

PPERRIA News – May 2011

Newsletter of the Prospect Park East River Road Improvement Association



PPERRIA Board / Membership Meeting

Monday May 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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WHAT'S AHEAD – MAY AGENDA:

- An update on the PPERRIA Strategic Plan
- The budget for 2011/12
- Committee Reports

*It's the beginning of our operational year
Be part of the planning for the rest of 2011 and beyond*

Your current PPERRIA officers:

President: Dick Poppele – 378-9242
dick@umn.edu

Vice-President: Christina Larson – 624-5462
larsonchristina@gmail.com

Secretary: Karen Murdock – 340-1338
murdock1212@gmail.com

Treasurer: Dick Kain – 379-4253
kain@ece.umn.edu

Notes from the President

With a successful Annual Meeting on April 25th, we begin the 111th year of this organization (founded 1901). Welcome to the new Board members and thank you all for your confidence in returning the PPERRIA officers for another term. We always need younger residents to play a part in PPERRIA, so I happily note that Christina Larson is our new Vice President.

Membership – 380 households and businesses and nearly 600 individual members – must be at or near an all-time high. Kudos to the Membership Committee and Betts Zerby! And kudos to those PPERRIA members singled out at the annual meeting for their outstanding service (See Meeting Minutes).

Our May meeting – the first Board meeting following the Annual meeting – typically has a Board training component to inform us about the duties of the board of a non-profit corporation, and to remind us of our service to the neighborhood. Much of the focus is on the PPERRIA committees, the real engines of action where members and volunteers serve the neighborhood.

PPERRIA bylaws call for two permanent standing committees (Executive and Membership), but they also call for the board to establish such standing committees it deems necessary to promote the objectives of the corporation. While standing committees may have members who are not PPERRIA members, the chairs of the committees are to be nominated by the President from the members of the Board of Directors and appointed by the board. Note that the chairs are then members of the Executive Committee along with PPERRIA Officers.

Leading up to the Annual meeting, the board has developed a Strategic Plan to be adopted by the board at the May meeting. It is based on the neighborhood surveys we completed last fall (see my Notes in the Jan 2011 Newsletter). The proposed plan was discussed in terms of committee work plans at the Board Retreat last December, and further at the January 2011 Board / Membership meeting. Now, at the May meeting, we will establish and/or reestablish the Standing Committees that are needed to carry out the Strategic Plan. This is really a 3-5 year plan but I expect important components of it will begin immediately as various parts of the plan become the responsibility of one or more committees.

The proposed PPERRIA Strategic Plan has seven aspirations:

1. Work with city partners to assure that the Pratt Community School continues as a neighborhood elementary school and community center.
2. Maintain the integrity and character of the historic core neighborhood of Prospect Park.
3. Assure that increased residential density occurs primarily in development sites north of University Avenue and at the Franklin Avenue/E. River Blvd. junction.
4. Be proactive in resolving parking, transit-related and traffic-management issues in the neighborhood.
5. Continue employing the experience and expertise of Prospect Park residents to represent neighborhood interests to the rest of the world
6. Maintain and improve communications among residents
7. Build new memberships, especially younger residents.

I believe the stated tasks will be well covered by our Standing Committees (see the committee charges below that we adopted last May). Note, however, that we have three fewer committees since last May because the chairs of the Education, Housing and Livability Committees have resigned. The current committees and their charges are:

Historic District Committee – Identify and address issues related to the historic district and keep us informed. Represent PPERRIA to the city Historic Preservation Commission and the State Preservation Office, and maintain liaison with the appropriate committees. Current Chair: Joe Ring

Planning Committee. - Develop a master plan for the Prospect Park neighborhood to preserve and reinforce its intrinsic character, scale and historic architectural fabric while encouraging a proactive stance toward innovative development. Current Chair: Dick Gilyard

Zoning and Land Use Committee – Review zoning variances and proposed development projects. Represent PPERRIA interests on city Zoning, and Community Planning and Economic Development departments. Maintain liaison with appropriate committees. Current Co-Chairs: Florence Littman and Phil Anderson

Transit Committee – Monitor Light Rail Corridor and other infrastructure and service issues related to transit, vehicle, pedestrian and bicycle movement. Represent our interests to the appropriate transit-related public agencies. Maintain liaison with appropriate committees. Current Chair: John De Witt

