

Citizens for a Loring Park Community (CLPC)
LIVABILITY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, September 18th, 2013

6:30-8:00 p.m. ~~~ Hosted by Loring Park Community Center!

Present: Joseph Finley (resident), Robert Hansen(resident), John Outlaw(Loring Park Director), MPRB Chief Jason Ohotto, Dave Hile(resident), Inspector Bryan Schafer, Harley Newton (resident), Chris Dixon (community prosecutor), and Jana Metge (CLPC Coordinator).

I. Welcome/Introductions & Approvals

Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m. Committee Chair Joseph Finley welcomed all.

II. Announcements:

- **Downtown Court Watch** - Fri., Sept. 13th 10 -Noon - Dwntwn Central Library
- **Community Sing-Along** - Tues., Sept. 17th @ 7-8:30 p.m. @ LPark Com. Center
- **Land Use Committee** - Mon., Sept. 23rd - 6:30-8:00 p.m. @ LPark Com. Center
- **Loring Park Neighborhood Master Plan** - Public Hearing; Monday, Sept. 16th @ 4:30 p.m. @ City Hall/350 So. 5th Street, Room #307. Our Agenda item will be up around 5:30 p.m.
- **Heart of the Beast Performance @ Basilica** -
The CLPC Board approved \$1,500 to go towards Tickets to the performance on Saturday, December 7th, 2013 at 1:00 p.m. at the Basilica. Workshop information will be posted when it is confirmed. Terri Ashmore will be at the October meeting.

MPRB Chief Jason Ohotto received congratulations from all. He reported on getting a really nice letter from Mary Faith Fox thanking all for the improvement in the park.

John Outlaw reported that Commissioner Tabb had forwarded another email of concern. John and the Commissioner are meeting Thursday afternoon on this concern. John will report next month.

III. Nicollet Avenue Safety Issues & Neighborhood Safety Update - Inspector Bryan Schafer Monday, September 9th around 11:30 p.m., three (3) individuals were shot on Nicollet Ave. The injuries were not life threatening. A Nicollet Avenue Safety Team has been working with the Minneapolis Police Department and put together a Community Action plan which has been shared at this Committee before. Following the shooting, members of the 1st Precinct and MPD Command Staff met with Councilmember Goodman. They formulated a Coordinated Response to Enhance Safety and Reduce Crime on Nicollet Avenue.

Inspector Bryan Schafer distributed crime stats (available at CLPC & we will email them around to our distribution list). Theft is up year to date from 210 to 233. Many are thefts from motor vehicles and cell phones.

Triple Shooting on Nicollet:

Metro-wide, gang issue. Bashaal Cafe has been cited with Conduct on Premises and had their extended hours rescinded. They will close at 10 on weekdays and 11 on weekends. A mobile camera has been put in place. Inspector has 24 hour patrols around Nicollet. There are Officers on bikes. Beat Officers until 6 and Directed patrol til midnight. Committee stated the need for Officers at night until bars are closed and on weekends along the Corridor. They developed a response plan,

this was passed around the table. The Inspector, Beat Officers, and Jana spent the week after the shooting talking to businesses. Jana reported that this outreach meant a lot to the businesses.

A suspect for the shootings has been identified. There was great cooperation from the Somali community.

Inspector Schafer reported that the Focus areas for the Loring Park Neighborhood are: 15th & Nicollet, 15th & Grant, and Loring Greenway.

V. 7:30-7:45 Neighborhood Safety Discussion

Market BBQ: Has applied to downgrade their license from Class 1 to Class 2.

15 E. Grant St.:

Back door is shut and locked. Litter is being picked up. Visitors must sign in, they have to show ID's and have their ID's copied and put on file. Over 50 units have been evicted, there is new property management and they have been very responsive. The evictions may have triggered crime activity around neighborhood. Concern was expressed that these folks may force their way into 1350 and 1355 Nicollet. There were reports that many times a half dozen folks 'visitors' would follow a resident into the building once a door was opened and would threaten folks if they refused.

Community Prosecutor: Chris Dixon ran history for a couple of recent arrests on Nicollet. These individuals would qualify for Court Watch, but the County needs to charge them. The individual arrested for exposing himself in the park is still in jail. Chris reported that Larry Townsend was released from jail. He has 9 criminal cases from Feb. to now. He was charged with criminal sexual conduct. He is a groper. comes up behind women and grabs them in a sexual way. The last grope was on 13th & Nicollet. Chris asked that people complete impact statements. A discussion followed about release of our chronic offenders by Judges. Chris agreed to add number of bench warrants and whether in or out of custody on Court Watch sheets and Impact Statement Request.

VI. Event Review -

DVD's from both the Aquatennial Event & the Loring Park Acoustic Music Festival were playing prior to the meeting for those who arrived early.

National Night Out: A preliminary Event Summary was distributed. There has not been an evaluation meeting yet as the General Manager of the Woman's Club has been out on a leave. Once she returns, the planning team will sit down and go thru this document and finalize it. It will be brought back to the next livability Committee meeting.

Community Engagement Discussion:

Russian Outreach / Develop strategies to go out to buildings, work with Jewish Community Council, if Activity at Park see if Salvation Army will pick folks up and bring down, John Outlaw would like to do social dances for elders at the park, working with Kairos Dance Company, Personnel Safety workshops/translated, maybe do an event for all Senior buildings on the VOA plaza/courtyard.

Purpose of CLPC Booth at Events / Promote the organization, name visibility (goal from Brd orientation), promote future events, projects, and meetings, recruit committee membership. Discussion about purpose of committee and how to build attendance.

Next month: Review NRP Phase II plan, 2014 Committee goals, role of Committee, and 2014 projects.

Motion: That June minutes be approved. *Dave/Harley M/S/C* Unanimous approval

Motion: That August minutes be approved. *Dave/Joseph M/S/C* Unanimous approval

Meeting adjourned at 8:00.

NOTE ~ September 23rd; 6:30-8:00 pm, CLPC Land Use mtg, will feature a presentation and discussion on the **Nicollet-Central Project by Charlene Zimmer, Project Director and Alex Cloutier, from Zan Associates,
If you are interested in Nicollet Ave. Streetcars, come to this meeting!**

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!