

PPERRIA News – May 2009

Newsletter of the Prospect Park East River Road Improvement Association



PPERRIA Board/Membership Meeting

Monday, May 18th

7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

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 bartajm@yahoo.com or 378-9268
We will make every attempt to meet that need.

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The May Meeting Agenda:

At our May meeting, the Board will propose some new or reorganized standing committees for approval. Each committee will have a Board member as a convener. The convener will hold an initial meeting some time in June to explain the committee charge and to select a chair.
Note – The chairs of standing committees are members of the Executive Committee, along with PPERRIA officers.

Also Please Note: The Neighborhood Revitalization Project (NRP) Phase 2 Plan did allocate funding in the amount of \$18,829 for PPERRIA administration. A motion has been made to release these funds, and the PPERRIA Board will vote on this motion at its June 2009 meeting. We publish this now because a 30-day notice is required for this action.

Notes from the President:

What a great turnout for the PPERRIA Annual Meeting! Posters rimmed the meeting hall illustrating many issues in our neighborhood. Besides viewing and discussing these, we elected five, new board members and 15 incumbents, all for 2-year terms. This, the first election under the new bylaws, calls for five PPERRIA officers: President, Vice President, Immediate Past President, Secretary and Treasurer. Three of these are new to holding office in PPERRIA:

- Dick Kain is our new PPERRIA Treasurer, letting Lois Willand step down after nine years of faithful service.
- Karen Murdock replaces Betts Zerby as Secretary, a position Betts held since 2004.
- Carla Urban, our new Vice President, is also new to the Board. And,
- Joe Ring is the Immediate Past President, since I remain as President.

The PPERRIA Executive Committee now consists of the officers and the chairs of the standing committees. At our next meeting, May 18, the Board will name and charge the standing committees for 2009/10. Our plan is to have each committee select its chair. We hope to have this new arrangement up and running with our new leadership by the June meeting.

Two issues highlighted at the Annual Meeting will require PPERRIA's attention in the coming weeks and months: One relates to the status of Prospect Park as a historic district. Another is the pending Central Corridor Light Rail Transit on University Avenue and its relevance to our historic district status.

Historic District Status – As you are probably aware, Prospect Park is applying for a place on the National Registry of Historic Places. We are now waiting for the Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) to complete the application and forward it to the U.S. Department of the Interior. With that process underway, we have what's called "interim protection," meaning that we are treated as if we are already designated.

This national protection gives Prospect Park a place at the table in mitigating certain issues that involve Federal funding, like the impact of the Central Corridor Light Rail for example. It does not, however cover city code issues. Therefore last fall we also applied for local (city) historic district designation when we witnessed the demolition of a contributing property on our national application. The local application affords us local "interim protection" that prevents such occurrences by requiring all construction and demolition permits to be routed through the city Historic Preservation Commission (HPC). This local interim period goes to September 2009, as the HPC studies our eligibility for local (or city) historic district designation. We will be learning more about this in the coming months.

Central Corridor LRT – The SHPO is a party to various mitigation agreements with the Metropolitan Council regarding any impact of the LRT on historic assets. As I noted, Prospect Park's national interim status brings the historic assets of our neighborhood to this discussion. A recent example is the ongoing conversation about plans for the LRT streetscape on SE University Avenue.

The SHPO has determined that the: "landscaped triangles at the intersections of several curvilinear streets including Malcolm and Clarence by University Avenue, are identified as important contributing features of the National Register-eligible Prospect Park Historic District." And that, "The landscaped triangles in the Prospect Park Historic District are historic, important, and contributing features to the district."

However, the Central Corridor Planning Office has determined that the new layout of University Avenue, to accommodate the light rail, will likely require redesigning the intersections at Malcolm and Clarence. Some of the plans under consideration were on display at the Annual Meeting. We will be discussing this issue in more detail at the June PPERRIA meeting.

Certainly, the landscaping along SE University Avenue – including the triangles at Malcolm and Clarence – helps define this neighborhood. Therefore, I believe the landscaping, the gardens and the boulders must be maintained in whatever streetscape is adopted. At the same time we need to consider pedestrian use on University Avenue and

the traffic patterns that would be encouraged by new designs. I am sure we can agree on solutions that respect the historic significance and beauty of the of the Tower Hill Park and adjacent areas, as well as the needs for traffic flow and pedestrian use.

