

Citizens for a Loring Park Community
Livability Committee Meeting Minutes – draft 4.26.2010
Wed., April 21st, 2010

Present: Bob Hansen (chair), Liz Cutter (HN County Attorney's Office), Jessica Mork (PRIDE), Erin (McLennon), (Loring Art Festival), Jenna Rademacher (Aquatennial), Dave Hile (resident), Paul Puttlitz (resident), John Novak (resident), Gary Gliem (resident), Louise Weaver (resident), Virginia Reilly (resident), Jeanne Innes (resident), Jim Daly (resident), and Jana Metge (CLPC Coordinator).

The meeting was called to order by Bob Hansen at 6:35 p.m.

Bob reported that Laurie Spark is attending the Park Board meeting tonight regarding the Bike Entrance project and that Renee is unable to attend this evening. There are a few additional announcements.

MOTION: That the April 2010 Livability Agenda be approved as amended.

Dave/Gary M/S/C Unanimously approved.

Bob asked the Committee to approve both the November and January Committee meetings. February minutes will come for approval at next month's meeting.

MOTION: That the November 2009 and January 2010 Livability Committee minutes be approved. *Dave/Gary M/S/C Unanimously approved.*

Announcements:

- **MCTC Health Fair** – Bob reported that this was held last Wednesday, April 14th, from 10:00AM-2:00 p.m. CLPC had a booth. It is attended by hundreds and open to the public. It was suggested that next year the Loring Art Festival and PRIDE participate, as well as a community safety booth with MPD, Park Police, City/County Attorney's Office. They may change the date to October/fall vs. Spring. CLPC will notify all when the next date is set and committee members were encouraged to mark their calendars and attend.
- **HN/Lyndale & 15th Crossing – Community Meeting** – Jana and Dave Hile reported that this meeting on the Bike lanes and HN/15th Bike entrance to the park was held on Thursday, April 15th. Jana passed around the gateway designs, an overview of where the funding is coming from, and a project budget breakdown. Additionally, Shaun Murphy's email was distributed, anyone wanting more information on this project should contact shaun.murphy@ci.minneapolis.mn.us
- * The **"Neighborhood Breakfast" at Loring Kitchen & Bar** happened on Saturday, April 17th, 8:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. 20% of proceeds were donated to CLPC totaling \$600!!!
- **Traffic Calming Task Force Meeting** – held Monday, April 19th, 6:30-8:00 p.m. at the Loring Park Office Building/430 Oak Grove - Room 207. The May meeting will be 5:30-7:00 p.m. on May 24th (vs. the 17th) due to scheduling conflicts. This meeting will occur prior to Land Use Committee.
- **Community Sing-Along** – held Tuesday, April 20th, 7:00-8:30 p.m.
- **"Cabaret Night" at The Woman's Club of Minneapolis** – Tuesday, April 27th; 7:00-9:00 p.m. "A night of entertainment will showcase the wonderful Theatre at The Woman's Club of Minneapolis. 8 dance, music, and theatre artists will be performing. **Price = \$10.00**
- **Master Plan Steering Com.** – Wednesday, April 28th, 7:00-8:30PM
- **Court Watch** – Friday, May 7th, 10:00AM-Noon, Central Library
- **The Steeles** will be performing at **8:00 p.m., April 24th** at Hennepin Ave. Methodist Church, 511 Groveland Ave. This is a benefit for the Dignity Center. Tickets are \$30.00.
- * **Dining Out for Life** brochures were distributed. The event is April 29th. Loring Kitchen and Bar is a participating restaurant this year, as well as Nic's on Nicollet – 1313 Nicollet.

- Jana distributed **Southwest Light Rail** and **Central Corridor** updates (available at the CLPC office), as well as **HN County Bike Maps**.
- Bob announced that the **selection of the Livability Chairperson** will be conducted at the May 19th meeting, 6:30-8:00 p.m. at the Loring Community Center. Draft May agendas were distributed and attendees encouraged to spread the word and get a good attendance for the May meeting. The 911 Administrator, the 311 Director, Park Police, and Minneapolis police will all be in attendance. Many concerns were raised at the CLPC Annual Meeting, so the May agenda has been set to address concerns such as when to call 311, when to call 911, what if a situation occurs in the Park, etc.

