



CITIZENS FOR A LORING PARK COMMUNITY
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Monday, January 11th, 2021

Board members present: Gary Simpson, Terri Ashmore, Michael English, John Van Heel, Faical Rayani, Brian Thurn, Lee Frelich, and Jana Metge (CLPC Coordinator).

Board members absent: Chelsie St Peter called in reporting that she is working tonight

Guests: Joseph Finley (Resident) and MPD 1st Precinct Inspector Bill Peterson.

AGENDA

- I. Gary welcomed everyone & called the meeting to order at 6:35 pm.
 - II. January Agenda to be approved as amended. We will be approving the December Board Minutes tonite.
 - III. Approval of December Board Mins.
- Gary amended the agenda to move this action to follow Inspector Peterson.

Motion: To Approve January CLPC Board Agenda as amended. *Terri/Brian. M/S/C*
Unanimously approved.

Introductions were conducted.

IV. 6:45. Update & Conversation with Inspector Bill Peterson, 1st Precinct MPD.

Inspector Peterson introduced himself. He started with the Minneapolis Police Department at the age of 21 in Sept. 18th, 1995. He became an Officer at the age of 20.

He spent 10 years in the 3rd Precinct in the Phillips Neighborhood. In 2005 he spent 1 year and 14 months in Iraq. Upon return he spent 8 years in Special Operations as a supervisor. He received his BA from St Mary's University in 2013. He was then assigned to the Robbery Unit. Under Chief Harteau he was promoted to Lt and implemented the CIT program dept. wide.

CIT = Crisis Intervention Training.

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He was a Dog Watch (late night) supervisor.

As a Lt he was assigned to Downtown and in that role attended many Loring Park & DT Meetings. He was a regular attendee of the Nicollet Safety Coalition. He was then promoted to Inspector of the 1st Precinct and has served in this position 1 year, 4 mths

This weekend a window was broken out of the Lakes & Legends business. Upon investigation it appears that the window was shot out by a person driving by and shooting at another person on the sidewalk, hitting the business window. The window has been boarded but the shot is visible from the inside. There was a systems hold up in 911 reporting (more on this at the upcoming Nicollet Safety Coalition Meeting), so an Officer was sent down to Lakes & Legends to take the Report in person on Monday. LPM camera footage was invaluable. They are reviewing street cameras that may also have picked up information of value to the case. The person who was shot at did not contact the police. Investigation continues.

Graffiti is rampant not only in Loring Park but thruout Downtown. Lighting and cameras are very helpful in these investigations.

Greenway Liquor was burglarized Sunday night and the suspect was arrested hiding in a nearby dumpster with stolen liquor. He admitted to breaking in.

Car Jackings are occurring for the most part in 3rd & 5th Precinct, south of I 94. There are some upticks in Cedar Riverside area. They have recovered quite a few stolen vehicles.

A multi jurisdictional effort led to 41 arrests.

Downtown and 4th Precinct were able to keep their Community Response Team. There are no CRT teams in the 3rd, 5th, or 2nd Precinct. Inspector Peterson has helped 3rd & 5th Precinct with the 1st Precinct CRT Team.

A community response team is an invaluable asset to a Precinct. This is a team of Officers who can be directed to help with a protest or provide undercover detail on gun sales. The Inspector can assign to problem solve identified issues as car jackings, burglaries, gun sales, narcotic trafficking.

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They can be plain clothes Officers on an undercover detail or uniformed officer reaching out to crime victims and gathering information to aid with investigations. They solve issues. A group of Officers put on any problem to problem solve.

The Downtown CRT Team Set a 2020 goal to take 100 guns off the street. At year end they reported taking 166 guns off the street, sometimes in suburbs or surrounding communities, they go where the case leads them.

Crime Escalation on Oak Grove - Police have responded to several calls at 200 & 230 Oak Grove. 430 Oak Grove had a bicycle taken.

15 E Grant has been a priority focus and they have seen a drastic drop of calls. Joseph reported still seeing people late night on Grant and a lot of inebriated individuals.

Intervention in low level crimes is challenging. Many policies have changed and don't focus on this early intervention.

Additionally the Police Force is down 200 Officers. With the numbers which remain the focus is on patrol and investigation.

