

PPERRIA Community Meeting DRAFT

February 23, 2014 6:30 pm
PPUMC

Board of Directors Present:

1. Richard Adams
2. Eric Amel
3. Dick Brownlee
4. David Coats (Sigrid absent)
5. Steve Cross
6. John Cushing
7. Kate Donahue
8. Susan Gottlieb
9. Del Hampton
10. John Holmquist
11. Tamara Johnson
12. Charles Jorgensen (Sally absent)
13. Martha Joy
14. Dick Kain
15. Roger Kiemele
16. Tom Kilton
17. Christina Larson
18. Susan Larson-Fleming
19. Florence Littman
20. Dorothy Marden
21. Andy Mickel
22. Gordon Mosser
23. Karen Murdock
24. John Orrison
25. Dick Poppele (Meredith absent)
26. Joe Ring
27. Serafina Scheel
28. John Wicks (Wendy absent)
29. Paul Zerby

Board of Directors Absent:

1. Phil Anderson
2. Stu Anderson
3. Tony & Greta Garmers
4. Dick Gilyard
5. Ted Goldbuff
6. Ken Hampton
7. Ann Munt
8. Dan Peters
9. Evan Roberts
10. Bill & Jane Seeley
11. Jerry & Margy Stein

Members & Community-at-Large Present:

1. Reed Polakowski, new member
2. Elizabeth Smith, MN Daily
3. Ron McCoy, resident
4. Karl Reichert, Exec Director of Textile Center
5. Steve Ficker, member
6. Kari Simonson, member
7. Sally Sawyer
8. Julie Wallace, member
9. John DeWitt, member
10. Marybeth Luing, Concert Committee
11. Cam Gordon, Ward 2 Councilperson
12. Jessica Buchberger, PPERRIA staff

1. **Welcome & sign-in.** *Christina Larson*, PPERRIA President and meeting chair, welcomed everyone to the meeting at 6:30 pm. and asked that all sign in at the back of the room.
2. **Announcements.** The floor was opened for announcements:
 - A. **Girl Scout Cookies.** *Christina Larson* announced Girl Scout Cookies for sale by *Ellie* and her Brownie friend at the meeting.
 - B. **Annual Meeting Planning Committee.** *Jessica Buchberger* made a call for participants for the Annual Meeting Planning Committee. *Karen Murdoch* asked if there exists a budget for the annual meeting for such things as flowers. *Ms. Buchberger* indicated that there is money allocated yet *Patrick Kellis* and the Profile Event Center at 2630 University Ave SE graciously underwrites most of the cost while hosting the meeting.
 - C. **Rain Garden.** *Jessica Buchberger* announced that the successful rain garden grant program seeks applicants for the project. Selection will be via lottery. *Martha Joy* said some neighborhood triangles could be considered. *Ms. Buchberger* said the grant was aimed at residential properties. A small assessment fee and the cost of materials are to be carried by the participating homeowners. There was applause for MetroBlooms – the organization that provides expertise and management of the project.
 - D. **PPERRIA Nominations Committee.** *Serfina Scheel*, Nominations Committee Chair, announced that the PPERRIA Nominations Committee seeks nominations to the Board for 2015-16 seats. There are 20 seats up for election. *Ms. Scheel* and *Jessica Buchberger* have met to begin the process of reviewing submitted names and connecting with neighbors. The next step is to look for volunteers for calling. At least two members not running for election must be on the committee. *Andy Mickel* and *Dorothy Marden* stepped forward to volunteer.
 - E. **Prospect Park Development Overview Event.** *Jessica Buchberger* reported that over 150 neighbors attended the neighborhood development event on Saturday morning, February 14. Development sponsors investing in Prospect Park shared many of their current initiatives. Kudos to Surly Destination Brewery for hosting the event, providing breakfast, and offering facility tours.
 - F. **Tom SenGupta Memoire.** *Dick Kain* pitched the order-on-demand publishing of the *Tom SenGupta* memory book. This is the last opportunity to get in on the group price.
 - G. **Neighborhood Clean-up Day.** *Tom Kilton* announced with reasonable certainty, it will be warmer for Earth Day and neighborhood clean-up day on April 25. The annual crew will be mustered from 9:30 am to 11:30 am or noon. Neighborhood volunteers are encouraged to join in the effort.
 - H. **Today's Refreshments.** *Charles Jorgensen* provided refreshments for which all were for grateful and was acknowledged with appreciative applause.
3. **Discussions/presentations.**
 - A. **Karl Reichert, New Executive Director of the Textile Center.** *Christina Larson* introduced *Karl Reichert* as the new Executive Director of the Textile Center. *Mr. Reichert* said that in his three-month tenure he enjoys working in Prospect Park. He

reports positive impact of LRT. The Textile Center at 3000 University Ave SE is dedicated to fiber art. It has 800 members, is open daily and features exhibit space open to the public in addition to classroom, studio and library spaces. Ideally located between the two city centers, the Center wishes to be good neighbor and if any issue arises, do not hesitate to contact *Mr. Reichert*. The Center is working on a financial bump yet has a cash reserve. It owns the building thus has no mortgage. The Center wants more members and more folks to utilize the facility. Additionally, the Center wants to partner on Prospect Park North [PPN] and that in the past there has been discussion of a new building for Textile Center. But for right now, the Center is working on financial health. Yet the Center wants to be at table on such development issues as district parking and district energy. Lastly, the Center wants to promote and expand its summer youth program: there are currently 34 camps for ages 6 thru 16. Brochures are available.