2010 Aquatennial – Jenna Rademacher

Jenna Rademacher, the Marketing Manager of the Minneapolis Downtown Council presented CLPC with an opportunity to partner with the Aquatennial. They have an “Associated Event Program”. The Aquatennial will market a community event in their promotional listings. The cost to a participating organization is \$1,000 which covers advertising costs. The partnership features logo on approved materials, one specific press release pertaining to your event, inclusion in any media advisories, inclusion in the full schedule of Aquatennial events, inclusion of the neighborhood event in the Star Tribune supplement – 350,000 copies. Aquatennial is **July 16-24th**. John Novak and Dave Hile volunteered to look into the possibility of finding sponsors and putting an event together in Loring Park. Dave will take this to the Friends of Loring Park meeting the 1st Monday of May and invited Jenna to present at this meeting. Liz Cutter will send information to the Loring Greenway Association Board to see if the Greenway is also interested in pulling together an event. It was acknowledged that this is short notice and that we may want to look into participation in 2011. But, John and David will pursue a smaller event and sponsorships for this year and report back to the next Livability meeting. A suggestion was made to invite “Women in Wilderness” and offer canoe rides. Dave suggested a “Remove the Cattail” canoe paddle!

PRIDE FESTIVAL – Jessica Mork

The PRIDE festival is the last weekend in June – June 26th & 27th. Randy DeWitt is the new festival manager. Jessica affirmed that CLPC may have a 10 x 10 spot for a booth at no cost. Should we sell merchandise, there would be a \$40 cost. Dave Hile suggested that Friends and CLPC share the fee and both sell merchandise. Bob asked if the booth could be located close to the 15th Street pathway, down the hill from the CLPC office. Jessica will send along registration materials to Jana.

Jessica and Jana will continue to work on parking lot sales. CLPC is selling parking as part of their fundraising strategy and Jana offered to sell advance parking to PRIDE volunteers. This way, Jana could mail out parking passes and volunteers at the parking lots would only need to look for parking passes vs. handling any money.

Jessica reported on their proposal acceptance for a CURA intern. The intern will be helping them track demographics of PRIDE attendees. The question was raised as to whether or not PRIDE would leave Loring Park. Jessica reported that there has been no discussion of this at the festival committee meetings. St. Paul has issued overtures, but Jessica felt due to the historic significance of this event in Loring Park, it would stay. The event brings in \$50 million in revenues to the City of Minneapolis and over 300,000 attendees.

Jessica reported that the committee did a site walk through for set up and that they are looking into ways to safeguard the plantings and benches. In the past, benches have been hit by vehicles and then PRIDE needs to replace them.

Firework issue was raised. Jessica told a story about the one letter sent to PRIDE regarding the fireworks from a Loring Park resident. He was in his last moments of life, suffering from AIDS and unable to participate in the PRIDE festival. He was able to sit at his window and enjoy the fireworks. Jessica also reported that Park Staff stated that the damage to the viewing pier was vandalism, not done by the fireworks. Fireworks are set off on a floating platform in the lake and conducted by a licensed and highly qualified pyrotechnic operator. Concerns for air quality and debris left on adjacent properties were raised. There were also concerns for wildlife habitat. A group had made a presentation to the Park Board and those minutes should be archived and available through the MPRB. Jessica stated that it is her preference to keep the fireworks, but that the PRIDE Committee will listen to the community. We will monitor this year and report back post PRIDE event.

Gary asked if PRIDE would be willing to recruit GLBT attendance at the annual CLPC "Love Loring" fundraiser in 2011. Jessica stated that she is happy to post it to their list and put on their website.

