

PPERRIA News – January 2012

Newsletter of the Prospect Park East River Road Improvement Association



PPERRIA Board / Membership Meeting

Monday, January 23rd

7:00 – 9:00 pm

**Prospect Park United Methodist Church
Corner of Orlin and Malcolm Avenues S.E.**

Come early for treats and talk – 6:30 to 7:00 pm.

*If you have special needs requiring accommodation, contact
Joyce Barta at 612-859-4960, or bartajm@yahoo.com.
We will make every attempt to meet that need.*

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JANUARY AGENDA:

- Home security concerns
- Committee reports
- Marriage amendment of the state constitution

Your current PPERRIA officers:

President: Dick Poppele – 378-9242.....dick@umn.edu
V. President: Christina Larson – 651-329-2784...larsonchristina@gmail.com
Secretary: Karen Murdock – 340-1338.....murdock1212@gmail.com
Treasurer: Dick Kain – 379-4253.....kain@ece.umn.edu

Visit the PPERRIA Office, at the corner of Arthur and University Avenues

Hours are Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, 9 am to 4 pm

Come in and browse the wall exhibits showing the current Master Plan layouts

(If you have questions or want further details – call project manager Brian Golberg at 612.710.2860)

Notes from the President

Skin in the Game

Happy New Year! And we wish you health and prosperity. PPERRIA is off to a good start in that direction. Here's a brief update.

After a decade-long process, we are closing on our goal of being listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Changes in administration at the State Preservation office, and delays in having our application updated, contributed to recent setbacks. But we have now entered an agreement with our contractor Hess Roise to finish the application in time for a decision this spring. We expect our application to be forwarded to the U.S. Department of Interior before the end of the year, where we anticipate its approval.

Central corridor LRT construction has ceased for the winter, to resume in mid-March. However, with mild weather into January, continued utility work on University Avenue causes ongoing nuisances.

The first stages of planning and lobbying for new development along the LRT line are now complete, particularly around the Prospect Park Station.

The first stages of planning and lobbying for new development along the LRT line are now complete, particularly around the Prospect Park Station. Proper development, here, should complement our neighborhood and help draw a desirable mix of future residents to our part of Southeast.

As I have mentioned previously, this vital pre-development process was carried out by "Prospect Park 2020," the PPERRIA group set in motion last spring by a grant from the Funders Collaborative. This has been a time-consuming process, engaging several PPERRIA members almost full time. But, as we reported at an Open House last December, the results are encouraging: Preferred developers are

interested in the project area, and the Textile Center is planning a major expansion with other arts organizations to become an arts destination for the metropolitan area. Details are being posted on the website, ProspectPark2020.org.

We were fortunate in having a fund reserve with which to help kick-start this effort. PPERRIA's upfront \$5000 (for the scale model of the area) was instrumental in winning additional funding from the Funders Collaborative, Hennepin County, and area businesses. Our current reserves, however, may be too modest to meet future challenges so easily.

It is important that neighborhood residents have a stake in these efforts; both by advocating for the neighborhood vision, and by donating volunteer time or money. It's called having "skin-in-the-game." It carries weight with funders, developers, and government entities. It can be a big factor in realizing our shared vision for Prospect Park. The current PPERRIA LRT initiative is being noticed; it is opening doors that can help make the vision a reality. But we cannot stop just with completion of reports being written on the first grant period. Our efforts must be sustained since there are still many elements in play that could go awry. To that end, Prospect Park 2020 will be seeking added grant support to maintain this momentum.

Clearly, PPERRIA played a primary role in all of this. And, though it was fortunate that we had the funds to get things started, I think it is important that PPERRIA continue to position itself to be ready to step in where cases like this can have such an important impact on the neighborhood. To do that, we need to increase our reserve fund. Such a fund would allow us to step up in a timely manner when needed: 1) maybe to prevent undesirable development, 2) maybe to intervene on behalf of Pratt, 3) maybe to start a needed-but-yet-unseen program. With the NRP no longer around to provide this kind of aid, we are obliged to generate our own resources.

The new city program at the Neighborhood and Community Relations Department, grants each

neighborhood funds for local engagement. For PPERRIA, this is currently about \$40,000.

So, you ask, why the need to raise money through contributions?

