

Minutes of Community Building 09/08/2021

Attending: David Frank, Kaaha Kaahiye, Amy Kaminsky, Jerry Stein, Lynn Von Korff

The minutes of 8/18/2021, as amended, were approved.

Glendale Update --Kaaha announced that a class action lawsuit is being filed against the city of Minneapolis, the MPHA, and Community Housing Resources. She detailed years of improper treatment of residents of public housing. The attorneys handling the suit are Nichols Kaster PLLP, Shoemaker & Shoemaker PLLC, and Larry McDonough. The city has 21 days to respond (starting 8/17).

From the press release :

The lawsuit alleges that the City of Minneapolis discriminated on the basis of "public assistance status" by failing to provide public housing tenants the inspection, licensing, maintenance, and related services that the City provides to tenants in privately-owned rental dwellings. Minneapolis Public Housing Authority and Community Housing Resources are also named defendants, with the lawsuit alleging that they breached the terms of their leases with tenants by failing to obtain licenses and inspections and respond to maintenance requests. The lawsuit goes on to assert consumer protection and housing law violations against all three defendants.

The full press release is here:

www.nka.com/news-and-articles/mpha-release.html

Later in the meeting she added that the push to get the city council to protect Glendale is on hold until after the election, when a city council more favorable to public housing might be in place.

Her other Glendale update is that next year there will be a big celebration in honor of Glendale's 70 years of existence.

Jackson Project -- The June motion on the Jackson project, which reads

The Community Building Committee recommends that the PPA board partner with the Pratt PTO board in urging the MPLS public schools to rename the playground at Pratt school after the Jackson family , and to create a memorial of the Jackson family at the playground.

was amended by adding the sentence

Further, we recommend that PPA match the Pratt PPO contribution by allocating \$10,000 for project design work from PPA's "Prospect Park Forward" funds.

This amended motion was approved unanimously by the committee. [Note: On 9/27/21, the PPA board approved this motion.]

Post Office – Amy reviewed the many problems residents are having with mail delivery. Part of the problem seems to be they are short of permanent staff and are using temporary employees on

many of the routes. Lynn said she was told by her carrier that our post office has 29 routes and 9 of them are staffed on an ad hoc basis. The carriers are under a lot of stress.

Next meeting, Thursday, Oct 7 (to avoid some member's conflict with Wednesdays)