

Community Building Committee  
Minutes  
April 14, 2021  
Susan Larson-Fleming, recorder

Listen, learn, ask and transform how we do community work

Attending: Jerry Stein, Susan Larson-Fleming, Lynn Von Korff, David Frank, Kaaha Kaahiye, Kyra Nygaard, Vera Marshall, Amy Kaminsky, Krystle D'Alencar, Ben Tuthill, Jenna Hoge

Welcome. Intro of all members to each other. Any additions to the agenda welcome at any time.

1. Renters subgroup: Ben and Jenna.

Renters from the 12 properties managed by Parallel Realty were contacted, information was gathered and a letter detailing grievances was sent to the owners. A letter also went to the owners from the co-chairs of Community Building committee as was voted on at the March meeting. The response to all the good work was positive, indicating a willingness by the properties' owner to work with tenants to correct problems with the properties. The management group hired by the owner of the properties was dismissed. Councilman Gordon and a representative from Regulatory services are scheduled to meet with Jenna and Ben concerning how to address the inadequate city assistance to renters. The city system is difficult to navigate. Resources and privilege should not dictate success.

2. Glendale Historic designation.

Lynn and Kaaha will attend SECIA land use meeting tonight to urge support for Glendale. Cedar Riverside has also expressed support. A.J. Awed, staff at Cedar-Riverside, presented to their board. The local representatives for the Sierra Club are also in favor and seeking support from the national organization. Documents detailing reasons for designation and answering questions that may be posed, have been created by Cam Gordon and by Charlene Roise. With documents completed, public advocacy can begin. Committee members will receive copies of these documents as well. Beltrami and Sheridan neighborhoods may also be contacted for their support.

3. LP Photo Squad

Kyra spoke about her photo class at Luxton Park, part of the restart of Learning Dreams.. She used this class for her final project at MCAD. The class met one time per week for 9 weeks and has now ended. Teens and pre teens living in Glendale each had 3 disposable cameras to document their lives. A photo book has been printed with support from Luxton Park. All students received a copy. A new session for the LP Photo Squad, using digital cameras is planned for this summer with date to be announced. Ismael from the Minneapolis Park Board/Luxton Park was instrumental in the class's success. He recruited participants and attended class alongside the students. Luxton now wants to contract with Kyra for the summer session.

4. Emergent Strategies

Krystal has agreed to facilitate a discussion for a sub group of interested readers. The thought is to meet every other month. First Zoom session is Saturday May 8 at 1pm. Details will be sent soon to committee members, and posted on the PPA calendar.

#### 5. Jackson project

A joint group comprised of Pratt PTO members, Pratt staff, and PPA has been meeting to plan the various components: playground renovation, Jackson memorial, traffic calming, possible play space at Tower Hill, and potential ongoing community learning activities. The memorial committee is in discussion with the local architectural firm 4mula to take the lead.. They have put together Rondo Plaza, and are the lead group working on a Philando Castile memorial. Krystal has been working on drawing together research. 4mula may have drawings of proposed designs by mid to late July. A decision making group, with by laws and stakeholders: neighborhood, school, Minneapolis Public Schools (property owner), the Jackson family, is being proposed. It is hoped that PPA will act as fiscal agent.

#### 6. Announcements

Lynn noted that Dan Marshall, local photographer, has completed his series of pandemic portraits, funded by the Prospect Park Coop Legacy Fund. Negotiations are ongoing with MNDOT to mount the images on the Freeway wall at the end of Melbourne, across from the community garden, for two weeks in late June.

#### 7. New Business

Lynn has done extensive additional work on a PPA communication plan, first suggested by Mary Britton. She will forward "PPA Communication Avenues" to Committee members for their input. the idea is for a working document that can be added to and amended .

Kaaha asked what PPARO is? The letters stand for the Prospect Park Anti Racism Organization, an informal coalition of neighbors. Members of this group organized the "Who Keeps Us Safe" series.

#### 8. Next meeting: May 19 at 4:30