 7:00-8:30 p.m. @ Loring Park Office Bldg/Rm 207
- Master Plan Steering Committee – Wed., May 25th; 7-9 p.m. @ Loring Park Community Ctr

TOPICS: Synthesis of Discovery Phase-Plan Development

Jana stressed the Board members held get information out, recruit attendance, and spread the word -

- **Saturday, May 14th** – Master Plan Community Design Workshop #4 – 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
Location: Wesley Church (All People’s Church) – 1st Avenue next to the Convention Center.

- **KBEM Jazz Concert** at Loring Theater in May 19th – Free to Loring Park folks!!! This is a free event to all from Loring Park Neighborhood. Funded through Legacy dollars. KBEM selected Loring Park Neighborhood and the Loring Theater. We need to get folks out and support KBEM in this selection and opportunity for our Community!

- Loring Park **Acoustic Music Festival** – Sat., June 11th – Noon to 8 p.m. @ Loring Park! Open House for the Loring Park Neighborhood Master Plan!! Posters and small cards were distributed for boardmembers to put up around the neighborhood.

Diane introduced Andrea Steudel, staff for a new festival called "Northern Spark" which will occur throughout the city the evening of Saturday, June 4 to the morning of Sunday, June 5th— from Sunset to Sunrise, an over night event. There are 50 Organizations throughout the City participating with this event. It is a combination of indoor and outdoor activities. The Walker will be doing activities outside all night in their grassy area, as well as keeping the Art Museum open. Andrea passed around event brochures. She asked for CLPC’s assistance in getting event information out to surrounding buildings and businesses. An event called the “Glow About” is happening in Loring Park – it is a yard game like “Capture the Flag”. This event occurs in big cities in Europe. This is the 1st year in MN and this is the only event in the Midwest. It occurs in New York and Toronto. Andrea asked for CLPC assistance in getting the word out to Loring residents and building/business owners.

Jana will email her contact information for the NCR Dept., as well as NRP to publicize in neighborhood’s city-wide. Jana asked Andrea to drop off brochures and she will take them to the Loring Property Owners meeting, as well as to the Loring Business Association. Andrea’s email for further information or to volunteer for the event is: andrea@northern.lights.mn.

This Event has gone through and been approved by the Park Board. Park Board did not request presence of Park Police due to the number of organizations, staff, and volunteers which will be present.

The May 2011 Board agenda was approved by consensus as presented with the correction of the Community Sing happening May 17th vs. May 10th.

Motion: That CLPC approve the March & April Board minutes. Neil/Brad M/S/C

Discussion as to whether or not to alter the April Board motion related to the \$75.00 donation to purchase a brick in memory of Robert Cook. Question was raised about whether the motion should reflect an overall decision for all CLPC memorial contributions or this individual action. Decision of Board to leave motion as is, but have the \$75.00 memorial/Loring Park brick given for both Neil Carlson/Robert Cook be a precedent for future memorial contributions from CLPC.

I. 2013 Neighborhood USA Conference – Jana Metge

Jana reported that David Rubedor will come back to the CLPC Board once we gain further information from the NUSA Conference on roles/expectation for the Host City. Janine, Jana, and David Rubedor are going to the 2011 Conference in Alaska end of May. CLPC will be the “Host Neighborhood” for the NUSA 2013 Conference. Next month discussion will focus on proposed CLPC role, overview of roles and responsibilities of partnership, overall conference budget and fundraising strategy, and staffing assistance needed for the 2013 Conference.

Janine suggested that a Conference Speaker should be Jeffery Canada from the Harlem’s Children Zone. She has been developing a list for Neighborhood Tour ideas, as well as Workshop presentations. Jana stated that organizations in the neighborhood are already booking 2012, and that even though May of 2013 looks to be far away, if we want organizations like the Walker and Loring Theater to be involved with hosting events, we need to begin those partner discussions now. Brad reported that he had met with President Phil Davis and MCTC would like to play a role. It was suggested that a meeting be pulled together to further discuss this potential partnership. David R. had reported to Jana that he had talked with CURA and they were interested in being a partner. Janine talked about involving the U of M partnerships in Conference workshops. Mike Marn suggested Louise Erdrich as a speaker and to be involved in some way with the conference.