A board member asked where 43rd & Bloomington was as his sister experienced an attempted car jacking there. 4 young people surrounded her car but she had doors locked. The Inspector stated that this is what they are seeing, groups of 3-4 young people together. Discussion on juvenile accountability and consequences. Car Thefts with no accountability have escalated now to car jackings with weapons. Now those juveniles are adults and same names are showing up. Discussions happening with HN County. Also, the MN Freedom Fund pays bail. On New Years Eve there were 40 arrests; spray paint, knives, guns, tools to slash tires all recovered. Bail set at \$100,000 and the MN Freedom Fund got them out.

These were felony level arrests.

Reports from Board attendees focused on SA. A continued increase in negative behavior - fights, aggressive panhandling, inebriation.

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COVID 19 - 1st Precinct has seen several Officers off for COVID either due to infection or exposure and required quarantine. A few have been hospitalized. No deaths due to COVID. Many have experienced only light symptoms.

Inspector closed by saying,

'will give the best we can with what we have to work with'.

He encouraged anyone with any concerns to let him know.

III. Continued from above.

Motion: Approval of December Board Minutes. *Brian/John. M/S/C.*

Unanimously approved.

V. Finance & Fundraising Reports

November 2020 Financial Report- Terri

Motion: Accept & Receive November 2020 Financial Reports

Brian/Michael. M/S/C. Unanimously approved.

• PPP Loan Forgiveness Update - Terri

Thursday, January 7th, 2021 electronic notice from the bank came in approving

PPP loan forgiveness.

• Round 2 of PPP Loans; potential for 2021

Terri is looking into a Round II application. Jana gathered financial details information from the bookkeeper and forwarded to Terri for review.

Motion: Jana & Terri will pursue applying for Payroll Protection Program Round II Funds.

Brian/Mark. M/S/C. Unanimously approved.

Terri reported that the 2021 CPP Contract Amendment has been signed and submitted to the City for processing. She asked for a motion to accept & receive these funds.

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Motion: Accept & Receive \$34,900 to extend existing CPP Contract thru June 30th, 2021.

Brian/John. M/S/C. Unanimously approved

- Contract Reimbursements receivables status -

Jana reported that the Great Streets Grant funding due came in last Friday & banked.

Jana reported that both NRP and CPP contract reimbursement requests were filed at year end; receipt expected by mid January.

The 2021 CPP contract extension was received, signed and submitted to city finance. The contract will be from January to June 30, 2021. The amount available for 6 months is \$35,900.

Then prior to July 2021, a new 18 month contract will be circulated to be signed for \$12,500 (half of the \$25,000 base pay approved in the 2021 new program guidelines). This \$12,500 for 2021 will be in addition to the \$35,900 in the extended CPP contract. CPP money will need to all be spent down by June 30th, 2021. Any remaining will not carry over. NRP contract continues with no changes for now.

Then, in April the NCR Department Goal is to have application materials available to apply for new neighborhood program funding for the next 18 months. I do not have a firm number of how much but approx. \$35,000 should be available yet for 2021 and approx \$72,000 for 2022. Again, a grant will need to be written based upon new program guidelines and an internal team (yet to be announced or identified) will review responses received and recommend funding levels. As we received more clarity, I will report to the board.

- Year End projected Financial Report -

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Jana reported that the NRP & CPP Advances were drawn down, \$13,700 PPP not yet forgiven and \$5,000 from the Great Streets Grant not yet received. Year end may reflect a loss in expense over income and a draw down from the Savings Account. We should still have approximately \$2,000 in savings.

2021 Year End Donations were:

- \$500 from 210 W Grant
- \$500 from 510 Groveland
- \$778.10 from GIVEMN/Individual Contributions

All banked by year end - December 2021.

2021 Fundraising Plan - Brian

Mothers' Day Flowers -

This would be a project with Bachman's to market flowers as a fundraiser. Brian said that this could be expanded to the Holidays and selling wreaths. A distribution date would be set up with buyers notified where and when to pick up flowers.

'Love Loring' Online Silent Auction - Brian requested that the Boardmembers solicit donations for the auction. Online formats will be explored. John asked about the role of Hannah, our website manager. Jana reported that Hannah may have done an online auction for Powerhorn Park and she will check in with her. Hannah would be responsible for setting it up; there should be adequate funding in approved 2021 budget but if not we will bring in a request to the board. A Workgroup of Chelsie, Terri, Jana, and Brian has been set up and will meet this week to firm up timeline and 'to do' list.

Fundraising Goal - Brian proposed a goal of \$40,000. The 2021 operating budget projects \$15,000 needed for the 2021 goal. But, not knowing how the new neighborhood program funding will flow, concern of cash flow was expressed. Any additional funding than needed for 2021 could be in savings for 2022 fiscal year if needed. The more donations we can bring in the better.