Communications Committee – Help coordinate PPERRIA communications both within the neighborhood and with other entities (news media, University District Alliance, etc.). Keep our Website updated and help coordinate neighborhood bulletin boards. Current Chair: Lois Willand

Development Committee – Develop resources for PPERRIA including fund raising. Maintain liaison with the appropriate committees. Current Chair: Rob Nordin

Membership Committee – Maintain membership records. Recruit new members. Maintain liaison with appropriate committees. Chair: Betts Zerby

Administration Committee – Responsible to oversee

finances and personnel. Prepare annual budget. Develop Standard Operating Procedures that are in line with state law this year. Brief the new chairs that have financial responsibilities. Current Chair: Tony Garmers

Executive Committee – Manage the business of the corporation, receive reports of PPERRIA committees and set the agenda for the Board of Directors. Chaired by the President: Dick Poppele

To meet the aspirations of our proposed Strategic Plan we must reconstitute at least one committee – the Education Committee – for plan item 1. At the May meeting we may also make adjustments to the current committee roster and the committee charges. It all hinges on available volunteers, willing to take on committee chairmanships.

As always the success of our endeavors for this neighborhood depend heavily on your support and your willingness to join in the various committees in their 2011-12 work plans. They have accomplished a lot in recent years. They will do even more with your help.

.....Dick Poppele

PPERRIA Meeting Minutes April 25, 2011, Prospect Park United Methodist Church

HIGHLIGHTS:

- **Mayor of Minneapolis praises Prospect Park**
- **New Board members elected**
- **Prospect Parkers make wonderful ancestors**

The Annual Meeting of the Prospect Park-East River Road Improvement Association was called to order by President Dick Poppele at 7:11 PM. The meeting, normally held in the PP United Methodist Church, was held in the Profile Event Center at 27th and University. Food and drink were provided by the Center and a birthday cake for PPERRIA (our 110th birthday) by Judy Bratt. The formal meeting was preceded by an informal meet and greet session, with displays provided by many neighborhood organizations and by a few remarks by Hennepin County Commissioner Peter McLaughlin.

The agenda was approved. The minutes of the March meeting, printed in the newsletter, will be discussed at the May meeting.

Since PPERRIA was founded in the year 1901, this is probably the 109th annual meeting of this organization.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- R. T. Rybak, the mayor of Minneapolis, said that the job of city government was “to make sure we support the great work this neighborhood is doing.” He praised the many neighborhood leaders in PPERRIA and the 2nd Ward City Councilman, Cam Gordon. Prospect Park, said the mayor is “the most opinionated, and arguable the smartest” neighborhood in the city. Rybak said the number one issue he is currently working on is the city budget and property taxes. He said that his Policy Director, Peter Wagenius (who lives in Prospect Park) will report on this issue at next month’s PPERRIA meeting. Rybak said his second priority is public safety. He said that crime

in the city of Minneapolis is at a 27-year low. His third priority is education, although he pointed out that the School Board is independent of other agencies in the city and the mayor does not really have much say over what goes on in the schools. He said that the city's "kids are the key to our global competitiveness." More resources will be put into a summer job program for kids this year than in previous years. The mayor's fourth priority, he said, is "city building." Rybak said that city government should support "the exceptional work and thinking" that is going on in Prospect Park. He said that we have an opportunity "to remake our community" so that in the future it will not be so utterly dominated by cars. Rybak said his 5th priority was to make sure that the "research park" under development near the football stadium at the U of M becomes "part of the community, not walled off from the community." His 6th priority, said the mayor, is fixing potholes. He urged people to call 311 to report potholes. This will enable city staffers to put this information into a Geographical Information Systems map and fix the holes rapidly. The 311 system, said Rybak, "is about two-way government."

