

## PPERRIA Community Meeting

March 24, 2014      6:30 pm  
PPUMC

### **Board of Directors Present:**

1. Richard Adams
2. Eric Amel
3. Phil Anderson
4. Dick Brownlee
5. David and Sigrid Coats
6. Steve Cross
7. John Cushing (Martha Joy absent)
8. Kate Donahue
9. Tony Garmers (Greta absent)
10. Dick Gilyard
11. Susan Gottlieb
12. Ken Hampton
13. John Holmquist
14. Tamara Johnson
15. Sally Jorgensen (Charles absent)
16. Dick Kain
17. Tom Kilton
18. Christina Larson
19. Susan Larson-Fleming
20. Florence Littman
21. Dean Lund (Janet absent)
22. Dorothy Marden
23. Andy Mickel
24. Ann Munt
25. Karen Murdock
26. John Orrison
27. Dan Peters
28. Dick & Meredith Poppele
29. Peggy Rejto (Peter absent)
30. Joe Ring (Susan Thrash absent)

31. Evan Roberts
32. John Wicks (Wendy absent)
33. Paul Zerby

### **Board of Directors Absent:**

1. Greg Bernstein & Robin Schow
2. John DeWitt
3. Roger Kiemele
4. Rob Nordin
5. Jerry & Margy Stein
6. Lois Willand

### **Members and Community-at-Large Present:**

1. Huy Nguyen, Luxton Park
2. Del Hampton, Member
3. Greg Smith, new Member
4. Dan Cross, new member
5. Ankita Sahu, Student Liaison
6. Eric Lueneburg, Member
7. Ethan Nelson, guest
8. Betts Zerby, Member
9. Dan Marshall, guest
10. Gordon Mosser, Member
11. Diana Dukich, Member
12. John Dukich, Member
13. Steve Ficker, Member
14. Marybeth Luing, guest
15. Jessica Buchberger, PPERRIA staff

1. **Call to Order.** *Christina Larson*, PPERRIA President and meeting chair, welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked that all sign in at the back of the room.
2. **Announcements.**
  - A. **Advertisement for PPERRIA Board of Directors Candidates.** *Christina Larson* said that nominations are invited for the Board of Directors elections at the PPERRIA annual meeting on 28 April 2014. Self-nominations are encouraged.
  - B. **Other: Earth Day Cleanup.** *Tom Kilton* announced that the 20<sup>th</sup> annual Earth Day cleanup in PPERR will meet at East River Parkway and Franklin Avenue at 9:00 am, 26 April 2014. Snow is promised to be gone. Breakfast, lunch, bags, and gloves are provided. 30 to 40 volunteers are needed.
  - C. **Refreshments accolades.** *Greg Smith* brought awesome refreshments.
  - D. **Summer Concert series.** *John Cushing* introduced the summer concert series. There will be four events. The first is a “Community Sing” with a leader to keep participants in tune. *Claudia Smith* is second in June. The Postal Workers Band will entertain for the Tower 100 Event. A Luxton event with a stage and four acts will take place on August 12.
  - E. **Happy Hour in the Park.** A happy hour neighborhood meeting is planned this week, 4-6 pm at the Hole Sports Bar.
3. **Presentations and Discussion.**

A. **Oriental Bittersweet.** *Emilie Justen*, Minnesota Department of Agriculture introduced the topic of Oriental Bittersweet. It is another invasive species that now has been found in Prospect Park in at least one location. It is the largest invasive population in the State. It is a woody vine that girdles the tree cutting off the flow of nutrients and the tree dies. The Bittersweet is spread by birds, is likely to be found along the Mississippi River flyway and can re-sprout from roots. It squelches the native bittersweet if present. *Tom Kilton* suggested that cleanup day volunteers can attempt to spot this invasive species during the Earth Day cleanup. Money exists for a Department-sponsored conservation crew to work on eradication - particularly on public land but currently funding is available for work on private land with a contract. Native Bittersweet is fine to be planted and can be sourced from Outback Nursery and the Friends Plant Sale at the State Fair Ground. *Emilie* suggests the Virginia Creeper as a native alternate as well.

