

Minutes of January 26, 1998 Meeting

The 1/26/98 Prospect Park East River Road Improvement Association Inc. (PPERRIA) Board/Membership/Neighborhood (BMN) meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM at the Prospect Park United Methodist Church by Susan Larson Fleming, president. A quorum was present. There were no additions to the agenda and item 16 was considered after item 2. Copies of the agenda were available at the meeting.

2. Motion passed without noes to accept the 10/27/97 and the 11/24/97 PPERRIA B/M/N minutes as published in the 1/98 PPERRIA Newsletter mailed to all PPERRIA members.

3. Nicole Magnam, Community Crime Prevention/SAFE (CCP/SAFE staff) and Gary Hein (CCP/SAFE officer) circulated crime reports as of 1/12/98 for the last month and for the entire year. Most reported crimes were of the "out of sight, out of mind" type; e.g., theft from auto, vandalism, burglary from dwelling and auto theft. Neighborhood residents can do something to reduce this type of crime. During the next six (6) months at the monthly PPERRIA B/M/N meetings, the CCP/SAFE unit will be talking about this type of crime. There were questions and comments about the process of "individuals making crime reports to the Minneapolis Police Department." Confusion if nothing else seems to be part of the current system, especially if one uses the phone. It was pointed out that it is very important that calls are made, as this also is the way the department determined trends, etc. A written report with an identification number is created by a call. Currently there is one police squad car that drives through Prospect Park, although Park Board and University police do respond to calls. Life threatening calls take precedence over individual property loss. The Minneapolis Police Department is implementing a "Code 4" policy that includes increased ticketing of minor offenses. This procedure has been successful in other cities in also reducing more serious crime. The neighborhood should explore how this policy may increase the neighborhoods "livability." Concern was expressed that the court system must be able to respond in a timely manner.

4. Eleanor Montgomery announced that there is to be a celebration acknowledging the retirement of June Shepherdson Barnhill on 2/1/98 at the Prospect Park United Methodist Church. June has been the long time lay "keeper of the church".

5. There is to be an open house for the Glendale Resident Organization on 2/4/98 at the Head Start building, 96 St. Mary SE.

6. The Third Annual Fire and Ice Festival will be held at Luxton Park, Williams and St. Mary, Saturday 2/7/98 starting at four PM.

7. Susan Larson Fleming requested that committee and project chairs prepare a one-page hand out concerning the past year and the coming year, to be available at the PPERRIA annual meeting on 4/27/98.

8. Lois Willand, Community Events Committee chair, indicated that the neighborhood seemed to enjoy the concerts, garden walk and sidewalk sale and the committee was planning to continue them. A "detailed" signup sheet for each event was circulated. If you have comments and/or are interested call her at 378-9697.

9. Mary Alice Kopf, Pratt Centennial Committee chair, announced the Pratt Centennial week of mid-September 1998, although Pratt was opened 9/18/98. Included will be a flag pole dedication, reunion, boot sale, school board meeting and the appearance of alumna Marilyn Belgum. Plus "much, much more." Neighborhood houses dating 1898 or earlier will be identified to give an idea what the neighborhood was like in 1898. Recommended was that there be "Pratt Parent" and "Pratt Staff" as well as "Pratt Student" buttons.

10. Susan Gottlieb announced the 50th year reunion for the Prospect Park Cooperative Nursery School housed at Prospect Park United Methodist Church since September 1949. The celebration will "coordinate" with the Pratt celebration. One of the things about a "coop" is that for a number of years there are no available records. If anyone has any memorabilia, please contact her at 331-2104.

11. Ann O'Loughlin, University of Minnesota staff, reviewed some of the results of a fall 1997 Architecture Design class project for University Avenue from the University to the city limits. Copies will be made available to concerned PPERRIA Committees. Another design class project will be about "land use" and its results should be available this summer. O'Loughlin is looking forward to other joint UM and PPERRIA projects. If you have comments, etc., contact her at 624-2855.