- Phyllis Kahn, representative from our district 59B in the Minnesota state legislature, said that she has more time on her hands than usual. Because there is a new Republican majority in the House, DFLers no longer chair any committees. The House is currently on recess for the Easter/Passover holidays. Phyllis said that the "311" telephone system in Minneapolis should be expanded into a metro-wide system.
- Cam Gordon, City Council member from Ward 2, said that his job is made much easier because of a neighborhood organization like PPERRIA. He joined the mayor in calling for people to make greater use of the "311" system." "It's not complaining," said Gordon. "It makes the city work better." Cam reported that the "urban agriculture plan" for the city is moving forward. This will enable people to grow commercial crops on land in Minneapolis.
- Dick Poppele thanked Patrick Kellis, the manager of Profile Center, for the splendid meeting space and food.
- Phil Anderson, the PP representative to the District Council Collaborative, provided cards which give the bearer discounts at University Avenue businesses during the construction of the Central Corridor LRT line.
- Julie Horns announced that she is in charge of the fundraiser for Pratt School at the Ice Cream Social this year. She is asking for donations of goods and services. If you have anything to offer for the silent auction, please call her at 378-2638.
- Susan Thrash said she has unearthed a 1906 letter from William Folwell encouraging the purchase of what became Tower Hill by the city of Minneapolis to "care for the future of those who are to live" in this part of the city.
- Julie Wallace announced that this Saturday, April 30, is "Architect Day." Residents can consult a local architect for free if they sign up in advance. The event will be held at the Bell Museum at the U of M.

REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Phil Anderson, chairman of the Nominating Committee, thanked his fellow committee members Tamara Johnson, Lindsey Wollschlager and Richard Adams. He said that the Board of Directors of PPERRIA consists of 40 individuals or couples. Twenty of these are elected each year to a 2-year term. He read off the names of nominees on the ballot and asked for nominations from the floor. Rod Nordin nominated his neighbors Greg Bernstein and Robin Schow of Arthur Avenue. Steve Ficker nominated himself.

Ballots were collected and the meeting recessed for a time to enable the ballots to be counted.

ELECTION RESULTS Elected to the PPERRIA Board of Directors for the term of 2011 to 2013:		
Greg Bernstein/Robin Schow	Dick Kain	Dan Peters
Dan Craigie	Henry Keshi	Dick and Meredith Poppele
Tony and Greta Garmers	Dean and Janet Lund	Ryan Sheppard
Dick Gilyard	Ann Munt	Rebecca Shockley
John Holmquist	Rob Nordin	Jerry and Margie Stein
Tamara Johnson	Jim Oberly	John and Wendy Wicks
	John Orrison	Lois Willand

FIRST ALTERNATIVE: Ken Hampton
 SECOND ALTERNATIVE: Steve Ficker

RECOGNITION FOR SERVICE

Karen Murdock started with a quote from the 2003 short novel *The Five People You Meet in Heaven* by Mitch Albom:

Things that happen before you are born still affect you. And people who come before your time affect you as well. We move through places every day that would never have been if not for those who came before us.

She pointed out that we, the present-day residents of Prospect Park, are the beneficiaries of our ancestors who created and maintained the neighborhood and the neighborhood association. Likewise, we who walk here today will be the “ancestors” that our descendants will have to thank or blame for the neighborhood they inherit.

A lot of people in Prospect Park are busy today being good “ancestors.”

Karen handed out certificates of appreciation to Julie Wallace, Tamara Johnson, Jim Widder, Carla Urban, Judy Bratt, John Holmquist, and Lois Willand. She handed out pots of flowers to the chairmen of the various PPERRIA committees:

ZONING: Florence Littman and Phil Anderson
TRANSIT: John DeWitt
PLANNING: Dick Gilyard
LIVABILITY: Carla Urban and Tom Kilton
HISTORIC DISTRICT: Joe Ring

EDUCATION: Susan Larson-Fleming
DEVELOPMENT & MEMBERSHIP: Rod Nordin and Betts Zerby
COMMUNICATIONS: Lois Willand
ADMINISTRATION: Tony Garmers

Florence Littman took the lectern and presented certificates of thanks to Karen Murdock and Mary Alice Kopf.

The membership meeting was adjourned at 9:05 PM.

A short Board of Directors meeting was held immediately after the membership meeting. The following officers of the corporation were elected on a white ballot:

PRESIDENT.....Dick Poppele VICE PRESIDENT.....Christina Larson
SECRETARY.....Karen Murdock TREASURER Dick Kain

The president, treasurer, and chairman of the Administration Committee (currently Tony Garmers) were given authority to sign checks for PPERRIA.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Murdock
PPERRIA Secretary

PPERRIA NEWS DELIVERY –

Our local bulk mail facility has moved to the suburbs making it unfeasible to continue with bulk-mail delivery. We’re now sending the newsletter as first-class mail. To keep costs down we’re appealing to more of you – if you are able and if you wish to – to accept electronic-only delivery.

