Minutes of 1999-03-22 PPERRIA Meeting.

1. The 3/22/99 Prospect Park East River Road Improvement Association Inc. (PPERRIA) Board/Membership/Neighborhood (B/M/N) meeting was called to order by Alison Katagiri, PPERRIA President, at 7 PM at the Prospect Park United Methodist Church (Orlin/Malcolm SE). A quorum was present. An item regarding neighborhood sidewalk lighting was added to agenda item 8: Announcements, all listed announcements concern the sidewalk lighting project. Motion made, seconded and passed that the agenda available at the meeting and as amended be accepted.

2. Previous B/M/N meetings minutes will be available at future B/M/N meetings.

3. Nicole Magnan, Minneapolis Police Department, indicated there was a recent assault in the neighborhood and that information will be soon available. Due to a “system down,” crime map/statistics were not available, this also will be soon available. Now that it is open-window and -door time we are all reminded that unwanted individuals can enter through open/unlocked winders/doors. This is something we all can do to reduce crime in our neighborhood. Provided was information about the Minneapolis Police Department Second Precinct Advisory Council and the Citizens Academy for residents interested in the workings of the police department.

4. Jim Forsythe, Project Manager/Minneapolis Community Development Agency (MCDA), provided information about the current status of the Southeast Minneapolis Industrial (SEMI) developers on the site north of Fourth Street area. The Southeast neighborhoods have agreed to contribute to the cost of hiring consultants BRW who will be responsible for a five year development plan. From the start, the neighborhoods have been able to provide comments/concerns. Two projects have been constructed that attracted tenants. These projects have increased the tax collected by the city and also the number of jobs in the city. Projects are being built on privately owned land, not city owned. The tenants are from current businesses that are growing and need more space. The SEMI job goal is 1.5 jobs for each 1000 square feet of development. Due to the sale by Hubbard Broadcasting (KSTP) of their United States Satellite Broadcasting (USSB), the proposed development by KSTP of the Schnitzer and the trucking site is on hold. Concern was expressed about any antenna development regarding health and bird flyways. The future of the vacated portion of Territorial Road up to KSTP is unknown. There is talk of possible housing on the area. The impact of any light rail transit on the area is also unknown due to the pending status of any light rail development. There is no plan to reconstruct any of Bridal Vial pond or creek as open waterways. The water flow is from north to south. A great concern was expressed about the traffic from the industrial area using Malcolm and University avenues. The proposed Amoco Service station at the St. Anthony and 280 intersection is recommended for denial by all neighborhood and St. Paul agencies.

5. Florence Littman, Cochair PPERRIA Zoning Committee, reported that Brighton Development is in negotiation with UNOCAL, the owners of the Barber Oil site (Franklin and Thornton). Although UNOCAL has had discussions with PPERRIA about the site, it has become clear that UNOCAL does not intend to “deal” with PPERRIA. At present Brighton is developing plans for market rate townhouses on this site. Many are working on this to see that something of interest to the neighborhood is built. U Gardens, 26th and University SE, has indicated that they will apply to expand their current set back building out to the sidewalk. The proposed revised city zoning code is working its way to implementation.
6. Susan Gottlieb, PPERRIA/NRP contractor, referred all to the back of the agenda for the PPERRIA/NRP Contractor Activities Report through 3/5/99. With one year remaining 82% of the five year contractor budget has been spent.

7. Mike Atherton presented a motion referring to a letter sent to the filers of the grievance against PPERRIA regarding the sidewalk lighting project. The motion addressed the wording of a letter sent to the filers of the grievance, with the comment “How would you feel if you received this letter?” The motion was made and seconded and after extended discussion, the motion was not voted on as the question was not called. A law firm is “advising” PPERRIA pro bono. The filers and PPERRIA are involved with the Minneapolis Mediation Project. Bob Miller, Director of Minneapolis Neighborhood Revilitization Project (NRP), reported that NRP’s policy is that grievances are first addressed by the sponsoring agency (PPERRIA) and the filers. If the filers are not satisfied, then the issue must be mediated, as is now going on. If it is judged that there was a “NRP policy violation,” then NRP would become part of the process. It is Miller’s opinion that the filers of the grievance are concerned with “arbitration” not “mediation.” The PPERRIA/NRP committee cochairs are representing PPERRIA in the mediation. PPERRIA and NRP have agreed to pay the cost of up to three mediation sessions, at $45/session. This was done so that cost is not an issue. Joan Campbell, Council Member, indicated that within the week all should receive a letter from her addressing the issue and listing the public community meeting to be held in the neighborhood; the hearing of the city Transpiration and Public Works Committee; and then action by the City Council. These are city meetings not PPERRIA meetings as the issue is now a city issue.

9/10. Motion made, seconded and did not pass to strike “(time permitting)” from the standing agenda item “Old and New Business.” Maker of the motion was concerned that individuals would not be able to be heard at the meetings. Comment was made that anyone can ask to be added to the agenda, but the meeting attendees need to agree to the addition to the agenda. The intent of the phrase is to assure that the meetings will end at a reasonable time and that all will have a chance to participate, not only those who stayed beyond the usual adjournment time. A sign up sheet was circulated for the annual river clean up on 4/17/99. Lois Willand, PPERRIA Community Events Committee chair, reported that there has been enough response so there will be at least two summer community concerts. Mention was made of the recent passing away of long time neighbor Dorothy Hathaway.

Motion made, seconded and passed without noes to adjourn.

Comments and concerns to Daniel Patenaude, PPERRIA Secretary.

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