B. **Luxton Park.** *Huy Nguyen*, Director of the Luxton Community Center presented a 2013 Year in Review of happenings at Luxton Park. *Huy* is proud to share that Luxton Gopher sports is booming. Sports activities include: winter basketball for K/1st, 2nd/3rd, 11U; Spring sports had its first tee-ball team; track and field had its second season with a handful of runners with two 7th graders now running for South; summer had first ever tennis team; Fall had soccer for 2nd/3rd and 11U with larger field and refs. *Huy* shared great stories of success and significant growth. There was a Luxton Gophers day with Minnesota Gopher college athletes that the kids relished. Community events included Fire and Ice, a ceramic workshop with Northern Clay Center, Holiday Gift Card Giveaway, Halloween Party, Summer Concert Series, Summer Movie Night, and the Community Ice Cream Social. Ongoing programs include: Wee Create, Get Youth Moving, snow shoeing, Indoor Soccer Saturdays, book exchange and book club, and the Summer Lunch Program feeds up to 60 kids during the summer.

Some Luxton program statistics: outdoor amenities include outdoor basketball court, athletic field, picnic areas, playground tot lots, and wading pool; estimated total

attendance was 8907 for the 50 days reported annually; average daily attendance is 178 visitors; and July is the busiest month.

This year Luxton will offer coach-pitch baseball for 7 & 8 year olds. Luxton looks forward to coordinating with Prospect Park Community Garden, the Minneapolis Park and Rec. Dept, and the Hennepin County Master Gardeners for Youth Gardening Program.

Luxton Park cleanup is scheduled on April 19, 2014.

This summer will also have a Wee Create summer photography class in honor of *George E. Luxton*.

Luxton Learners: In conjunction with Minneapolis Public Schools, Eastside Neighborhood Services, Parks and Recreation, and Community Ed. Because of the pending Pratt renovation, there will be no Summer Splash. Instead of the two typical programs, they will combine into one from 9 to 4. And there will also be one-week summer camps: volleyball, day camp, soccer [*Tony Sanneh*], basketball and Luxton Park Tennis League and Club.

*John Cushing* asked what more can the neighborhood do to help. *Huy* said get the word out. This summer look for Movie Under the Stars, the summer concert service, the first annual summer celebration on August 12, and the Mobile Jazz Project. *Tamara Johnson* asked about fees. About half the programs are fee based. Scholarships are available. Farmers Market at Luxton no longer takes place as it was hosted by an organization that no longer has funds.

- C. **Prospect Park Community Garden news.** *Del Hampton*, Chair of the Prospect Park Community Garden [PPCG], spoke to mission and vision of the Community Garden. Plots at Arthur and Yale sites are fully subscribed. *Del* showed before and after shots of both plots. PPCG accomplishments include: vegetable garden series taught; donated 400 lb. to Glendale Food Shelf through gleaning; look forward to seed swamp; May 3 Boeser build-out workday; HCMG Learning Tour at Yale on July 12; fall cleanup focusing more on handling the organics.

A Luxton Youth Gardening program will have the theme of plant/grow/cook/eat. It is underwritten by Legacy Fund and features a dedicated plot at Yale and classes at Luxton with cooking and eating better over a 29 week period beginning April 15. The program is free.

The PPCG Boeser site will be established in 2014 as a pop-up community garden along the PRT corridor in partnership with the Cornerstone Group on there development site phase two area. 40 raised beds are planned plus the added amenities of a fair share community garden, dye garden [Textile Center], hydroponics [UofM], bees [Bees Knees], garden shed, fireplace. The risk is a possibly short time horizon that could be limited at 2 years, or could be more. Mitigating site soil contaminants suggests raised beds at two feet. *Del* is sourcing wood to build the raised beds. The City provides some compost, and the PPCG will buy the rest. More info at <http://sites.google.com/sites/ppcg> and [ppcg coordinators@gmail.com](mailto:ppcg coordinators@gmail.com).

*Del* said the Yale site has a stable land-use deal.

*Dick Gilyard* applauded the reuse of land in the neighborhood and suggests master planning future sites.

4. **Other Business.**

A. **Drinks in the Park.** *Jessica Buchberger* said Drinks in the Park will be hosted at The Hole Sports Bar.

5. **Next Board Meeting.** 28 April 2014. Immediately following the Annual Meeting at the Profile Event Center.

6. **Adjourn.** The meeting was concluded at 7:42 pm.

