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## Citizens for a Loring Park Community (CLPC)

Livability Committee Meeting

Wednesday, May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2006

6:30-8:30 pm

Loring Park Community Arts Center

**Attendance:** Becky Gullickson (301 Clifton), Mary Turner (1225 LaSalle), Neil Carlson (Summit House), Dick and Jan Sandberg (Loring Green East), Jana Metge (CLPC Coordinator), Luther Krueger (Minneapolis Police SAFE), Ryan Zilka (Minneapolis police intern), Diane Moe (Loring Park director), Bob Hansen (1355 Nicollet), John van Heel (110 West Grant), Arnold Walker (Loring Green East, Minneapolis Pops), Jay Lindgren (180 Degrees), Dan Miller (1300 Yale Place)

Diane Moe distributed homemade cookies—everyone had at least two.

### I. 6:30-6:35 p.m. Welcome, Introductions, Agenda Approval, Minutes—Dick Sandberg

Livability Chair Dick Sandberg led introductions of the 14 persons in attendance.

There were no changes to the agenda.

*Motion by Bob Hansen, seconded by John van Heel, to approve the minutes from February 15, 2006, March 29, 2006, and April 19, 2006.*

*Motion passed.*

### II. 6:35 p.m. Announcements:

- Jana distributed the agenda for the May 22, 2006 **Land Use** meeting. Items include an update on Eitel Hospital and a report from the Loring Hill Task Force.

- 1st Precinct **Open House** was held Wed., May 17th from 11:00-2:00 p.m. The event went well with good attendance.

- Minneapolis POPS Orchestra:** Arnold Walker (active with NRP at its inception) is on the board for the 57-year old Minneapolis Pops Orchestra. For first time, the Orchestra will perform a concert at Loring Park—**Friday, July 14, at 7 p.m.** They have previously performed at Lake Harriet during the summer months. See the schedule at [http://www.minneapolisparcs.org/documents/activities/2006Harriet\\_Concerts.pdf](http://www.minneapolisparcs.org/documents/activities/2006Harriet_Concerts.pdf) that includes the Orchestra's 16 summer concerts at Lake Harriet. The orchestra is working to expand its concerts to other parts of the city and has obtained a grant from the National Endowment for Arts for this purpose. The grant will pay one-half of the \$6,500 cost of the Loring Park concert. Jana and Diane will work to identify a sound person for the concert. The Orchestra would like help in attracting an audience for the Loring Park concert, including getting names for a mailing. CLPC cannot distribute names on its list but will help with a mailing. Jana offered to help distribute posters and information to local businesses and residential buildings. Mary suggested putting together a flyer in Russian for the VOA building. Jana will put Arnold in touch with the Loring Park Business Association that is meeting tomorrow (Terrance Hall, St. Thomas, 11:45 a.m., Michael McLaughlin). It was suggested that they consider ad sales in the concert program. The Orchestra is in the middle of its spring fundraiser to support its \$135,000 budget that pays for musicians, music rental, a concert manager, conductor, and programs. Direct your tax-deductible contribution to this 501(c)(3) arts organization to Melanie McCall (952-935-5814).

- Diane Moe reported that there will be many **Loring Park events** for children and adults in the park this summer. On Thursday, June 8, @ 6:30-8:30 p.m. there will be an ice cream social featuring the music of the Linden Hills Orchestra. Other Loring Park events include:

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- The GLBT Pride Festival--June 24-25;
- Summer music and movies--Monday evenings, July 17-August 21;
- The International Arbor Society Convention and Festival--July 29-30;
- National Nite Out—August 1 (see below for more detail); and,
- The Loring Arts Festival--the first weekend in August.

For a list of summer events and classes at Loring Park, visit the Loring Park Community Arts Center Building.

•John van Heel reported that May 29, 2006 marks the beginning of the expanded **Downtown Bus Fare Zone**. There will be extensive advertising by Met Council, including advertising at the Pride Festival. John will also work with Diane Moe to promote the zone at other Loring Park events. Mary suggested stuffing materials into the Downtown Journal. Neil noted that the map needs work if people are to understand the zone's boundaries.

•**National Nite Out** - 1st Tuesday in August 1, 2006. Mary Turner distributed a flyer for the event and described possible events. There will hopefully be a garden tour. There have been requests for a dog parade and Mary may arrange for pictures. There were some problems with the bike parade last year because participants wanted to go to their own night out festivities. There will be some arts activities and kids games—one idea was a screech-alarm throwing contest (there may be drawbacks). Mary asked for the committee to recommend possible donors for prizes. There is \$500 in the budget. There was discussion about requesting an appearance by the police horses and McGruff. Mary will get flyers to the committee in July.