Board members commended Brian on his efforts and ideas!

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- *Christmas in July Fundraiser @ 300 Clifton* - Jana & Norman discussing, depends upon COVID status in Minnesota.

VI. CLPC Program Report

- *Nicollet Safety Coalition* - Jana reported that Inspector Peterson covered the work of the Safety Coalition for the past few months. The next meeting is this Thursday from 10:30 to noon and will be hosted by Trent at Wooddale Church @ Music Box.

- *A January Community Zoom Meeting is scheduled with Senator Scott Dibble & Rep Frank Hornstein for **Wed., January 20th*** from 6:30-7:30 pm. We will be developing a flyer and getting the information into the mid January Newsletter. We are looking for a ZOOM host for this meeting.

- *A January Community ZOOM meeting with Alex Duvall on their evolving ideas for *Spruce Place* has been set for **Mon., January 25th*** from 6:30-7:30 pm. This will be posted thru the newsletter, email & Facebook. The Basilica will be hosting this ZOOM Meeting. John reviewed the presentation to the Board and that this is a visioning project to see what could be possible with Spruce adjacent to Minneapolis College.

- 307 Oak Grove Redevelopment - Mark

- *CLPC Newsletter* will continue 2x/month until less COVID updates & people have the vaccine. There is a lot of frequent and new information, so a newsletter 2x/month gets this information on testing sites, vaccines, financial resources for residents and businesses out in a timely manner.

- *Set Date for the CLPC Annual Meeting.*

Motion: CLPC authorizes the Annual Meeting to be held in May.

Brian/John. M/S/C. Unanimously approved.

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Jana will coordinate with elected officials who will be speaking and their schedules to set a firm date. It will be prior to Memorial Day and most likely within the middle 2 weeks of the month. We expect this to still be a virtual meeting. Elections would also need to be online. She asked board members to think about program, what they'd like to present, how to promote hope after such a difficult year. Gary asked that this discussion be on the February Board agenda.

- Loring Park Playground & Tennis Courts
(No report at this time)

Possible New Project to address Nicollet Avenue Safety Concerns, sent by email to the board following the meeting on 1.12.2021:

One thing I wanted to report under program and didn't is a MNDOT Roadside Community Partnership project for the area around Rayito de Sol early childhood Center. There is a triangular land parcel against the freeway which MNDOT owns and it collects trash, loitering and allows for graffiti of her new siding facing the freeway. MNDOT has proposed this partnership. The same MNDOT staff person that works on the Hennepin project would be assigned to this one as well.

A MNDOT Partnership would provide for landscaping materials and requires a sponsor to take the request to the city who approves this partnership with the State.

I have organized a small workgroup to have an initial meeting with MNDOT and Luisa this month. It includes partners on Nicollet Ave, as well as Kevin from the Woman's Club and Terri since Rayito de Sol used to be at the Basilica, Dave from Friends, Nick from Loring Greenway Association & Minneapolis College, and John who is co chair to the HN Lyndale project. Luisa has said that she would maintain once landscaped. MNDOT has stated that the area is in a place where volunteers could assist with the planting.

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If the project seems workable it would be presented at February Nicollet Safety Coalition and then come to the Board as a recommendation to support it.

Presently, we are in the exploration and discussion phase as a solution to serious issues Luisa has raised to us regarding this area.

If it goes forward and MNDOT develops a Landscape Plan I would want Lee to review it as he did the HN plan and would invite Renee Allen, who is trained at crime prevention thru environmental design and is a master gardener.

VII. Check In

VIII. **Motion to Adjourn.** *Bubba/Mark M/S/C*

Unanimously approved.

Announcements as found on Agenda:

- *Discussion with Senator Scott Dibble and Rep. Frank Hornstein - ZOOM Meeting - Wednesday, January 20th from 6:30-7:30 pm*

- *Visioning Spruce Place by Minneapolis College - A ZOOM meeting is set up for Monday, January 25th from 6:30-7:30 pm*

- *The Minneapolis Charter Commission has formed a City Governance Committee. They will be looking and comparing different structures of Government. This past Monday there was a presentation from the City of Duluth. **On January 19th @ 4:30 pm there will be presentations from St Paul and Rochester.** These are online and open to the public for viewing live.*

Additionally, members of the Governance workgroup interviewed current city Dept heads, former Dept heads, and former Elected Officials. A report was written up and is available on the City Website/Charter page. I can download and forward to anyone interested.