

Citizens for a Loring Park Community (CLPC)
LIVABILITY COMMUNITY MEETING MINUTES - draft
Wednesday, January 15th, 2014

(Thank you to the Loring Park Community Center for hosting!)

Present: Katie Hatt (resident), Chris Dixon (1st Precinct Community Prosecutor), Sgt. Calvin Noble (Park Police), John Outlaw (Park Director), Renee Allen/MPD (CPP/SAFE), Kevin & Briana (St. Stephens Street Outreach), and Jana Metge (CLPC Coordinator).

I. Joseph called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. It was a blizzard outside and very, very cold!! Thanks to all who came to the meeting!! Joseph welcomed everyone. Introductions were conducted. The November Joint Land Use/Livability minutes and January Community Meeting agenda were approved unanimously. *Chris/Calvin M/S/C*

Jana went through the following Announcements:

- **Downtown Court Watch** - Fri., Jan. 10th - 10 - Noon - Dwntrwn Central Library .
- **Land Use Community Meeting** - Mon., Jan. 27th - 6:30-8:00 @ LPark Community Center; will feature a discussion with David Frank, Minneapolis Transit Oriented Development Staff. We will discuss next steps and timeline with Nicollet Ave. streetcar and community involvement processes.
- **Loring Park Annual Meeting & Resource Fair** - Tuesday, March. 18th from 5:30-8:30 at The Woman's Club of Minneapolis/410 Oak Grove (*prkg available adjacent to & up the hill from the Club*).
- **"Love Loring"** - Request from CLPC for Donations for our Silent Auction.

Jana distributed Announcements for the 'Celebration of the Life of Gary Gliem', CLPC President who passed away on December 26th, 2013. This Celebration will be hosted by the Loring Park Community Center and will begin at 10:30. There will be refreshments, entertainment, and sharing. Gary has asked that any Memorial Donations in his name be sent to CLPC/1645 Hennepin Ave. So., Suite 204, Minneapolis, MN 55403. He would like to see a Memorial Planting at 15th & Willow.

II. Ending Homelessness - Mikkel Beckmen, City/County Director, Office to
End Homelessness

Due to the weather, this presentation will be rescheduled.

III. Loring Park Neighborhood Safety Issues - Renee Allen - CPP/SAFE

Renee distributed Year to Date crime maps for review. The Maps displayed Part I (Violent) and Part II (Livability) crimes. She created 2 maps for us which showed all of the Part I crimes for all of 2013. Renee spoke to crimes of opportunity - leaving laptops, GPS', cell phones in the car where folks can see them, leaving a cell phone on a table, or walking with it where someone could grab it. There were 485 Part I crime in 2013, but if the Larceny crimes went away (the crimes identified above), the stats for Part I crimes would be at 130! These Part I crimes stats are reported federally. "Put Junk in Trunk" and be careful with cell phones, spread the word, educate, and our 2014 stats could make a huge reduction. Renee walked through the 9 larcenies (cell phone thefts, GPS thefts from cars) and 3 aggravated assaults from 1/1/2014-1/15/2014 with the group. There was 1 burglary, which was the Dance Studio. A door had been left ajar. Renee has worked with owners to conduct a premise survey. Some of the larcenies were at the Minneapolis Convention Center - Visitors are laying their cell phones down, or laptops, and walking away. The theft becomes an Aggravated Assault when a victim hangs on to their cell phone, purse, lap top and fight back. Renee stressed the importance of knowing your serial numbers.

Katie thanked Renee for facilitating a joint Safety meeting between the Buckingham and the Commodore. 40 people attended. They all received good Safety Tips.

Chris Dixon reported that at the February 14th Court Watch, Inspector Arradondo would be the guest speaker. DT Court Watch is 10-12 p.m. at the DT Central Library. Renee reported that two (2) individuals from 15 E. Grant have gone to court and had geographic restrictions imposed. 62 units have been evicted at 15 E. Grant.