II. Livability Committee Report - John N. reported on the April Livability Com. Mtg.

MCTC Sustainability Fair – CLPC had a booth. John VH, Jana, and John N. staffed it.

CourtWatch – Downtown Court Watch is the 1st Friday of each month from 10-noon at the Downtown Library. John and Jana are regular attendees on behalf of Loring neighborhood. John passed around the Court Watch monthly handout for boardmembers to review and talked about the holistic process and team we have in place to look at root cause of crime and solutions vs. displacement of crime, thus creating a revolving door. He spoke to mental health needs emerging and a number of Court Watch clients that are stuck – getting caught in a black hole with no solution. It was determined at the past meeting to create a Mental Health workgroup to evaluate these scenerios and propose solutions. John also talked about how stopping a cycle of crime at the Part II/Livability level prevents future Part I/Violent crime.

Aquatennial Event – 1st planning meeting was held. They have decided to only book KIDZdance this year, no Teddy Bear Band to save on costs. They are looking to bring in a vendor truck for ice cream. Last year they bought the ice cream and volunteers served it. They want to have more horses (they were a hit last year). Janine asked if police horses could come down. Diane agreed to follow up on this and check in with MPD Horse patrol. John reported that there would be inflatables again this year and games for kids. It was suggested that we check in with the Somali and Latino daycares on Nicollet to see if they would like to be a part of the event and sponsor some kid games. There will be food trucks. John contacted Taco Taxi. Diane reported that Friends of Loring Park took an action to sponsor the event for \$250.

1350 Nicollet – Resident Dennis Boe reported on the \$17 million improvements occurring on this Volunteers of America building. New air conditioning systems, elevators, tuck-pointing, new kitchens, all new windows, and fire alarms. They are planning to remove the pond, and to date there are no plans for what will replace the pond.

Theft from Motor Vehicles – John reported that this crime spike continues in Loring Park. Folks need to be sure to keep valuables out of sight. He also reported that wallets are being taken from purses, especially when purses are hung on the back of a chair. There is also a Target scam going on. If someone asks you to buy a Target gift card valued at \$50 for \$40 – don't do it.

Legislative Update by Monica Nilsson – John reported that Monica presented at their April meeting and talked about legislative bills proposed which would cut supportive services needed in both our Downtown Court Watch Project, as well as our efforts to reduce homelessness. There are also bills which will affect health care and a voter ID bill which would impact seniors in our community. Contrary to these bills, there are no cuts proposed for subsidies on State Fair prizes, horse purchases, making snow at ski resorts, and a variety of other items supported through legislative actions. The legislature will not entertain consideration of any tax increases.

Taxi Cab Noise – John reported that we had on our posted agenda for the City of Mpls. Taxi License inspector to be on our agenda. He was unable to come until the June meeting, but due to the posted agenda, the MN Taxi Cab drivers & owners Association attended the meeting. They spoke on their presented concerns to the Minneapolis City Council regarding the lifting of the license cap (unlimited licenses now issued in the City), how no more cab stands have been created by the City to accommodate for the lifting of the cap, the \$150 course required by the City to get your cab license, nor the ADA stand requirements met. They presented a list of concerns to the City of Minneapolis and they have not yet been responded to. John reported that the taxi cab pile up on Grant is dangerous to bikes and pedestrians, as well as MTC buses. Double parking is not allowed, nor is the cab parking occurring at authorized cab stands. Additionally, there is a lot of horn honking by cab drivers which is affecting residents in the 1350, 1355 Nicollet buildings, as well as 15 E. Grant St. Last, many cab drivers are now converting to “Limosine” service, which is regulated by the State vs. the City.

Lighting – The committee continues to monitor lighting in and around Nicollet and 1st Ave.

Elements for the Master Plan – Public Realm improvements along 1st Avenue and Nicollet which includes adequate lighting and greening. Public Realm improvements to dangerous and negatively utilized alleyways and expansion of DID to the Freeway. Also, the continuation of Downtown Court Watch and other efforts (Restorative Justice, Street Outreach x St. Stephens).

Question was raised regarding the Public Works report provided to the Traffic Calming Task Force. In the report, it states that Spring of 2011 traffic signals will be enhanced to include “beeping” at the HN crossing. Suggested that Brad follow up with public works staff on the report and inquire about the implementation timeline.