12. Motion, moved and seconded, passed without noes, with friendly amendment accepted: "That PPERRIA approve a request to modify the PPERRIA/NRP Home Improvement Committee Action Plan to reallocate up to \$100,000 of the

\$1,242,000 earmarked for housing development to help MCDA-FHA qualified buyers purchasing houses in the Motley district of Prospect Park East River Road (PPERR) neighborhood." MCDA administers subsidy of up to \$5,000 per house for down payments, closing costs and repairs, requiring that homeowner-occupants reside at least seven (7) years. Otherwise, graduated repayment of subsidy is required. Provided that such houses in Motley were built before 1940. Further provided, that such houses are being converted from rental to use by homeowner-occupants added amendment "this motion is to expire one year from the acceptance date of the next PPERRIA B/M/N meeting." Motion presented by Paul Scheurer, Housing Improvement Committee member who indicated that the 1940 or earlier date was selected as these houses are the ones that were originally built as owner-occupied homes and for the most part are now used as rental housing. There are similar programs operating in the Como and Seward neighborhoods. At best there may be one grant resulting from the sale of the University of Minnesota properties in the Motley neighborhood. The Motley Task Force is in the process of preparing their final report and there has been formed a Motley Implementation Committee, chaired by Mark Zarogosa, a lifetime and second generation resident of Motley. Several of the houses the University sold may be available for moving, call the PPERRIA phone at 331-8819 for information. A local church congregation is still interested in moving to the vacant church at Ontario and Essex SE now owned by the Dinnaken Corporation.

13. Motion, moved and seconded, passed without noes: "That PPERRIA allocate \$2,200 from the PPERRIA/NRP Contingency Fund for sound testing in the Bridal Veil Falls Neighborhood (west of I-94.)" Motion presented by Bill Kahn, PPERRIA/NRP Environmental Committee member, who indicated that the recently completed roadwork on I-94 has increased greatly the road noise that enters that neighborhood. The "latest" road noise readings did not include this area. The issue of road noise was included in the original PPERRIA/NRP Plan discussions but has become a more pressing issue. Those readings, along with the existing readings, will be used as a base for the committee's recommendations regarding road sound abatement. Originally the issue was part of the PPERRIA/NRP Transportation Committee Plan but as the issue developed, several "Sound Abatement Subcommittees" were formed, this along with the current "hold" status of the Transportation Committee and the need to do this "now" necessitated the use of contingency funds. It was recommended that the PPERRIA Executive Committee call a meeting of all concerned to get things "sorted out" and "up and running."

14. Florence Littman, Zoning Committee chair, reviewed the issues before the Zoning Committee. A parking nonconforming status has been lost for Frank Zaragosa at 325 Ontario SE and the issue is pending review by the city Zoning Committee. It looks as if the proposed student housing by Dunbar on the Electric Machinery site, 25th to 27th and University SE has been postponed until 1999. The Minneapolis City Council approved a special council permit last month for a new University YMCA building at 1801 University Avenue SE. See Jeanne Moses article in January 1998 Southeast Angle.

15. Susan Gottlieb, indicated that "bound" copies of an "1/26/98 draft" of the Prospect Park East River Road Neighborhood "Plan for the Year 2020" were available after the meeting. For information, contact her at 331-2104.

16. Sue Rhode, treasurer, circulated draft copies of the state audit of PPERRIA and PPERRIA/NRP from 5/95 to 4/97, fiscal and written records. This audit was a "learning experience" from 6/97 to 11/97. PPERRIA is in compliance with minor recommendations. The Executive Committee will address these. The State Auditor will send official copies of the audit to PPERRIA Board members.

17. Susan Gottlieb circulated the PPERRIA/NRP contractor report as of 1/9/98. Labor expenses for 12/6/97 to 1/9/98 were \$2,764. Total contract labor expenses were 54.7% (\$58,681) of the total labor budget of \$107,500.

18. Susan Larson Fleming announced that the bookmobile now makes a monthly stop at University Good Samaritan. There are now six (6) neighborhood stops: weekly at Luxton and monthly at Pratt and Good Samaritan. The Southeast Public Library is scheduled for expansion in 2002. The earlier approved elevator at Genesis II will be installed as soon as the cash is raised.

Respectfully submitted,
Daniel Patenaude, PPERRIA
Secretary

Comments and corrections to 117 Arthur Avenue SE or
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