You will always find it on our Website. And, you will always receive a print copy by mail if that is what you need or want. However, to opt solely for electronic delivery, contact Betts Zerby at ejzerby@yahoo.com.

.....the editor

<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 at bartajm@yahoo.com or 859-4960 by **Wednesday, June 8th***

Garden Club meetings: Wednesdays, May 25th and June 22nd, 6:30 to 8:30 pm.
At locations to be announced – Call Kent Petterson at 332-1821

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

Community Concert: Sunday, May 15th, 3:00 - 5:00 pm. Prospect Park United Methodist Church – Call Curt Oliver at 763-208-6556

Garden Walk and Plant Sale: Saturday, June 25th, 10:00 am - 3:00 pm. Self guided tour. Maps available at Plant Sale, Pratt School flag pole

Glendale Residents Council meetings: Fridays, May 27th and June 24th, 3:30 pm.
Luxton Park – Contact Henry Keshi, keshi@minn.net

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

Zoning & Planning Committee meeting (Tentative): Tuesday, June 7th, 7pm.
Prospect Park United Methodist Church – Call Florence Littman at 331-2970

PPERRIA Executive Committee meeting: Mondays, June 13th and July 11th, 7 pm.
Prospect Park United Methodist Church – President Dick Poppele 378-9242

Pratt Gardens Clean Up: Saturday, June 11, 10:00 am - 2:00 pm. Pratt Community School – Call 668-1100

Pratt Ice Cream Social: Friday, June 3rd, 5:30 - 8:30 pm. Pratt Community School – Call 668-1100

April 2011 PPERRIA Staff Report 4/1/2011 – 4/30/2011

Staff hours for regular PPERRIA tasks from March 1 through March 31, 2011 totaled 28.3 hours for a cost of \$684. This was paid out of NRP 2 funds. Contract C-25154 (11-1-07) between NRP and PPERRIA contained \$27,229 for Administration, of which \$20,000 was designated for Staff and \$7030.26 for other administrative costs. \$7445.40 remains for staff.

PPERRIA Standing Committees and Chairs

Administration	Tony Garmers	tgarmers@msn.com	378-2656
Communication	Lois Willand	loiswilland@gmail.com	378-9697
Development	Rob Nordin	nordin@macalester.edu	331-1766
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
Housing			
Livability (Subcommittees listed below, designated by *)			
*Community Events	Contact: Mary Alice Kopf	mollisk@earthlink.net	379-7436
*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@earthlink.net	379-7436
*Landscape Subcommittee: Tree Health Project	Paula Denman	pjdenman@comcast.net	338-1871
Membership	Betts Zerby	ejzerby@yahoo.com	379-8095
Planning	Dick Gilyard	rgilyard.architect@earthlink.net	362-8995
Transit	John DeWitt	jdewitt@comcast.net	338-1871
Zoning & Land Use	Florence Littman, Co-chair Phil Anderson, Co-chair	littm005@umn.edu phil.ann.anderson@gmail.com	331-2970

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
Nominating Committee	Phil Anderson	phil.ann.anderson@gmail.com	

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 Economic Development Committee (SEED)	Dean Lund, Julie Wallace, John Kari
District Councils Collaborative (DCC)	Phil Anderson
University District Partnership Alliance	Dick Poppele, Dick Gilyard

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

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:* Why do you do this? What's your story?**

**If you were to post a FaceBook page on the PPERRIA Website,
what would its narrative be?**

We're curious as to why or how you chose to join the improvement association. We'd like to publish these stories as material (and newsletter space) becomes available. Our interest is in a broad variety of members: from those who come to a meeting and can't possibly not speak up, to that mute-but-curious person who is always sitting at the back of the room. (Maybe they just want to be near the refreshment table.)

We'll start with the willing, but we expect a lot of people are just shy. In that case, we will look for you – with a soft-sell approach.

.....the editor

And Remember:

What happens tomorrow is shaped by those who show up today