The \$40,000 from the City is, indeed, a lot of money for a volunteer organization. However, those funds are not assured for future years. Costs to-date of developing implementation plans for the Prospect Park station area approach \$100,000, and that effort is not yet complete. It is, in fact, just beginning to pay off with friendly developers now purchasing land and working with our ProspectPark2020 team to realize the neighborhood dream.

Two, recent PPERRIA fund-raising efforts were most encouraging. The GiveMN campaign, hastily

put together in November, attracted 34 donors who gave a total of \$2200 to PPERRIA. And a year-end appeal for tax-deductible contributions has so far resulted in over 50 member-donations totaling over \$2600. At this point in our fiscal year – which started May 1, 2011 – over 115 PPERRIA members have contributed nearly \$7000!

These donations are a clear expression of support that complements the many volunteer hours by PPERRIA members and friends. To build on this expression of support, the PPERRIA Development Committee is planning a capital campaign for 2012 to establish a healthy reserve fund for our future. You will hear much more about these plans as they develop.

.....Dick Poppele

PPERRIA Meeting Minutes for November 28, 2011, Prospect Park United Methodist Church

HIGHLIGHTS:

- **Revisions to May minutes rejected**
- **Budget for fiscal year revised**
- **Neighborhood Revitalization Program ends December 31**
- **New bicycle repair shop in Stadium Village**

The monthly meeting of the Prospect Park-East River Road Improvement Association was called to order by President Dick Poppele at 7:04 PM. He thanked Tamara Johnson for providing refreshments for the meeting. There were no new neighborhood residents or guests in attendance.

The agenda was approved as published.

Steve Ficker proposed extensive modifications to the October 24 minutes, to replace these two revisions to the minutes of the May meeting:

1. Approval of the charges of the committees was not unanimous. There was one nay vote.
2. A separate Board of Directors vote was not taken on the charges to the committees.

Stu Anderson said that Steve F. was attempting to provide a transcript of the meeting but that such extensive minutes were not necessary. Steve F. said he felt that PPERRIA meetings exhibited a pattern of trying to prevent people “from talking about the real issues” and that procedures were underhanded. A vote was taken on adopting the Ficker proposals; this failed with two votes in favor and all others opposed. A separate vote of the Board of Directors was taken on the issue, with all Board members voting to reject the proposed amendments except one Board member, who abstained. This can be considered a vote of the full Board of Directors, a quorum being present.

Karen Murdock said that Steve Cross had emailed her a proposed minor change to the October minutes to make it clear that, although he is doing contract work for the Membership/Communications committee, he is not the chairman of that committee. This change was approved by a vote of the membership. The amended minutes of the October meeting were adopted with one “nay” vote. A separate vote of the Board of Directors was taken on the issue, with all Board members voting to adopt the amended minutes except one Board member, who abstained. This can be considered a vote of the full Board of Directors, a quorum being present.

The Treasurer’s report, passed out to the members by Dick Kain, was approved, with one nay vote. Dick K. pointed out that “consultants” do not get “salaries” per se but are paid for their time. The PPERRIA balance of Community Participation Plan funds is negative at the moment; however, these funds will be reimbursed by the City of Minneapolis.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Dick Poppele announced that the Light Rail Transit station of the coming Light Rail Transit train will be officially called “Prospect Park” and not “29th Avenue.” Phil Anderson, the PP representative for the District Councils Collaborative, said that the DCC has asked for additional time for neighborhoods in Saint Paul to request name changes in their stations. Lyndsey Wollschlager said that four station names have been changed in St. Paul, 3 of those near the state capitol building.
- “Give to the Max” day for charitable organizations across Minnesota, was November 16. PPERRRIA received donations from 28 people, for a total of \$1485. It is still better for those who wish to donate to PPERRRIA to send checks directly to the Treasurer, Dick Kain, since GIVEMN takes a cut of 2.8% of funds donated on Give to the Max Day.
- The special election to replace Cam Gordon in the State Senate will be held on December 6. A forum for candidates for the position will be held the evening before, 6:30 PM at Van Cleve Park.
- Dick Gilyard of the Planning Committee announced that the Metropolitan Design Center at the U of M would present its latest plans for the university neighborhood, including Prospect Park, at a meeting on Tuesday, December 13 at 5:15 in Ralph Rapson Hall at the U of M. The meeting will concentrate on plans for open space and for use of the riverbank. Ignacio San Martin will ask for input from neighbors, so residents of Prospect Park are urged to attend. Email Dick (rgilyard.architect@earthlink.net), who will arrange carpools.