Jana reported on an incoming conversation with 301 Clifton Board chair. There have been thefts at their building, as well as other Oak Grove buildings of Federal Express parcels left inside the buildings, in front of doors. 3 claims to date have been filed from 3 different Oak Grove buildings. Buzzers are rung, following fed ex deliveries and someone inside the buildings are buzzing folks in. Then, the halls are being walked, packages opened, that items stolen. 301 reports that a flat screen TV was taken upon inside delivery by Fed Ex to their locked bldg.

John stressed that 15th St. crossing from the hill needed to be included in the Master Plan, as this is extremely dangerous to pedestrians and bikes. He also stated that bike lanes needed to be addressed on 15th Street, for it is a dangerous street to ride. Jana stated that this was a great

segway to Land Use report. Shaun Murphy will be coming to Land Use in May to report on the timeline/progress for implementation of 15th St bike lanes and the Hennepin Gateway/Entrance to Loring Park at Oak Grove. This project is funded with federal dollars.

III. Land Use & Master Plan Report – John VH & Neil R.

Lund's Redevelopment Proposal – Neil, Jana, Brad, Janine, Dick & Jan Sandberg, Pam Lehan all attended the Committee of the Whole meeting of the Minneapolis Planning Commission. Planning Commissioners offered a lot of feedback. They spoke to opening up a Hennepin Ave. access, to enhance the pedestrian experience and activate the street. They felt that this store would draw a lot of pedestrians and that they needed to enhance Hennepin Ave side. Lunds commented that the store was not large enough to accommodate 2 entrances, that as a trade off they had agreed to open up the Hennepin windows and not stack cases blocking views on Hennepin & 12th. Concerns were also expressed about accessing the loading dock from the alley and the view of the loading dock from the rain garden. They are still assessing the retention of the retaining wall which separates the site from the Kenosha. Kenosha building/condo balconies are attached to this wall. The Commissioners also talked about greening up the parking lot by reducing the size/width of the parking stalls. Suggestion was made that the parking lot could be greened in front, by the sidewalk or with vertical plantings. Neil reported that they will be back to Land Use this month, May 23rd for an update. He will bring the Planning Commissioner comments, as well as comments from the Kenosha and Bellevue condos to the Land Use meeting.

Lunds is scheduled for a review by HPC/Heritage Preservation Commission on May 17th – Room 317 – City Hall. Jana encouraged a couple of boardmembers to attend with her.

401 Oak Grove proposed development – Neil went over the process to date on this project. The development team came to the March Land Use meeting with site and public realm concepts. A workgroup meeting was held, organized by CLPC, of impacted stakeholders (25 folks in attendance-all properties surrounding the site were in attendance). Then, the development team came to the April Land Use meeting. Expectations were for them to bring elevations and shadow studies, but there was no new information. There is a future expectation that design will change per comments from the impacted stakeholder meeting.

Following the Land Use meeting, the proposal went in front of the Planning Commission Committee of the Whole for a preliminary review. Neil, Janine, Jana, Brad, Pam Lehan, Dick & Jan Sandberg were all in attendance. Due to the number of community stakeholders, the planning commissioners did ask CLPC to speak to issues identified, and stated “we would rather know in advance”. City staff nor the development team brought forward the community and NRP approved Loring Hill guidelines in their presentation. Jana spoke on behalf of CLPC and the impacted stakeholders. The following issues were identified: 1) Jana presented the Loring Hill guidelines and where to find them, as well as the City Council approved objectives directing development in Loring's NRP Action Plan, 2) the project height is outside of the Shoreland Overlay district and in contradiction to the Loring Hill guidelines, 3) removal of parking is a huge concern for the institutions and organizations as the historic churches and The Woman's Club, 4) CLPC is in the process of completing a neighborhood Master Plan where these guidelines will then be policy, 5) Properties surrounding the site are going through historic designation. 2 have been approved for local designation and 2 more are coming through HPC on May 10th. The Woman's Club, across from the site is also locally designated. There are concerns of this development dwarfing and shadowing these historic properties, lessening their value and aesthetics.

Planning Commissioner Tucker directed the development team to produce shadow studies and elevations which would show the impact of this development to the north (Woman's Club), to the east (337 Oak Grove), and to the west (419 Oak Grove). Commissioners also spoke to a loss

of parking as an issue for the neighborhood. Jana also revisited several years back when the planning commission supported a moratorium, followed by the creation of the Loring Hill guidelines. When asked for proposed height in the area, per Master Plan process, Jana reported uses on the hill were validated (retaining OR designation), but that height would most likely range between 2.5-4 stories.