### III. 6:45-7:15 p.m. Safe Summer Strategy - Luther Krueger/Community Crime Specialist

•**Safe City Initiative**—the flyer and full report are available on the City's Web site at <http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/news/20060503safecity.asp>. Strategies for the initiative include:

- An **immediate and efficient use of resources**. A \$4 million investment (a dollar-for-dollar match of \$2 million from the City of Minneapolis and \$2 million from the State). Results in citywide presence and visibility now.
- **Assign units to the geographic areas** targeted by the initiative.
- **Leverage** the Minneapolis Police **resources** by collaborating with other law enforcement and criminal justice partners, and **eliminate duplication** of efforts.
- **Assign a unit to every active gang in Minneapolis**, and **prevent retaliation** after homicides and assaults.
- **Juvenile Unit**. The number of juvenile suspects involved in robberies and other violent crime is increasing. The new Juvenile Unit will: focus on investigating and prosecuting crimes involving repeat offenders; coordinate citywide strategies; work with probation officers to enforce conditions of release; and get input from judges on how best to manage juvenile crime.
- **Target Loitering**. Identify those most likely to be involved in murders or assaults; arrest prostitutes and "Johns;" make probation visits; go after drug dealing; enforce the curfew.

•**New Leadership changes at the 1st Precinct**—Insp. Allen has been promoted to Deputy Chief of Patrol. His replacement is Lt. Harteau, who has a broad background, including experience in the bar district and the 1<sup>st</sup> Precinct was previously a SAFE officer. Her plans for personnel should increase staff productivity. She supports the previous structure of SAFE, including the SAFE officer. While a complete reversion to the earlier model is not likely, she may push for officer involvement in problem. This method is applied now with several officers from the directed patrol doing some

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innovative work in the Cedar-Riverside/Elliot Park area. The directed patrol work will continue with an almost seamless transition. There have been other staffing changes as a result of these promotions.

•**Downtown Safe Zone:** residents will notice the biggest presence in the Zone on Wednesdays-Saturday evenings with a mixture of staff from Minneapolis, transit, park, and county police). Another part of the program is the Summer Beat with investigators assigned to the Warehouse District (Thursday-Saturday, sometimes more often). Private security personnel will continue to show a presence outside their buildings on the street.

•**Any new Loring Park trends?** Luther reported good news: officers in this area have found that the well is dry, and that there is less loitering and cruising compared to previous years. The exception is 15<sup>th</sup> and Nicollet, a robbery with two arrests.

Neil believes that drug dealing calls should be given a higher priority. Jana said that in the 3<sup>rd</sup> precinct there was a meeting with 911 staff that led to improved 911 response—this should help calls throughout the city.

Luther said that in the 1<sup>st</sup> precinct the tags now have a sticker on the back that directs the offender to call restorative justice and that seem to be leading to more referrals. There is no easy way to get night court going even though it would be more efficient.

Dan said that someone is sleeping in the entryway of his building from 2 AM to early morning. Luther suggested downloading the offender's picture from the building's video camera and pasting his photo into the trespass warning form. Management could then trespass him for a year and it would no longer matter if he were willing to leave or not.

Dan also asked about continuing problems with low-level offenders—Jana offered to give him the study of misdemeanor crimes. She thinks that it is difficult to make low-level crimes an ongoing priority with the judges who seem to worry less about so-called victimless crimes. Also, Judge Burke has come close to declaring that the loitering law is unconstitutional and it would be helpful if it were so declared. Luther mentioned that some judges are willing to issue geographic restrictions. There have been some positives since Judge Weiland was appointed. For example, the bail release policy for misdemeanors has been helpful.

The police differ from the courts in terms of transparency. The police are transparent—arrest reports are available—but the courts do not have similar transparency that could help identify patterns in sentencing. The big step that they could take is to upgrade the system and make the system more transparent.

Luther feels that the community needs to get more involved and ask hard questions. The crime maps should be something that the community uses to accomplish community goals. Luther used to produce more detailed maps but stopped doing so because of a lack of community use. Check out the <http://www.chicagocrime.org/> Web site for an example of what maps should look like.

### V. 7:45-8:00 Restorative Justice –

Restorative Justice is requesting participants for an upcoming roundtable. If interested call 612-341-1645 or check the Web site at <http://www.rjca-inc.org/>.

### Meeting adjourned 8:20 p.m.

Future:

Nancy Page Program, People Incorporated, 245 South Clifton (Joan Bilinkoff). See <http://www.peopleincorporated.org/>

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180 Degrees—July or later with new director  
John Dejung and information about the 911 system