REPORT FROM ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

Christina Larson presented a revised PPERRRIA budget for the remainder of the fiscal year. Budget categories had to be changed to reflect those used in the Community Participation Program of the city of Minneapolis. For example, all contract staff are now part of the category entitled “Communication and Outreach.” All CPP money must be spent before the end of the fiscal year. Christina asked the chairpersons of the various PPERRRIA committees to estimate their expenses. The Master Plan committee asked for additional funds to produce a document summarizing their plan and to hire a consultant to study the Franklin Avenue/East River Road intersection. The proposed revisions to the budget were approved unanimously. This can be considered a Board vote, a quorum being present.

FEATURED LOCAL BUSINESS: HUB CYCLE

Ben Ericksen of the Hub Bicycle Co-op said that this full-service bicycle shop has been open two months in its new location in Stadium Village. It is located at 401 Southeast Oak Street (Oak and Delaware) in the U of M parking ramp. Hours of operation are 11-7 Monday through Friday, 10-6 on Saturday, noon to 6 on Sunday. The business caters primarily to the U of M students, staff and faculty but is open to the general public. During “open shop” hours (5 to 7 PM on Tuesdays and Wednesdays) Hub Cycle offers access to bike repair tools and the expertise of the staffers.

REPORT FROM CAM GORDON

Cam Gordon, Second Ward City Councilman, encouraged Prospect Parkers to vote in the special election on December 6 to replace State Senator Larry Pogemiller. He said that budget cuts will lead to some layoffs in city staff. The police department will try to retain crime prevention specialists like Nick Juarez. Dick Poppele pointed out that the Strategic Compliance Program, in which the police department participated, succeeded in reducing 911 and 311 calls around the U of M and therefore saved the city money. Gail Hughes said she was pleased that Cam is opposed to public funding for a new Vikings stadium. Cam said that City Council had no say in the matter of funding for the Twins stadium. He said that the proposal to fund the Vikings stadium by opening a casino on Block E does not fit the vision he has for downtown. Tom Kilton asked what the net cost would be if the Vikings were to leave Minnesota. Cam said he did not know, but the loss of the Vikings would lead to a loss of jobs at the Metrodome. Dick P. asked about the status of the house at 70 Melbourne, which suffered a fire earlier in the year. Cam said the owner did not appeal the demolition order, but he is trying to get ahold of the owner and see if a buyer might come forward with money to rehabilitate the old house.

NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION PROGRAM ENDING

Dick Poppele reported that the old NRP program, which was established back in the early 1990s, is ending on December 31. Prospect Park will still be able to spend approximately \$52,000 for remodeling the Pratt playground from “NRP I” funds and \$13,000 from “NRP II” funds to pay Joyce Barta and to produce the monthly newsletter.

REPORT: SOUTHEAST MINNEAPOLIS COUNCIL ON LEARNING

Susan Gottlieb, a co-president of the Southeast Minneapolis Council on Learning (SEMCOL) said her organization has been around for a number of years and has been funded primarily through NRP, CURA, and private grants. SEMCOL has members from the three neighborhoods in Southeast Minneapolis: Prospect Park, Marcy-Holmes, and Southeast Como.

The “Southeast Reads” initiative gets students free books (passed out in PP at Fire & Ice and the Ice Cream Social). The “Learning Dreams” program helps the neighborhood to identify students at risk and their parents to achieve their dreams (for example, the dream of a recent immigrant to this country might simply be to learn to drive a car). Recently, the group helped create a mobile unit, informally called the “Un-Settlement House,” for play and learning that helps to engage and attract kids and adults. A “Learning Carnival” was held at Van Cleve Park in September. This included robotics, calligraphy, hip-hop music, glass-blowing, pottery making, book give-away, and the Exploradome (mobile planetarium) as a sampling. PPERRIA must approve the Prospect Park representatives to SEMCOL. Those nominated were Susan Gottlieb, Susan Larson-Fleming, Jackie Kydd-Fidelman, and David Galle. This slate was approved unanimously. A vote was taken and the slate of candidates was approved. The vote was unanimous and can be considered a vote of the Board, a quorum being present. President Dick Poppele will write a letter to SEMCOL approving these representatives from PP.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Membership-Communications Committee – Betts Zerby reported that 37 people have agreed to serve as block club leaders. Jim Widder is continuing his outreach efforts to the business community. Elizabeth Miller has asked to be relieved of her duties to reach out to landlords and tenants, as her hours working for the church have been increased. Lois Willand is temporarily out of commission as the e-list chief, as she recovers from surgery. John Wike and Paula Denman will run the e-list in Lois’s absence.