Neil reported that last week, a 2nd impacted stakeholders meeting was organized by Architectural Alliance. He and Jana were invited to attend. Tom's staff had put together building examples/slide show, that would be acceptable on the 401 site. They also talked about the historic designation status of properties on the hill and the Historic Asset Inventory study completed a couple of years ago.

They also had retained legal services from Leonard, Street, and Deinard. A component discussed was the Court ruling on the Hoyt vs. City of Minneapolis lawsuit. Their legal read is that this may change the way the city looks at Conditional Use permits. It may be that due to this ruling, the City may have the ability to deny CUP applications based on review of the 4 conditions a proposed development has to meet.

Jana reported that this week, stakeholders on the hill are meeting to discuss ideas for shared and/or district parking concept per the Loring Hill guidelines and regional parking needs expressed by stakeholders on the hill, as well as by property owners of rental building throughout our Master Plan process.

John brought forward an enhancement to the Board motion made in March relating to our LEED-ND pilot project. John explained that LEED-ND documentation is technical and would be the 1st step. The second step would be an analysis of this documentation together with our completed Master Plan and to identify improvement implementation steps. One of the items needed is for our existing buildings to become more energy efficient. Center Point Energy and Xcel Energy have agreed to partner with us. Lauren has identified 6 volunteers willing to work on this project for us. The "pilot" component, is that part of the LEED-ND analysis may produce items in the scoring criteria which are not applicable for an existing site. Neil explained that LEED-ND is developed for brown site clean, like the Ford Plant site. Our "pilot" hopes to then develop standards to create, nationally, LEED for Existing neighborhoods criteria and scoring.

Motion: That CLPC supports the development of a LEED-ND pilot project in collaboration with the USGBC Minnesota Chapter and national USGBC, including the following actions:

- 1) registering the project with USGBC / GB Certification Institute**
- 2) assistance in seeking funding opportunities working towards pilot project certification.** *Brad/Janine M/S/Consensus–Passed unanimously*

LEED-ND implementation steps required for certification will be based on the sustainability priorities of the approved Loring Park Master Plan. Certification cost will be \$1,500.00. Jana reported to the Board, that this amount would come from the \$5,000 Master Plan program line item set aside for 2011 Master Plan expenses. Other items to be charged to this line item are \$1,500 Consultant fee (\$500 each) for the three (3) Thursday evening panels and printing. Jana reported that CLPC has incurred over \$2,200 of printing costs to date on Master Plan advertising, meeting expenses, flyers, and informational materials.

HPC Update - Jana reported that 425 Oak Grove, which passed through the Heritage Preservation Commission (HPC) also passed through the City Zoning and Planning Commission/City Council. Interior features were not specifically identified. We should have conversations with St. Mark's about ensuring that these architectural features are not

removed/sold from the property. 419 and 337 Oak Grove go to the HPC Tuesday, May 10th at 4:30-Room 317/City Hall. HPC staff is recommending historic designation. Staff reports are available on line. Jana will be attending this HPC meeting.

IV. Finance/Coordinator Report

Neil & Jana presented the following report for May 2011.

CLPC received NRP reimbursement of \$20,881.91 submitted March 11th into our account the first week of April. Neil reported that we have now met our 2011 operational budget for the year and we will begin to work on 2012 fundraising. Jana spoke to turn-around time that that in monitoring cash flow, the board should expect a 6 week to 2 month turn around by the City's Finance Dept. Janine asked what that meant for the Board and Jana reported that we need to maintain 2 months of operation funding (\$10,000) in the bank and that reimbursements need to be filed no later than October/November to ensure cash flow for January 2012.

Neil reported that we have \$1,305.41 in savings and \$24,035.39 in checking. NCEC (Community Participation Program) grant was reviewed by the NCEC commission. Jana reported on questions asked and answered. The grant was awarded, paperwork generated, contract signed, and all accompanying paperwork submitted to CPED Finance Dept. A \$10,000 advance from this \$43,661.33 grant should arrive electronically to CLPC yet in May.

