

April 2002 PPERRIA Newsletter

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	<i>Editor's Note: To add any news or info to the next newsletter, please contact me at 623-3747 and either E-mail me at <pjwollum@hotmail.com></i>

or provide content on floppy disk. - Pam Wollum

Official Notice

All members are notified that the annual membership meeting of PPERRIA Inc. will
be held on

Monday, April 22, 2002

7:00 PM

at Prospect Park United Methodist Church

For the purpose of

Electing Members of the Board of Directors

And

Approving the 2002 - 2003 Budget

And

For an address by The Honorable Paul Zerby

Minneapolis Councilmember, 2nd Ward

This notice is in accordance with Minnesota Statutes 2000, sections 317A.431 and 317A.435

Decision	Vote on 2002-03 PPERRIA Board of Directors
Information	Council Member Paul Zerby will speak on Ward 2
Entertainment	'This Old House—and That Old House,' a slide show by Peter LaSha showing those houses that were already in the neighborhood at the turn of the century. Come and see if you know which ones they are!

Minutes from March 25th PPERRIA Meeting

The Prospect Park East River Improvement Association (PPERRIA) held its Membership/Board of Directors meeting on Monday, March 25, 2002, at 7:00 p.m. After Vice President and acting chair Steve Banks welcomed and greeted new members and visitors, the agenda was approved with minor modifications. The minutes of the February 25, 2002, PPERRIA Membership/BOD meeting were approved as corrected.

In the first order of business, Bill Kahn, chair of the Environment Committee, made a motion to ratify the Citizen's Call for a National Solution to Power Plant Pollution as printed in its entirety in the March PPERRIA newsletter, which was then seconded. Many neighborhood associations have already voted to ratify this amendment, and a discussion followed about the reduction of air pollutants. The motion was amended to have PPERRIA write its support of reduction of air emissions to the Minnesota congressional delegates, and the amended motion was approved.

Bill Seeley brought back the tabled motion from February which reads as follows: Resolved that PPERRIA appoint a Green Space Preservation Committee to evaluate existing green spaces (e.g., vacant parcels) owned by the City of Minneapolis within Prospect Park and other neighborhoods within the PPERRIA service area and make recommendations regarding City policy for the preservation, use and possible sale of such property for private development. The Green Space Preservation Committee should formulate "green space" protection and use policies, meet with the Minneapolis Park Board, MCDA, the Minneapolis Right of Way Department and other interested parties within the next six (6) months and recommend policies for PPERRIA to adopt. Motion was seconded and amended to omit name "Green Space Preservation Committee," with proviso that any newly formed committee should develop its own name. Seeley noted that there is a sewer line adjacent to the freeway wall and may affect the ability to build on the properties in question (221 and 228 Melbourne Ave.). He noted that desirable options may be to keep the space as it currently is (green space) or to develop single family housing on the buildable sites. Least desirable is to build anything larger than single-family housing on these oddly-shaped sites. Currently, there is a proposal to build housing on the 228 Melbourne triangle. The motion passed as amended.

NRP Block Club Coordinator and neighborhood cleanup coordinator David Kaar presented information about this year's neighborhood CleanSweep on Saturday, May 18th. Volunteers are needed to ride the garbage trucks, disseminate flyers to households and help with feeding volunteers. This year, the items to be taken include brush, household appliances and concrete, metal, etc. David hopes to be able to take such hazardous items as fluorescent fixtures and batteries, if possible. The cleanup goes from 9am-4pm.

Tom Kilton asked for volunteers to help with the 8th annual River Cleanup on Saturday, April 20 at East River Gorge Park. Mary Anne Page spoke on behalf of Southeast Seniors, which serves 8% of the Southeast residents ages 65 and older. Southeast Seniors needs neighborhood support and funding to continue its work. Florence Littman announced that the Ronald McDonald house will hold an open house celebration on April 13, 10am-1pm, to celebrate its recent renovation.

In an effort to demonstrate the new NRP Conflict of Interest Policy, Steve Cross described the apparent difficulties a neighborhood organization like PPERRIA has with such a policy. As required by NRP guidelines in presenting this policy, Steve noted that section NRP Conflict of Interest Policy section 9.1 has a possible conflict with PPERRIA bylaws. In effect, the NRP Conflict of Interest Policy doesn't allow officers to serve on a neighborhood board, yet PPERRIA's bylaws require that officers are also board members. Discussion ensued about the problem and possible conflict. Steve cited the provision of the NRP policy and explained the conflict. He noted that on most commercial corporations there might be some "inside directors" but that number is outweighed by the "outside directors." It would obviously be a conflict of interest if, for example, the 13 officers also constituted a 13-member board. There is a conflict because the board can't obviously supervise the officers if the two are one and the same. But PPERRIA has a 40-member board so the 13 officer/members' voices are diluted among all the other board members. There is still a check on the officers. Steve asked the chair for a waiver from the policy for this reason; Chair Steve Banks ruled that the waiver of the rule be allowed. Steve Cross then appealed the decision of the chair and asked for a division on the vote. On the appeal, the vote to sustain the chair was unanimous. Steve Banks announced that if anyone still contested the decision, he or she should protest to the NRP. There were 25 people signed in at the meeting plus a few more that did not sign in. The names are kept on a meeting roster and is available for examination or copying from Cheryl Vollhaber.

