



CITIZENS FOR A LORING PARK COMMUNITY
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Monday, September 13th, 2021 / Virtual

Board members present: Lee Frelich, Terri Ashmore, Faical Rayani, John Van Heel, Diane Connor, Norman Mathers, Mark Nelson, Gary Simpson, David Evinger, and Kate Olender. Jana Metge, CLPC Coordinator

I. Lee welcomed everyone & called the meeting to order at 6:40 pm.

II. The September 2021 Agenda was approved.

III. Program Update

Loring Park Tennis Courts - Gary presented.

In May, the MPRB Board approved of an agreement with DeLaSalle to assist in the renovation of the existing tennis courts. DeLaSalle will contract the court pavement installation as well as the color coating. MPRB's role is to provide general construction services (erosion control, demolition, grading, surveying), fencing, and concrete. Bids for MPRB-related work came in higher than anticipated. We are currently reviewing options to move the project forward this fall.

MPRB received bids and are able to move forward with the renovation of the existing tennis courts at Loring Park. MPRB In-house staff will be demolishing the fence beginning on Wednesday, September 1st (they may be mobilizing equipment on Tuesday already).

For the contracted work, a pre-construction meeting was held Thursday, September 2nd on site – Gary attended.

The plan is to get everything done this Fall except the color coating of the tennis court surface – that will be next spring. In the meantime the courts will have temporary striping on the black asphalt.

Loring Park Playground Update - Lee presented

Construction at the playground is planned for late September through the November. The resilient rubber surfacing which require warm overnight temps to cure properly will be completed in the spring.

Berger Fountain Task Force - Jana presented

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The Task Force is back up and running, but still virtual. Park staff attend. Task Force make up is 2 appointed by CLPC (Mary Bujold and Richard Anderson), 2 from Loring Greenway (Keith Ford and Pat Davies), 2 from Friends of Loring Park (Michael English and Dave Hile) and 2 At Large (Daniel Green). Mary Bujold is the chair. She is asking for additional members to the Task Force. Keith Ford is taking the lead on fundraising. He is also asking for volunteers to help with fundraising. Bill Levine, a Loring Park Resident has volunteered.

They are working on a Request for Proposal for a Project Manager and to update the MOU/ Memorandum of Understanding between CLPC, Friends of Loring Park, and MPRB.

Metro Transit Request for Meeting - Mark reported Information was distributed & a tentative Oct.Mtg. discussed/November if Oct does not work, but 3rd Monday vs 4th. A November meeting would be after the official October 31st comment period.

Metro Transit's METRO E Line project would like to preview a major update and get feedback. The E Line is a planned bus rapid transit (BRT) line in the Route 6 corridor along 4th Street / University, Hennepin, and France Avenues from the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis to the Southdale Transit Center in Edina. The project is fully funded and moving forward toward construction starting in 2024.

The week of Sept. 20th, Metro Transit will release a Draft Corridor Plan for public comment. They will be specifically seeking feedback on where stations would be located. The comment period will be open through October 31. Community feedback is important in helping Metro Transit continue to shape the future of this line. They are relying on virtual forums per the COVID 19 pandemic. They also plan to connect with Transit customers at key bus stops to ensure that they are hearing from as many voices as possible.

Jana suggested that the HN/Lyndale Coalition may want to host a meeting since this is about the corridor they are working on.

Jana reported that CLPC will:

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- Post the E Lind draft corridor plan in the newsletter, with the project website. Comments are accepted thru Oct. 31.
- Invite Metro Transit Out to present at a Community Conversation/Meeting.
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Loring Park Outreach Initiatives - Faical reported Extended hours at the Park to bring young professionals to the Park is not going to happen in 2021. They had a meeting with Julie Sandin. The building is not yet open per COVID Pandemic. They will pursue this idea for 2022. They are also proposing additional seating areas and more grills/picnic tables for community use. The one spot is not adequate for the numbers of people in the neighborhood who would like to grill and bring their families down. Jana is setting up a meeting with Superintendent Al Bangoura to discuss MPRB budget and Loring Park. Faical will be Coordinating to present these concepts at the Friends of Loring Park Board Meeting as well. Lee offered to help facilitate this.