Jana reported that Lotts Financial will be in this month to complete monthly reconciliations and to begin work on the 2010 990 report to the IRS and the Annual Report to the Attorney General's office, as well as to create updated P & L's for the Board. The IRS Audit continues. Jeanne will be in next week to print off requested 2008 financial material for review.

Jana reported that there is still one silent auction item to be picked up and paid for totaling \$170.00 dollars.

Brad spoke to the Legislative hearing at the House Committee this past week regarding the NRP bill. Neighborhoods spoke in opposition to Mayor Rybak and Council President Barb Johnson. The Senate Committee passed the bill with a 12-yes and 1-no vote. The house vote was 9-yes and 6-no. Only 1 democrat voted yes. Marion Greene and Frank Hornstein voted no on this bill. It was pitched as property tax relief, as well as pitting the new NCEC department and NRP against each other. Jana spoke to 2 items of legislative action which were violated by the December City Council action, as well as public trust. Jana spoke to NRP Phase II plans which are approved by the NRP Policy Board, the Community Development & Ways & Means Committee of City Council and then the full City Council. Loring NRP Phase II plan had gone through and received approval through all of these bodies. We are set to lose \$250,000 by the December action of funding awarded to us by Council action, monies collected from the 1st NRP Bill. The 2nd bill 2 years ago was organized by neighborhoods. Through negotiation, there was agreement to allow the city's to re-certify pre-1979 tax increment districts and have the revenue collected go 50% for neighborhood revitalization and 50% for Target Center debt. This 2nd bill is what the NCEC & Neighborhood Community Relations Dept. is created from. But, in December, funding dedicated to neighborhoods from NRP Phase II was shifted to cover NCEC and legislative funds dedicated for NCEC 2 years ago, were shifted (\$10 million) for "property tax abatement". Brad talked about neighborhoods south and north and the map developed demonstrating the inequity in this "theft" of our NRP Phase II dollars. Jana stated that NCEC and NRP cannot be pitted against each other and that it is inappropriate to freeze and take awarded NRP Phase II funding from a previous legislative action. Brad also spoke to pending legal action and the discussion of the NRP Policy Board. The City represents only 2 votes on the NRP Policy Board and yet this action to take NRP Phase II funds was developed and acted on with NO discussion or presentation at the NRP Policy Board and since that time, the Policy Board, but for Council President's abstention, voted to pursue legislative and legal options to retain these NRP Phase II

funds. Additionally, no one from the City came to the December 2010 Policy Board to explain their actions and violation of the Joint Powers agreement.

Gary stepped into the conversation and stated that it was 8:30 if anyone had to leave. One boardmember left, others continued with the NRP/Legislative conversation.

Janine asked what we could do further and what the next steps were. Brad reported that he had met with Marion Greene and was meeting further with NRP staff to develop a timeline and actions taken so that the issues were clearing understandable to folks. The bill will go to the Senate floor and the House floor. We need to be contacting our legislators to vote yes on the floor vote. Jana reported that NCEC funding for 2012 will be impacted should this bill pass. There are neighborhoods with no more NRP Phase II funding and they will have operational challenges if there is no city-dedicated source of revenue (outside use of already dedicated NRP Phase II funding) for these neighborhoods. CLPC is projected to have \$43,000 in 2012 and that amount is projected in our 2012 budget. John stated that CLPC would be better off with NRP dollars in the amount of \$250,000 vs. the \$43,000 of NCEC funding. Jana stated “yep - do the math”.

Brad reported that he, Jana, and Pat Scott had gone to Rep. Marion Greene’s Saturday meeting a week ago. It was suggested to send an email to her encouraging her yes vote on the floor. Janine asked that a report be on the June agenda pertaining to legislative outcome and future of 2012 NCEC funding.

Gary requested a workgroup meeting for “Love Loring” within the next month to determine 1) cost of tickets, 2) dinner vs. appetizers, 3) location, 4) date (includes Thursday or Friday, as well as the month).

Mike began to propose a motion regarding CLPC processes for volunteer minute taking. With the growth of the organization, we are needing more of this support from volunteers. Neil and Christopher had begun the development of a Board Policy on this. Requested to have this policy circulated amongst the Board and on the June agenda for action.

V. *The meeting was adjourned at 8:54 p.m. Mike/Janine M/S/C*

Respectfully submitted, JLM/Christopher Hoffer/Neil Reardon