.....Dick Poppele

**PPERRIA Membership and Board of Directors Meeting
Monday, April 27, 2009, 7:15 p.m. Prospect Park United Methodist Church**

1. President Dick Poppele called the meeting of the Association to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. **Announcements:**

Rick Jacobsen announced that a memorial fund has been established to place a street sign at Luxton Park between Williams Street and St. Mary's in honor of Dorothy Haynes Whittaker, who was active in the Glendale Housing Projects in the 1960's and 70's. Donations can be made at Wells Fargo Bank.

Tom Kilton announced that the River clean up day would be held on April ??, and passed a signup sheet for workers.

Peter LaSha announced the opening of a new frame shop on University Avenue upstairs over Sharrett's Liquor store.

3. A motion to approve the agenda was made by John Holmquist. Passed without noes.

4. A motion to approve the minutes, as amended by Dick Hendrickson, was made by Dick Kain. Approved without noes.

5. **Committee Reports:**

Executive Committee -NRP Funds: Dick Poppele reported on the status of NRP funds for the Prospect Park/East River Road Neighborhood. There are \$49, 664 unspent funds in NRP 1 (34,362 in Education and Human Services and \$15,302 in Business Jobs and Employment), and \$36,881 NRP II available uncontracted funds.

Education Committee: Susan Larson-Fleming outlined the proposal of the NRP Education Committee to release NRP funds for the redesign of the Pratt playground and moved for release of the funds. Passed without noes.

Livability: Joe Ring reported on the current status of the Section 106 Programmable Agreement for the Central Corridor Light Rail Transit Project. Joe provided a background explanation of the origins of Prospect Park's involvement in the project going back to the 1991 Midway Corridor LRT Resolution, through the actions of the neighborhood in obtaining listing of Tower Hill Park and the Tower Hill water tower on the National Register of Historic Places, the development of the Prospect Park Historic District study and neighborhood approval of the LRT development on University Avenue, the granting of consulting status to Prospect Park/East River Road Improvement Association, and eventually the development of a Programmatic Agreement Among the Federal Transit Administration, Metropolitan Council and the Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office Regarding the Construction of the Central Corridor Light Rail Transit Project between Minneapolis and St. Paul, MN. Joe went through the document and explained those portions pertaining to the PPERRIA area. He then moved to pass a resolution to direct the President of PPERRIA to sign the agreement. Richard Adams proposed adding in paragraph 8 of the stipulations "parking impacts", which was approved without noes. Joe will bring that back to the drafters. The resolution motion was passed on a Board Vote with 19 board members voting aye, and 1 board member voting nay.

Zoning: Florence Littman reported the approval of the Zoning Committee of a request for a variance for a garage at 68 Barton. She requested Board approval of the Zoning Committee's action, which passed without noes. She also suggested that the planners be invited to tour the neighborhood and see the topography and

the current development to increase their understanding of the continuous requests for variances from the zoning code.

Nominating Committee: Mary Alice Kopf presented the slate of nominees for the Board of Directors proposed by the nominating committee for the election at this year's annual meeting in April. The slate appears elsewhere in this newsletter. Nominated from the floor were Steve Banks and Rob Nordin.

6. **Future of PPERRIA:** Dick Poppele continued the discussion on the future of PPERRIA, and described the Committee structure of the organization. Discussion ensued on the issue of volunteer activity in the organization.

A motion to adjourn was made by Richard Adams and passed without noes.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Zerby

Secretary

Dick Poppele, President

Prospect Park East River Road Neighborhood Calendar

To include items in the PPERRIA calendar, contact Joyce Barta at bartajm@yahoo.com or 378-9268 by **Thursday, May 1st**.