Chris reported that recidivism (revolving door) is down 80%. In 2012 100 folks were committing 960 offenses. In 2013, there were 170 offenses committed. Chris talked about the Pilot for young people 18-24 sponsored by YouthLink. There were 24 Youth in the program. Offenses went from 183 to 40-something. The program sought out youth downtown who had 5 cases or more in the 1st precinct. In 2014, it will be anyone with 4 cases or more.

Chris reported that Larry Townsend was released. He had been charged with sex crimes in and around Loring Park. The Judge gave him credit for time served. The prosecutors asked for a year and got 100 days plea time served. There were multiple impact statements submitted. The Judge was Judge Norris.

Sgt. Cable Noble/Park Police reported that there have been a few retirees and that they will be hiring 5 new Officers. Chief Ohotto has had Officers from the Park Police trained in Bike Patrol. There have been 6 certified. Park Police see theft from motor vehicle a lot. Keep items out of sight, not left on the seat or the dashboard. Covering them with a coat doesn't help either. Offenders can tell that there is something hidden and if tempting enough, a car window will be shattered for the theft.

Kevin & Briana/St Stephens Street outreach spoke on the crazy, cold weather and trying to ensure that no one froze to death on the street. They reported that there were still people sleeping outside. They received temporary funding during 'the freeze' to expand shelter beds. They really need this amount of shelter beds all the time. They reported that shelters close in the mornings and that there are few places for folks to go to get out of the cold. Maybe go to the DT Library or ride the bus, stay in the Skyways. It is especially difficult during Holidays when everything is closed. They talked about their great partnership with the Cathedral of St. Mark's. "Thursdays" at St. Mark's runs from 12:00-4:00 p.m. Folks can go in and watch movies, read, sleep, be out of the cold, keep warm. They reported that it is hard to sleep in the Shelters. People are on edge and guarding their belongings. The Drake is still a Family shelter. They reported that Dunn Brothers' freezer went out and that they donated bakery goods to St. Stephens

IV. 2013 Livability Committee Goals

The 2013 Goals were distributed for review. They will be on the agenda for approval in February.

V. Reports

- **"Community Celebration of Place"** - Interviews by Students of Dr. Josie Johnson Interviews have been held at Emerson School this past week. Jana attended one session. It was amazing, both the questions asked and the response, the learning taking place in the conversations with Dr. Josie Johnson. She is a resident of Loring Park and will be featured in the "Community Celebration of Place" - Elders' Wisdom, Childrens Song. The children will work with Larry Long and turn what they heard and learned from the Interviews into song. Then, a Community Celebration will be held in the Spring to honor Dr. Johnson, premiere the song, and celebrate.

- **"WinterFest"** - John Outlaw/Park Director and Joseph spoke to what a fabulous event this was. There are many photos posted on our CLPC Facebook page. Agreed to produce this event in December 2014. It was great having Mark Stillman play with the Kairos Dancers and fun to have the Kenwood Ukulele Club! There were crafts, refreshments, bonfire, and Horse & Carriage rides. A group came and taught folks how to snowshoe. Joseph reported that he sent out Press Releases. The Event was filmed by Green Jeans Media and is now available on You Tube - Winterfest 2013.

- **2014 Community Engagement Review** - Jana distributed a handout which included a timeline for Community Engagement. She encouraged all to continue to think of ways to reach out, recruit new volunteers, connect with neighborhood residents, especially our Russian Speaking elders.

- **Valentine's Day Event** - John Outlaw shared an Idea for us to consider for Valentine's Day 2015.. He would like to have ice skating and maybe music and a catered dinner as an event next year. He could see that Loring Pond could be lit up with Luminaries and really have a beautiful event down at the park.

VI. Meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

VII. Everyone helped put away chairs & tables

Email to Volunteer: loveloring@gmail.com or **call 612-874-9002** or check
Our website at: www.loringpark.org or check us out on Facebook!