Staff member Jerry Stein reported on progress at Pratt Community School over the past year. In fall 2001, school district officials announced that Pratt would not grow to third grade next year as planned. However, in short order, the district reversed its decision as space was found for third grade within the existing building (without renovation needed). However, in order to grow the school to house 4th and 5th grades in the future, the former Loft space will need to be renovated at an estimated cost of about \$200,000. Since the district is required to cut \$31 million from its budget, chances of having the district complete the renovation are not realistic. Jerry noted that, over the years, NRP has contributed over \$400,000 to updating Pratt and bringing the school component back after 18 years, which has leveraged approximately \$2 million in private and district funding for the building. He noted that it is a small school, but at parent/teacher conferences in fall there was 100% participation, which is excellent (20% is considered good district-wide). The busing of children in the neighborhood, particularly from Glendale, to other schools was 31 buses prior to the opening in 2000 of Pratt School (K-1). This year, that number has been reduced to 21 buses, and by the time the school offers 4th and 5th grade, it is expected that the number of buses needed to take children out of the neighborhood will decline to single digits. Another key and unique component is the partnership with Tuttle School, which has a goal to become a K-8 school within a few years. The use of Tuttle staff and specialists has enabled the small school to have big-school programming; students from Pratt will be able to attend middle school at Tuttle when that is in place. Funds are needed for both renovation and access to the attic space in order to continue to house community meeting spaces in the building. A member suggested that there may be a source of funds in a reallocation of housing funds within the NRP plan. Another member noted that keeping the school and community education space intact keeps the neighborhood liveable.

In an update on the Unocal housing project, Dean Lund reported on a change to the plan required by TIF regulations. Since the project will require a TIF designation in order to clean up the site appropriately for residential use, the affordable housing component – 20% of the units must be affordable – is triggered. As part of the original plan, the developer planned to contribute \$800,000 (or the value of 20% of the property) to a city-wide affordable housing fund managed by the MCDA. Under the new law, some of the units must actually be onsite. Since the MCDA has no program developed to accommodate for-sale housing (all its affordable housing programs involve rental property), both the developer and MCDA will work to create 5 condo-style units of affordable housing onsite and 5 rental units offsite. Steve Ficker urged that the offsite units be contained in Ward Two. The onsite units will be smaller, 1 bedroom units, that sell for \$170,000. The housing funds will enable the MCDA to offer a loan of \$80,000 per unit, bringing the sale price to \$90,000 for each of those five units. The total number of housing units – both townhomes and condo-style units – on the site is now 52, with 14 total units in the condo building. There has been no decision made yet about a possible truck route for hauling away the contaminated soil and replacing it with clean soil for the project. The estimated start date for the cleanup is early June and expected to take 7-17 weeks to complete that phase of the project. Florence Littman asked members to consider a possible name for the project and reported that three of the 10 units on the Bedford Townhomes project have been pre-sold.

Steve Banks asked for volunteers to serve on a planning committee for the Light Rail Transit line. Florence gave a zoning report, noting that the decision about whether to change the zoning in pedestrian overlay districts is going to the Zoning and Planning Committee and then the City Council in short order. In other zoning news, a house at 156 Bedford is unable to be rehabilitated and will be razed, which is in accordance with neighbors' wishes. The new structure will be similar in style to the current one.

In new business, Neil Simon asked that PPERRIA purchase a microphone so speakers can be heard more clearly. Vice President Karen Murdock reported that PPERRIA has an agreement with the church to use their cordless microphone for meetings, but it was unavailable that night. She will check on this for the annual meeting. A motion was made to adjourn the meeting and passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Gottlieb

Comments and/or corrections to 80 Arthur Avenue SE or susansmg@aol.com

Annual Neighborhood Cleanup Moved to Fall 2002

The annual Neighborhood CleanSweep, which has been scheduled in May the past several years, has been re-scheduled for Saturday, September 28, 2002 this year, because of conflicting schedules within the Minneapolis Public Works Department. Operation Neighborhood CleanSweep is a city-wide program in which neighborhoods request dates for the use of city garbage trucks to haul away rubbish, concrete, metal, and brush. In the past, Prospect Park has scheduled this anticipated cleanup event in the spring. However, this year, the city Public Works Department had more applicants for spring dates; thus, the cleanup committee has opted for fall. Look for more specific information in July and August PPERRIA newsletters.

