Community Building
Minutes 2/2/23

Susan Larson-Fleming, recorder

Attending: Jerry Stein, Susan Larson-Fleming, David Frank, Lynn Von Korff

Joe Ring, Eric Amel met with Celeste Robinson, policy aide for Council person Wonsley, and Billy Menz, MPRB representative for NE and SE Minneapolis. Discussion centered on developing a MOU with the City of Minneapolis, The Minneapolis Park Board and the neighborhood on regular maintenance and upkeep of the Tower and the surrounding grounds. A facilities evaluation and any necessary repairs must be completed this spring if the Tower is to be included in Doors Open in May 2023. If participation is approved and if the Tower opens to the public in the future, PPA needs to add to liability insurance. Friends of Tower Hill Park hopes to have a general membership meeting sometime in early March.

Fundraising for a dedication event for the Jackson Family Playground at Pratt School, is proceeding. A Participation Engagement Fund grant, with the Pratt PTO, will be submitted to NCR. Other possibilities are an application to the Good Neighbor Fund and a request to the Minnesota Historical Society. Grant monies may be applied to research resulting in a plaque and additional signage on site; reproduction of a portrait of the Jackson family on the front porch of their home on Franklin Ave; website development; curriculum for school and community; lecture series. Not all will be ready for the naming ceremony but will stretch throughout the year. Members of the Jackson family are eager to come.

A job description for a position focusing on renters’ rights, has been approved by the PPA Board, with $5000 secured at this point. A hiring process will be identified before any action is taken.

Kyra reported to Jerry on her photo project to do Senior portrait packages for Glendale graduates. The project is now finished with 6 packages completed. Kyra is writing a final report. There is a possibility for a second year as interest has grown. Kyra also noted that Defend Glendale is seeking to hire a graphic designer for work on the history of Glendale exhibit.

Next meeting: March 2, 2023 at 4:30.