307 Oak Grove - No Report at this time

October 25th Community Meeting -

Jana is working on a Forum per request of a resident for October to include:

- Michelle Gross/Communities United Against Police Brutality
- The Community Unity Mediation Team and hoping for 1 other speaker.

Nicollet Safety Coalition - Sept. Meeting key notes were circulated to the board electronically.

IV. Finance Reports - Terri reported.

July Financial Reports 2021 were emailed to all Board members.

Update on Employer Tax Credit program

Payroll Protection Final Report will be in by the End of the Year.

Motion: CLPC Accepts and Receives the July 2021 Financial Reports. M/S/C Terri/Mark Unanimously approved

Report: The Equity Application and the Neighborhood Network Application with budgets are due into the NCR Department by October 15th, 2021.

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Jana is working on the Neighborhood Network Application now. Policies and Bylaws have been sent to the NCR office. Hannah and Jana are putting together an electronic board manual. Presently, we have only a printed one. We are reviewing 2 new policies required by NCR - Language Access and Whistleblower. CLPC has a pro bono lawyer who is a resident and who has agreed to review all of our documents to ensure compliance to the non profit law.

V. 2022 Equity Funding & Community Engagement Plan

Terri and Jana worked on the Community Engagement strategy and Terri put it all into NCR's required template format. The draft was sent to NCR by Sept 9th per their request. We were told that we would have input from staff in a few weeks.

Terri & Jana walked thru the document and emphasized the key components to our plan. We did have a request at the Nicollet Safety Coalition to help organize Rental Property Owner Meetings to work specifically on some of the crime and safety issues we are seeing. Condo and Coop property managers could also be included.

In the submitted draft plan, we included the following goals and listed outcomes on the NCR Template. NCR reported that they would get back to us in a few weeks. The final document is due October 15th. Jana also circulated it to CM Goodman and Patrick to review.

Jana researches Neighborhood demographics to integrate into the NCR Template.

Key components of the 2022 Community Engagement Plan are:

- Young Professionals Outreach expanding use & programming of Loring Park. Facial, Kate, Mary Bujold, Julie Sandin/Park Director, and John have been involved with this piece.
- Nicollet Safety Coalition - Outreach to Businesses & Property Owners/ Resident contact to develop strategies to Enhance Safety & Reduce Crime. Connect, Network, and Build Partnerships

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- Implement an Annual Event Calendar; Boardmembers & Volunteers staff Information booths where neighborhood information is shared, new people are met, and Newsletter list is expanded.
- Continue organizing Community Meetings on pertinent City/County/Park/State issues. These topics are both driven from Resident/Business request as well as engagement assistance requested from the City/County/Park/State.
- MNDOT Community Roadside Assistance Partnership; partnering with MNDOT and Rayito de Sol on a landscaping project to be installed on MNDOT property adjacent to the Early Learning Center. This site is problematic and we are addressing it thru a Safety thru Environmental Design approach. A workgroup has been established and a Spring 2022 Community Planting Initiative will be organized.
- Communications; We will continue our monthly newsletter & Facebook page and continue to build & enhance our website.

VI. Administrative Report

- MNDOT Community Roadside Assistance project on Nicollet / Letter to City Council will come to the Transportation Committee this Fall for City Council approval. Following that landscaping materials will be ordered next Spring 2022 for a Community planting project.
- 2020 IRS 990 & Attorney General Charities Division Annual Report; all financial reports, program narrative, and board list has been submitted to our CPA. When a draft is complete, we will circulate it for board review before submitting.
- 21 Days of Peace & Wooddale church on Nicollet; Truce negotiated on Nicollet between gangs. 3 property owners contributed funding to support their work. They are reporting back to Community this coming Saturday, Sept 18th at Shiloh Church. Everyone is welcome.

VII. Announcements

- 21 Days of Peace; Report Back to Community on Saturday, Sept. 18th at noon @ Shiloh Baptist Church, Northside.

VIII. The meeting was Adjourned at 8:10 pm