Zoning Committee – Dick Brownlee reported that Cam Gordon met with a combined meeting of the Master Plan and Zoning Committees on November 14. Several concerns were brought up including recent changes in city leadership (Jason Wittenberg is the interim head of planning), parking, ways to get better dialogue with the city planning staff, and design principles. The next Zoning meeting will be December 6, 7 PM at the PPERRIA office.

Master Plan Committee/Transit Committee – Dick Gilyard and John DeWitt gave an update on the “Prospect Park 2020” project. The Boeser property (north of the old Kemp’s property) has a buyer interested in acquiring the site. A key issue is finding developers who can knit together the various parcels of property north of University Avenue. The Textile Center is partnering with Cornerstone Developers, the U of M College of Design, and the American Crafts Council in going after a large “Art Place” grant. The Met Council has agreed to pay for half the cost of a new traffic light at Arthur and University Avenues, to allow for parking on the north side of University for those using the Textile Center. Hennepin County has agreed to pay another 25% of the cost of this traffic light. However, the city of Minneapolis is still opposed to putting in a traffic light here.

The old 19th century train sheds on the Harris property on 30th Avenue north of the U of M Transitway are in danger of falling down from neglect. It is hoped that some “stabilization money” can be found to shore up these historic sheds until a reuse can be found for them.

David Coats asked if there was any hope of straightening out the Bedford/University intersection while all the construction work on the Light Rail Transit line proceeds. Cam G. said that some land swapping would have to be involved in any such effort and but that Mayor Rybak was in favor of such a project. John D. said that the funding would depend upon whether the huge Central Corridor project would be completed on time and under budget. Some “contingency funds” would be released if time and money goals are met.

An Open House will be held Saturday, December 10 from 8:30 to 11 AM at Prospect Park United Methodist Church to update neighbors on what is going on around the LRT and the area around the Prospect Park LRT station.

Karen Murdock showed a map of streetcar lines in the Twin Cities in the 1930s. These lines extended from South Stillwater all the way out to Lake Minnetonka. Karen remarked that it was a pity that we got rid of such a splendid system of public transportation, only to rebuild another system at great cost in the 21st century.

The “construction season” for the LRT line will end on November 30 and pick up again in March.

Organizational Development Committee – Rob Nordin said that we have a great “marketing opportunity” here in Prospect Park. He hopes to encourage more residents, and especially PPERRIA Board members, to donate to PPERRIA. Contributions to PPERRIA are fully deductible on income tax forms. A direct-mail appeal will be sent out soon to neighborhood residents. Dick Poppele said it would be a good thing if PPERRIA were to have a “reserve fund” of about \$50,000 so that the organization could deal immediately with issues that might arise, rather than having to raise money after pressings issues face the neighborhood. He said that contributions to PPERRIA are “a way of investing in the neighborhood.” Small contributions can also “leverage” large amounts of money; a contribution of \$5000 from PPERRIA was crucial in getting a \$60,000 grant from the Funders Collaborative, since it showed that the neighborhood was engaged and willing to participate in the process of planning for the upcoming light rail line.

Historic District Committee – Dick P. reported (on behalf of Bob Roscoe) that we continue to work on getting a “conservation district” ordinance passed in the city of Minneapolis. This would be a new type of historic preservation for the city and will require a new ordinance. Greg D’Onofrio of the College of Design of the U of M is supporting the effort.

There will be no meeting of the Board of Directors of PPERRIA in December.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Murdock, PPERRIA Secretary

HAPPENINGS AT PRATT

PRATT COMMUNITY EDUCATION CLASSES:

Winter Session starts the week of January 30th.