Dick Kain mentioned the current member show with 128 pieces. The closing party is this Thursday. *Karen Murdoch* asked about the future of the Textile library. *Mr. Reichert* said it is the largest textile circulating library in the nation with 27,000 volumes. It is staying in place for the foreseeable future. It may combine with other collections in the future under the right conditions.

- B. **Replacement of Prospect Park Street Lights.** A City of Minneapolis Department of Public Works representative did not show for the meeting. *Richard Adams* described the appearance of a new street light type at three locations on Franklin Ave SE. They are different in appearance from the existing with LED downlights and open at the location of the tradition lantern glass. *Mr. Adams* asked that members familiarize with the new style in preparation of a future presentation from the City.
- C. **Midtown Greenway Coalition Seeking PPERRIA Representative.** *John DeWitt*, public transportation expert and previous PPERRIA representative to the Midtown Greenway Coalition [MGC], spoke to the important role that the MGC has played in today's strength of the greenway corridor. Metro Transit wanted to make it a bus corridor. *Mr. DeWitt* and the group advocated streetcar. Planning predicted a potential 24,000 riders a day by 2030. How did Prospect Park get involved? Building a bridge across the river to continue Greenway connections to the east and seeking neighborhood endorsements was the impetus. PPERRIA joined to endorse. The existing rail bridge crossing the Mississippi River was offered for a \$1 to Hennepin County. The offer was not taken as the bridge is fracture critical and cannot be repurposed. A future direction may be to wait for the rail to demolish the existing bridge super structure and rebuild a new bridge on the existing piers in the river. MGC has turned toward bike as their focus for the Greenway. *Mr. DeWitt* feels it will be a long time until the Greenway meets up with the neighborhood and sees two decision points: 1) does it make sense to join 2) who will represent PPERRIA. *Richard Adams* asked if we can we join later? *Mr. DeWitt* said yes and mentioned that in the meantime PPERRIA may want to focus on Greenway development on the Saint Paul side of the river.

Richard Adams moved the following resolution:

Resolved, that PPERRIA will not replace John DeWitt on the Midtown Greenway Coalition.

John Cushing second. Discussion: *Gordon Mosser* asked if this voids membership. *Mr. Cushing* wants to soften. *Dick Poppele* asked if we are sure that PPERRIA should make this move. *Mr. Adams* said he withdraws his motion if someone is interested to volunteer.

Reed Polakowski stepped forward to volunteer. Richard Adams moved to revise the resolution:

Resolved, that Reed Polakowski will replace John Witt as PPERRIA representative on the Midtown Greenway Coalition.

Second by *Dick Poppele*. Unanimously approved on a voice vote.

4. **Next Community Meeting.** The next community meeting will be 23 March 2015.
5. **Adjourn.** The meeting was adjourned at 6:57 pm.

PPERRIA Board of Directors Meeting DRAFT

February 23, 2015
PPUMC

6:57 pm

1. **Call to Order.** The meeting was called to order by chair and PPERRIA President *Christina Larson*. A quorum of the Board was in attendance.
2. **Consent Agenda.** *Christina Larson* presented the Consent Agenda for approval consisting of the Executive Committee minutes for January 12, 2015; Administration Committee report (including Treasurer's reports) for February 5, 2015; Master Plan Committee report for January 15, 2015; Historic District Committee report for January 26, 2015; Zoning and Project Review Committee report for January 6, 2015. *Dick Kain* moved to approve. *Tamara Johnson* seconded. Unanimously approved on a voice vote.
3. **Regular Agenda.** *Christina Larson* presented the Regular Agenda for approval with a proposed amendment of the January Board of Directors minutes for approval. A board member moved to approve. *Dick Poppele* seconded. Unanimously approved on a voice vote.
4. **Action Items.**

- A. **Endorsement of new Committee chairpersons.** *Christina Larson* asked for a motion of endorsement for new leadership of the PPERRIA Zoning and Project Review Committee in *John Wicks* and the PPERRIA Administrative Committee in *Gordon Mosser*. A board member moved the following resolution:

Resolved, that PPERRIA endorse the appointment of Gordon Mosser as chairperson of the Administration Committee effective immediately, and John Wicks [current assistant chair] as chairperson of the Zoning and Project Review Committee effective after the April annual meeting. And be it further resolved that Richard Brownlee has served as committee chair with distinction for several years and that PPERRIA is thankful for his leadership.

Seconded. The resolution was unanimously approved on a voice vote followed by a round of applause.