Loring Park Art Festival – Erin

Erin reported that the jurying is complete for participants. Applications were from 29 States and Canada. There will be 140 artist booths. Awarded artists and beginning to confirm their attendance. The event will be held **August 6th & 7th, 2010.**

CLPC has offered to again host the Artist Breakfast on Saturday and Sunday. This has been confirmed via email with Pat Parnow. CLPC will arrange for and recruit volunteers for this and then report to Erin the names, times, and confirmation of volunteers.

Erin also asked for CLPC's assistance on recruiting overall event volunteers. Volunteers:

- 1) Assist with setting up the Friday night prior to the event and welcoming artists
- 2) Staff the ArtHop bus booth and welcome participants to the Loring Art Fair
- 3) Floaters – those volunteers that are available for on-call event needs and to sit in Artists' booths so that they can take a break.
- 4) Staff the Information Booth – the festival provides an orientation and answers to questions that would be asked. Festival staff have radios and can be contacted for any answers to questions that they do not have.

Volunteers can sign up by going to their website at: www.loringparkartfestival.com

CLPC offered to post a "Call for Volunteers" on their website and in their monthly newsletters. Committee members suggested that the "biffy" not be located by the food, that Loring Park staff ensure that the Cupola building is cleaned, especially the refrigerator and bathroom, and that we have enough creamers and sugar for the breakfasts. Paul from Heart of the Beast will be the Festival Coordinator again this year.

Erin also reported that she works for the Minnesota State Arts Board. Through the Legacy amendment, there has been additional funding for the arts. New programs were developed through the Arts Board. There is a Festival Grant Program and an Arts Learning Grant program.

SAFETY ISSUES – Liz Cutter, Hennepin County Attorney's Office

Liz reported that the assault on the Greenway was prosecuted by the County and that the Offender received a sentence of 60 months prison time. Mike Freeman, County Attorney and Minneapolis Police Chief Tim Dolan both sent letters of acknowledgement to the Jimmy Johns

employee. The victim had hollered for help and her husband opened the garage door. Upon seeing the husband, the perpetrator fled and the husband hollered for help. The Jimmy Johns employee was on a bike and pursued the perpetrator all the way to Hennepin Ave., where the police arrived and arrested him. Liz reported that the victim was very impressed with police response time and the way the situation was handled. Liz also had reviewed the police reports and they were very well done.

Question arose regarding Domestic Assaults. Liz reported that Hennepin County has 8 advocates which handle felony domestic assaults. The goal is to get to the victim early and go through a series of 16 questions. The advocate calls the victim immediately upon notification and offers resources.

A felony domestic assault can occur when:

- There are 2 prior domestic offenses, including interference with 911 response
- Strangulation/cut off of air or blood circulation. Statistics have proven that this attempt is a pre-cursor to a fatality.
- Terroristic threat
- Violation of a no-contact order

The 1st arrest charged is a misdemeanor, the 2nd a gross misdemeanor and the 3rd time, a felony.

Liz reported that one of the Brooklyns, Brooklyn Park or Brooklyn Center, the Police Officers are miked, so that they can turn the microphones on upon arrival and tape all of the conversation. Dave stated that Officers used to have disposal cameras in their squads for photographs. Liz stated that the goal is to go digitally, but that many time bruises do not appear until a while after the assault. It was stated that the loss of MPD Officer cell phones was a great loss. Jana reported that at the MPD Chief's Advisory monthly meetings, a plan had been put together for organizations or neighborhoods to purchase cell phone for beat cops at \$40/month. She will bring information to the next Livability meeting.

To prosecute, the County needs the cooperation of a victim and their testimony, or an eye witness testimony or MPD arresting on the violation of a no-contact order.

OTHER ISSUES:

- Request for Jana to follow up on Loring Bike lane & Gateway timeline and report back
- Idea for a running path around the Park was brought up as something that would be of value to the community. Dave suggested sponsorship for this by Health or Running Clubs.
- Bob reported that Loring Park Director would love ideas from the community on programming. Call or email her at lspark@minneapolisiparks.org
- Bob also reported that the Loring Park budget was cut by 50%. He encouraged all to thank Laurie and park staff when they keep the building open in the evening for our meetings.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, JLM