Ronald McDonald House Grand Opening—Public Invitation

Thank you for helping us spread the word to PPERRIA members regarding our open house on Saturday April 13 to celebrate our expansion. Members of the community are invited to stop by 621 Oak Street SE anytime between 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. A brief program featuring a Native American Blessing will be held at 11:00 a.m.

Marcy-Holmes Requests PPERRIA's Help to Curb Underage Drinking Problem

The Livability Committee of the Marcy-Holmes neighborhood organization has asked PPERRIA to join all Southeast neighborhoods and the University of Minnesota to join together to deal with the ongoing problems of underage drinking and resulting unlawful behavior. The committee seeks representatives from all Southeast Minneapolis neighborhoods and the University to actively promote a course of combined efforts by the courts, police, and University to deal with problems that arise. If you are interested in serving as a representative on this task force from Prospect Park, please contact Steve Cross at 376-0094.

PPERRIA to Honor Volunteers

Longtime Southeast resident Patti O'Brien volunteered two years ago to help with the labeling and mailing of the monthly PPERRIA newsletter. Patti offered to take this often thankless job, because she can rarely attend meetings, but wanted to contribute to the organization in a tangible way.

Accountant Patti Harper, who lives on Orlin Avenue, helped PPERRIA out for eight months prior to Lois Willand becoming Treasurer. Patti helped keep financial records straight and bills paid as we made a transition in treasurer positions. Join us at the annual meeting as we honor these special PPERRIA volunteers.

PPERRIA Committees and Chairs/Contacts

Community Events	Lois Willand	378-9697
East River Gorge Park	Tom Kilton	339-3064
Education & Human Services	Susan Larson-Fleming	331-8819
Environment	Bill Kahn	378-5287
Executive	Steve Cross	376-0094
History Project	Florence Littman	331-2970
Housing Redevelopment	Florence Littman Dean Lund	331-2970 378-2486
Housing Improvement	Andy Mickel	331-8396
Landscape	Mary Alice Kopf	379-7436
Membership	Dan Patenaude	378-3038
Tower Hill Park	Susan Thrash	379-4587
Transportation	Eleanor Montgomery	378-2714
Zoning & Plan Review	Florence Littman	331-2970

NRP Contractor Activities - Susan Gottlieb

Reporting period: March 9, 2002 through April 5, 2002. Major activities and results:

Supported NRP Phase I Evaluation Team in reallocation and evaluation efforts	Maintained the neighborhood calendar & supported production of PPERRIA newsletter		
Supported various PPERRIA committees and the Executive Committee	Worked with housing redevelopment committee to address developments on NRP Plan targeted sites		
Worked to ensure ongoing viability of neighborhood school in Pratt Community Center	Worked to plan and implement neighborhood cleanup for spring, 2002		
Worked to revitalize block club network in neighborhood	Worked with Landscape Committee/Garden Club on Buckthorn removal project		
Expense for contractors' services:	Hours billed	Total expense	% of total contractor Budget
Totals 3/9/02 to 4/5/02	20.0	\$320.00	.2%
Totals 10/18/95 to 3/8/02	7,688.85	\$131,021.88*	88.7%
Totals 10/18/95 to 4/5/02	7,708.85	\$131,341.88*	89.0%

Total revised PPERRIA NRP budget for independent contractor services = \$147,646.15; **\$16,304.27** remains.

* These revised amounts reflect additional funds reallocated to this strategy 11/27/00, 2/27/01, and 6/25/01 and adds in funds from Livability B.2.b. Landscaping Projects – Buckthorn removal program, from Safety & Security A.1. Block club coordination, and from Education A.1.a. Neighborhood learning center – Education committee worker.

NOTE: Contractors include Susan Gottlieb, whose contract expires 4/30/03, Paula Denman, whose contract expires 12/31/02, David Kaar, whose contract expires 8/31/02 and Jerry Stein, whose contract expires 6/15/02.