Date and Time	Event and Location	Whom to contact
Wednesday, 5:00 pm May 13	Glendale Resident Organization (GRO) meeting at 92 St. Mary's Ave.	Latrishia Collins 342-1952
Monday, 4:00 pm - May 18 7:00 pm	Central Corridor LRT Station Art Concept Unveiling at The Textile Center 3000 University Ave SE	Jessica Hill 651-602-1840 jessica.hill@metc.state.mn.us
Monday, 7:00 pm - May 18 9:00 pm	PPERRIA Board of Directors & Membership Meeting at Prospect Park United Methodist Church. Come at 6:30 for refreshments and conversation.	Dick Poppele 378-9242
Tuesday, 7:00 pm May 19	(Tentative) Zoning & Planning Committee meeting at Prospect Park United Methodist Church.	Florence Littman 331-2970
Thursday, 7:00 - May 21 8:30 pm	Pratt Council meeting at Pratt.	Mary Alice Kopf 379-7436 Pratt Office 668-1122
Wednesday, 6:30 pm - May 27 8:30 pm	Garden Club meeting at the home of Katie Ibes and Tim Schnabel, 112 Arthur Av SE.	Kent Petterson 332-1821 Katie Ibes 991-1155
Friday 5:30 pm - May 29 8:30 pm	Pratt Ice Cream Social at Pratt. Food, games, and fun for the whole family. Silent Auction to benefit Pratt. The only chance all year to climb the tower!	Deb Clark 668-1108 Pratt Office 668-1122
Monday, 7:00 pm - June 8 9:00 pm	PPERRIA Executive Committee meeting at Prospect Park United Methodist Church.	Dick Poppele 378-9242
Wednesday, 5:00 pm June 10	Glendale Resident Organization (GRO) meeting at 92 St. Mary's Ave.	Latrishia Collins 342-1952
Tuesday, 7:30 pm? June 16	Community Concert at Pratt featuring Claudia Schmidt.	
Monday, 7:00 pm - June 22 9:00 pm	PPERRIA Board of Directors & Membership Meeting at Prospect Park United Methodist Church. Come at 6:30 for refreshments and conversation.	Dick Poppele 378-9242
Wednesday, 6:30 pm - June 24 8:30 pm	Garden Club meeting at the home of Pam Harris, 120 Orlin Av SE	Kent Petterson 332-1821 Pam Harris 331-6626

PPERRIA Standing Committees and Chairs

Education & Human Services	Susan Larson-Fleming	flemings@usfamily.net	331-8819
Executive	Dick Poppele	dick@umn.edu	378-9242
Finance	Tony Garmers	tggarmers@msn.com	378-2656
Housing	Roger Kiemele	kiemele@earthlink.net	331-5106
Livability (Subcommittees listed below, designated by *)	Joe Ring	jring@visi.com	379-4587
*Community Events	Gratia Reynolds	grandmagratia@yahoo.com	331-5312
*Community and River Gorge Cleanup	Tom Kilton	tom@tomkilton.com	339-3064
*Environment	Dean Abrahamson	deanabra@umn.edu	623-9449
*History Project	Betts Zerby	ejzerby@yahoo.com	379-8095
*Landscape, Garden Club	Mary Alice Kopf	mollisk@earthlink.net	379-7436
*Landscape Subcommittee: Tree Health Project	Paula Denman	pjdenman@mn.rr.com	338-1871
Membership	Julie Wallace	jwallace3@comcast.net	378-9429
Personnel	Susan Larson-Fleming	flemings@usfamily.net	331-8819
Planning	Dick Gilyard	rgilyard.architect@earthlink.net	362-8995
Transit	John DeWitt	jdewitt@comcast.net	338-1871
Zoning & Land Use	Florence Littman Phil Anderson	littm005@umn.edu phil.ann.anderson@gmail.com	331-2970

Other PPERRIA Committees and Task Forces

4 th Street	Julie Wallace	jwallace3@comcast.net	378-9429
Luxton Book Exchange	Dean Abrahamson	deanabra@umn.edu	623-9449
Motley Crew	Rebakah Lorence	rlorance@mm.com	331-2464
Nominating Committee	Andy Mickel	andym@pperr.net	331-8396

The following are not PPERRIA Committees, but they have PPERRIA representatives:

Stadium Area Advisory Group (SAAG)	Dean Abrahamson, Florence Littman
Southeast Minneapolis Committee on Learning (SEMCOL)	Susan Larson Fleming, David Galle, Jakki Kydd-Fidelman, Susan Gottlieb
Southeast Minneapolis Economic Development Committee (SEMI)	Dean Lund, Julie Wallace, John Kari
District Councils Collaborative (DCC)	Phil Anderson
University District Partnership Alliance	Dick Poppele, Dick Gilyard

May 2009 PPERRIA Staff Report 4/6/09 – 5/2/09 This month, the contractor's services were paid by PPERRIA using Citizen Participation funds. Staff hours from April 9 through May 2, 2009 totaled 30.0 for a cost of \$744. Total Citizen Participation funds available for 2009: \$2000. \$596 remains.

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>

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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

FYI:

- **Friday May 29th – Pratt Ice Cream Social – Friday May 29th**
- **Fall Cleanup: Saturday September 26. Get your exercise outdoors and make new friends in the company of good neighbors. Contact Tom Kilton at tom@tomkilton.com, or call 339-3064.**
- **Want to play a part in the events of your neighborhood? See the May agenda (cover page) and volunteer now for a PPERRIA committee!**

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