## PPERRIA Board of Directors Meeting

March 24, 2014

7:48 pm

PPUMC

1. **Call to Order.** Meeting was called to order at 7:48 pm by chair *Christina Larson*. A quorum of the Board was in attendance.
2. **Consent Agenda.** *Paul Zerby* pointed out awkward structure to the list of attendees in the meeting minutes. *Eric Amel* concurred and will fix. *Paul Zerby* moved to approve the consent agenda as presented consisting of February Board of Directors meeting minutes, Zoning & Project Review report, Executive Committee report, Master Plan Committee report (did not meet), Membership/Communication Committee report, and Administration Committee report. Seconded. Unanimously approved on a voice vote.
3. **Regular agenda.** *Peggy Reito* moved to approve the regular agenda as presented. Seconded. Unanimously approved on a voice vote.
4. **Action Items.**
  - A. **Continuing budget resolution.** *Dick Poppele* presented a continuing resolution for May 1<sup>st</sup> to be modified throughout the year. *Dick* presented a spreadsheet with columns for actual and estimated. A continuing resolution is requested. The difference is to cover FICA and a percentage raise for staff *Jessica Buchberger*. Plus *Jessica's* schedule is overfilled so Administration and Executive Committees recommend extending time by five hours weekly. Also, neighborhood priority has a request continuing resolution item of \$33,000. Various earmarked items added up to the \$33,000. City requests for information have been made. Seconded by *Tony Garmers*. *Karen Murdock* asked the difference between space and office. A motion was made to approve a budget that is a continuing resolution of last years budget with the addition of monies for staff budget increase. Seconded. Unanimously approved on a voice vote.
  - B. **Approval of CPP 2014 submission.** *Christina Larson* presented the City of Minneapolis Community Participation Program [CPP] 2014 submission. *Dick Poppele* moved to adopt. Seconded. Unanimously approved on a voice vote.

### **Reports and Discussion.**

- A. **Candidate Report.** *Christina Larson* presented that there are 22 positions to be filled. *Paul Zerby* is willing to nominate himself. Nomination accepted.
- B. **Report from Secretary of State Office on unfilled seats, quorum, etc.** Both *Paul Zerby* and *Christina Larson* have contacted *Bert Black* at the Secretary of State's office. If the neighborhood organization cannot elect a full Board at an election, it does not stymie the capacity of the Board to do business. The situation just reduces the number of Board members and the quorum drops from 14 to 13, etc. But the neighborhood organization must attempt to fill the empty seats as soon as possible rather than just let the situation go as is. *Paul Zerby* talked further about unfilled seats: *Burt Black* said also to check with the Council of Non-profits. Representing that group, *Mark Buenaflor* said that if the Board has a mechanism to replace members, it is the Board's obligation to do

so. Furthermore, he stated that if a board member is inactive, that person should replace. *Charlie Ravine*, chief lawyer for MAP was also contacted and commented that the Board must make efforts to fill all vacancies on the board. If no mechanism current exists for removal, the Board should set up a process. A majority of all members is needed to remove. *Paul Zerby* also contacted a staffer with the Attorney General's office. That person indicated that the statute gives a lot of flexibility. If a board inadvertently takes an action without quorum, it can go back and ratify the action. If there were a problem such as a lawsuit against the board, the court would not view well the failure to comply with a full board. Courts have ruled against board because of this fault. The AGs office concluded by saying that the Board needs to comply with the bylaws until we entertain a modification to the bylaws.

[NOTE RESOLUTION MADE LAST MEETING:]

*PPERRIA seeks legal opinion by the State of Minnesota Attorney General office in its supervisory role over non-profits and the Secretary of State regarding PPERRIA's Bylaw to fill the prescribed 40 seats on the board and the Board's validity and ability conduct business. These opinions are to be sought by Paul Zerby in consultation with Steve Cross.*

5. **Other Business.**

A. **Our Town performance.** *Andy Mickel* made a plug for the local production of *Our Town*.

B. **TBD.** *Jessica Buchberger* said join neighbors for Happy Hour in the Park, March 25.

6. **Adjourn.** *Christina Larson* entertained a motion by *Dick Poppele* to adjourn the meeting. Seconded. Unanimously approved on a voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 8:08 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Eric Amel', with a vertical line extending downwards from the end of the signature.

Eric Amel  
PPERRIA Secretary

APPROVED by the Board of Directors, 19 May 2014.