Prospect Park East River Road Neighborhood Calendar

To include items in PPERRIA calendar, contact Susan Gottlieb at 331-2104 by **Friday, May 3, 2002.**

Date and Time	Event and Location	Whom to contact
Tuesday, 7:00 pm April 16	(Tentative) Zoning & Planning Committee meeting at Prospect Park United Methodist Church	Florence Littman 331-2970
Thursday, 6-8 pm April 18	Pratt Council meeting at Pratt Community Center	Mary Alice Kopf 379-7436
Saturday, 9am-12pm April 20	River Gorge Park cleanup – meet at River Gorge Park for light breakfast and cleanup	Tom Kilton 339-3064
Saturday, 9am-3pm April 20	Annual Prospect Park Coop Nursery School Rummage and Bake Sale at Prospect Park United Methodist Church, 22 Orlin Ave. SE – drop off items Friday, April 19 at 4:00 pm	Janet Hey 331-5002
Monday, 7:00 pm April 22	Annual PPERRIA Membership and BOD meeting at Prospect Park United Methodist Church	Steve Cross 376-0094
Wednesday, 6:30-8:30 pm April 24	Garden Club meeting at 2021 Franklin Ave. SE	Vera Marshall 378-3972
Wednesday, 7:30 pm May 1	Luxton Park Council meeting at Luxton Park Building	Jim Oberly 379-3397
Saturday, 7:00 pm May 4	Pops & Pie Fundraiser at Park United Methodist Church, FREE community pasta dinner at 5:30 and 6:15, call church for reservations	Becky Sechrist 378-2380
Monday, 7:00 pm May 6	PPERRIA Executive Committee meeting at Prospect Park United Methodist Church	Steve Banks 321-9064
Wednesday, 5:00 pm May 8	Glendale Resident Organization (GRO) meeting at 92 St. Mary's Ave.	Shirley Davis 342-1952

Day and Time	Recurring Community Events	Whom to contact
Monday-Friday 10am-4pm	Food, toys, art supplies, seasonal clothing, necessities can be donated to Care & Share Food Shelf, 92 St. Mary's Ave.	Ginia Klamecki 331-7056
Tuesdays, 4 – 5pm 1 st Monday 11:15-12:15 3 rd Monday 2:30-3:15pm 4 th Tuesday 3:15-3:45pm	Bookmobile at Luxton Park Bookmobile at Pratt Community Center Bookmobile at Univ. Good Samaritan Center	Susan Larson-Fleming 331-8819
Tuesdays 7:00 pm	Community Choir at PPUMC	Curt Oliver 331-3713

Prospect Park East River Road Improvement Association

Annual Membership Application

- Eligibility** Persons 18 or over whose permanent and primary residence is in the Prospect Park East River Road Neighborhood may join PPERRIA. Persons residing at a single address should apply together.
- Cost** An annual donation by members pays operational costs. (It costs approximately a dollar to print and mail a copy of the newsletter, and there are about 11 issues per year, so a \$10-\$12 donation would cover your receiving the newsletter.) It is suggested that you contribute whatever you find that membership is worth to you. A single contribution includes all residents living at one street address. We are a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, so all contributions are tax deductible.
- Duration** Membership is effective upon submission of this form to the Executive Committee at its next meeting. It is effective through the next annual meeting on the fourth Monday in April each year.
- What next?** Please send the application and any contribution, payable to 'PPERRIA,' to:

PPERRIA Membership
Pratt Community Center
66 Malcolm Avenue Southeast
Minneapolis MN 55414

Please check which areas you are especially interested in:

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Business & Jobs | <input type="checkbox"/> History Project | <input type="checkbox"/> Safety and Security |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community Choir | <input type="checkbox"/> Housing Improvement | <input type="checkbox"/> Sound Walls |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community Events | <input type="checkbox"/> Housing Re-development | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Education & Human Services | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscaping & Garden Club | <input type="checkbox"/> Zoning and Site Plan Review |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Environment | <input type="checkbox"/> Parks | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ |

As a volunteer organization, it is especially helpful if we know the specific skills you may have to offer to the organization. Please check any skills you'd be willing to occasionally offer to PPERRIA:

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Accountant | <input type="checkbox"/> Editor | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Designer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architect | <input type="checkbox"/> Government Relations | <input type="checkbox"/> Printer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Attorney | <input type="checkbox"/> Journalist | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Sector Experience |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art and Design | <input type="checkbox"/> Lobbying | <input type="checkbox"/> Teacher |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Construction | <input type="checkbox"/> Management | <input type="checkbox"/> Volunteer Coordinator |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Data Processing | <input type="checkbox"/> Meeting Planner | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ |

PPERRIA Web Site: <http://tcfreenet.org/org/pperria/>

Prospect Park East River Road
Improvement Association, Inc.
66 SE Malcolm Avenue
Minneapolis, MN 55414
612/331-2970 (voice mail)

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