Classes include creative arts, dance, fitness, health, languages, writing, and more. Most classes are held at Pratt School, 66 Malcolm Ave. SE. We also co-sponsor a cooking class and a travelogue at Van Cleve Park, 901-15th Ave. SE.

You may register by phone, mail, walk-in, or online.

For more information call us at 612.668.1100, or visit www.mplscommunityed.com.

Come join the community of lifelong learners at Pratt Community Education!

.....Jan Thurn

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK:

For families who may be just moving into the Pratt attendance area –

We have openings in our grades 1 & 3 classrooms. Should you have any questions, or if you would like to learn more about Pratt, visit our website at <http://pratt.mpls.k12.mn.us>, email me at anne.wade@mpls.k12.mn.us

or leave a message at 612.668.1122

Great News!

Pratt is collaborating with the *Center for Nurturing and Growth* to bring behavior support to students and their families. The Center for Nurturing and Growth is a new clinical program available to all Pratt students and families, with an emphasis on meeting the particular needs of East African families. For more information, please contact Eric Ziegler, School Social Worker at 612.668.1119.

Editorial: Sound wall parity

It's now some fifty years past when the alignment of Highway I-94 through Prospect Park was settled fact. It was a bitter pill, followed immediately by thoughts of how we could mitigate this insult to our wellbeing. Noisy construction was followed by the constant and growing drone of traffic and tire noise from the new roadway.

The National Highway Transportation Act of the 1950s was all about building roads. Sound abatement – and details such as future maintenance and upkeep – was not in it. But by the time I-94 was built here, noise abatement was our primary concern.

The local heroes who fought the initial I-94 battle in the 1950s and 60s lost the war, but had a profound affect on how Mn/DOT approached subsequent dealings, especially in urban areas. (After all, our local leader in the fray, the late John Jameson, would go on to serve a term as State Highway Commissioner.) So with rising sound levels, once more volunteers geared up to convince the state that, when you are running freeways through an urban setting, a fenced-in, built roadway is just the beginning. Noise abatement must be integral to the project.

Part of the process was door-to-door canvassing of property owners to get the required number to agree to a sound wall. One of my assignments was East River Terrace, between Seymour and Cecil Street. I remember getting only positive responses from the people I spoke with. The initial section of wall went

up on the north side of the freeway, from Franklin Avenue to the Saint Paul line. One immediate effect was added road noise bouncing off the new wall onto the residents of East River Terrace; the very folks who had so willingly signed my petition. It was late in 2011 before the companion wall was built on the south side of I-94 giving them some relief. During those intervening 40 years, I felt constant pangs of guilt at innocently misleading them.

There were other trade-offs. For example: the folks who lived in the “Lippincott” and “Willey” houses on the bluff at the south end of Bedford Street regained some of the quiet they'd enjoyed pre I-94. But now the sound wall blocked their scenic overlook of the Mississippi gorge and south Minneapolis.

Today, after lengthy testing and deliberation, the last units of noise wall are filling in along our section of I-94. But even as they go in, our neighborhood e-list lights up with comments ranging from aesthetics, to material and design, and to decrying the increase in road noise reflected into previously-quiet living spaces. We can assume, too, that for everyone who speaks up, many others are suffering in so-called silence.

We are seeking redress. But, whatever the eventual resolution (or not) of perceived problems, all we can say for sure is that there will be trade-offs. And, once again, Mn/DOT has a chance to rue the day they tangled with the residents of Prospect Park.

.....John Holmquist

<http://pperr.org>

Have you visited our PPERRIA Website lately? We benefit from the work of some very bright volunteers, led by our venerable WebMaster Andy Mickel. While on the subject, the Website could use more photos. Andy says: Submit them on CDs, flashdrives, or other device amenable to electronic transfer.

PPERRIA SCHEDULE OF NEIGHBORHOOD EVENTS

(Formerly known as “the PPERRIA Neighborhood Calendar”)

To include items in the PPERRIA schedule, contact Joyce Barta by **Wed, Feb. 1st** at bartajm@yahoo.com or 612-859-4960

Communications Committee meeting: Thursdays, January 26th and February 23rd, 7pm. Prospect Park United Methodist Church – Call Lois Willand at 378-9697.

PPERRIA Board of Directors & Membership meeting: Mondays, January 23rd and February 27th, 7pm, Prospect Park United Methodist Church – Call Dick Poppele at 378-9242.

Administration Committee: Thursdays, February 2nd, and March 1st, 7pm, PPERRIA Office, 2950 University – Call Christina Larson at 651-329-2784.

Organizational Development Committee (Tentative): Wednesdays, February 8th and March 7th, 7pm, PPERRIA office, 2950 University – Call Dick Poppele 378-9242.

PPERRIA Executive Committee meeting: Mondays, February 13th and March 12th, 7 pm. PPERRIA office, 2950 University – Call President Dick Poppele at 378-9242.

Garden Club Potluck meetings: Wednesday, January 25, 2012, 6:30 p.m. at Vera Marshall's house, 2019 Franklin Avenue, SE.

Glendale Residents Council meetings: Friday, January 28th, 3:30 pm. Luxton Park – Contact Henry Keshi, keshi@minn.net.

Zoning & Planning Committee meeting (Tentative): Tuesday, January 17th, 7pm. Prospect Park United Methodist Church, or PPERRIA office, 2950 University – Call Dick Brownlee at 339-2472.

November/December 2011 PPERRIA Staff Report

11/1/2011 – 12/31/2011

Staff hours for regular PPERRIA tasks from November 1 through December 31, 2011 totaled 48.5 hours for a cost of \$1164.00. This was paid out of budgeted PPERRIA funds. \$2220 remains.

“Do more than belong: participate.”*William Arthur Ward*

PPERRIA Standing Committees and Chairs

Administration	Christina Larson	larsonchristina@gmail.com	651-329-2784
Education & Human Services	Contact: Jerry Stein or Chuck Holtman	stein035@umn.edu Holtman@smithpartners.com	623-9404 331-1679
Executive	Dick Poppele	dick@umn.edu	378-9242
Historic District	Joe Ring	joering@tds.net	379-4587
*Community Events	Marybeth Luing Jan Kilton	mb.luing@gmail.com jkilton@comcast.net	507-581-0836 339 3064
*Community and River Gorge Cleanup	Tom Kilton	tom.kilton.b1cw@statefarm.com	339-3064
*History Project	Betts Zerby	ejzerby@yahoo.com	379-8095
*Landscape, Garden Club	Mary Alice Kopf	mollisk@usiwireless.com	379-7436
*Landscape Subcommittee: Tree Health Project	Paula Denman	pjdenman@comcast.net	338-1871
Master Planning	Dick Gilyard	rgilyard.architect@earthlink.net	362-8995
Membership and Communication	Betts Zerby, Co-chair Lois Willand, Co-chair	ejzerby@yahoo.com loiswilland@gmail.com	379-8095 378-9697
Organizational Development			
Transit	John DeWitt	jdewitt@comcast.net	338-1871
Zoning & Land Use	Dick Brownlee	dickbrownl@mac.com	339-2472

Other PPERRIA Committees and Task Groups

4 th Street	Julie Wallace	jwallace3@comcast.net	378-9429
Luxton Book Exchange	Meredith Poppele	mbpopp@comcast.net	378 9242
Motley Crew	Rebekah Lorence	rlorance@mm.com	331-2464
Prospect Park LRT Area Plan	Dick Gilyard John DeWitt Dick Poppele	rgilyard.architect@earthlink.net jdewitt@comcast.net dick@umn.edu	362-8995 338-1871 378-9242
<i>The following are not PPERRIA Committees, but they have PPERRIA representatives:</i>			
Stadium Area Advisory Group (SAAG)		Greg Bernstein, John Kari (Alt.)	
Southeast Minneapolis Committee on Learning (SEMCOL)		Susan Gottlieb	
District Councils Collaborative (DCC)		Phil Anderson	
Central Corridor Construction Communication Committee for University Avenue West		Julie Wallace	
University District Partnership Alliance		Dick Poppele, Dick Gilyard,	

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

We're on the Web!
See us at:
<http://pperr.org>

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



FYI: Marriage Amendment

On your election ballot in November will be a proposed amendment to the Minnesota Constitution defining marriage as a civil union between one man and one woman. Established law in Minnesota already requires this. The amendment – if passed – would embody the law in our state constitution.

The ramifications of the proposed amendment are many, not all of them well known. Our January board and membership meeting will include an agenda item to clarify and explain the issues.

And Remember:
What happens tomorrow is shaped by those who show up today