- B. **Letter to City regarding concerns about traffic on Malcolm Ave SE north of University Ave SE.** *Christina Larson* asked for a motion to approve the letter of PPERRIA concern regarding traffic and pedestrian safety issues on Malcolm Ave SE between University Ave SE and the new Surly Brewery. A board member moved to approve the letter:

Resolved, that PPERRIA supports a letter to the City of Minneapolis indicating concern regarding traffic and pedestrian safety issues on Malcolm Ave SE between University Ave SE and the new Surly Brewery, as well as making numerous recommendations, and requesting the following action:

- *within the next few months, work with the University of Minnesota and adjacent businesses to put in place traffic calming and improved signage*
- *create safer vehicular access to the land north of the U of MN transitway via one of the following options:*
 - a) *construction of Granary Road*
 - b) *grade separation of Malcolm Avenue at the transitway.*

Seconded. The floor was opened for discussion: *Julie Wallace* asked has anyone asked city directly about the issues? *Dick Poppele* said the letter was requested by Ward 2 Councilmember *Cam Gordon* to bolster the case for city attention. *Roger Kiemele* asked about the reality of Granary Road project and about the concept of planters on Malcolm Ave SE and whether that strategy makes any sense if no Granary Road development. *Eric Amel* spoke against the recommendations and requests contained in the letter as being too prescriptive without analytical data gathering and study, and that the letter should be limited to identifying the gravity of concern, requesting adequate study, and leaving solutions open-ended for proper development. Ward 2 Councilmember *Cam Gordon* said the City is doing a little traffic study in-house consisting of traffic counts and observation. He characterized the effort as not a big study and notes that Malcolm Ave SE is sometimes backed up. *Mr. Gordon* said stating the concerns might be better. *Ms. Larson* asked the board if there was concurrence to strip out recommendations. *Tamara Johnson* does not think ideas are the problem but it is the conclusions that are problematic. *Ms. Larson* made a motioned:

Resolved, that the draft letter to the City of Minneapolis indicating concern regarding traffic and pedestrian safety issues on Malcolm Ave SE between University Ave SE and the new Surly Brewery be amended by Ms. Johnson and Mr. Amel to match the comments made herein, and with those modifications PPERRIA approves that the revised letter be forwarded to the City of Minneapolis.

Seconded. Discussion: *Julie Wallace* made a plea to plow transitway sidewalk. A guest asked that the intersection at Malcolm and Fourth Street be addressed. *Andy Mickel* spoke to support the amended resolution to shift the letter to questions and send. *Ms. Larson* called for a vote. The resolution was unanimously approved on a voice vote.

- C. **Letter to City expressing support for Prospect Park Historic District designation.** *Christina Larson* asked for a motion to approve the letter from PPERRIA to the City of Minneapolis in support. A board member moved the following resolution:

Resolved, that PPERRIA endorses the letter to the City of Minneapolis expressing support for the Prospect Park Historic District designation.

Seconded. Discussion: *Joe Ring* said the Heritage Preservation Commission has already voted to endorse the designation. A round of applause was offered for the efforts of *Mr. Ring*. The issue now goes to the state review board and then on to national. *Mr. Ring* motioned the following:

Resolved, that a copy of the PPERRIA-endorsed letter to the City of Minneapolis expressing support for the Prospect Park Historic District designation be advanced to Denis Gardner, National Register Historian at the Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office, for his presentation to the state review board.

Seconded. The resolution was unanimously approved on a voice vote.

D. **Nomination of candidates for the 2015-17 cycle of the Board of Directors.** *Christina Larson* again requested that those in attendance write down names of potential candidates for the Board of Directors. *Jessica Buchberger* read the current Board roster and collected names.

5. **Reports/Discussions**

A. **First reading of PPERRIA 2015-16 draft budget.** PPERRIA Treasurer *Dick Poppele* reported that the Administrative Committee and subsequently the Executive Committee have recommended advancing the PPERRIA 2015-16 draft budget to the Board of Directors for review. *Mr. Poppele* will first, describe the budget and second, ask the Board for discussion of changes as follows: What has changed in the budget is the city program to replace NRP is CPP with the idea that organizations are given money to build capacity to generate citizen participation. PPERRIA hired *Jessica Buchberger* as staff with this goal and this expense became almost the entire budget. Also included in the budget are other contributions and fiscal agency. There remain some historic dedicated funds. Budget categories are set up to reflect funding sources. A PPERRIA task force review and report regarding dedicated funds found some to be obsolete and pulled those funds into the general fund. There are three funding categories —two grant programs and the general fund—with income and expenses for each as follows: 1) Community Participation Program [CPP], 2) Neighborhood Priority Program [NPP], and 3) PPERRIA General fund [GF]. There are four columns: adopted, estimated, proposed, and approved. *Mr. Poppele* went into detail on each item. *Ms. Buchberger* was hired as an employee based on an hourly rate [CPP]. Rate same from 22 hours to 40 hours with vacation and holidays, includes payroll. The office space history was reviewed.

Discussion: *Paul Zerby* asked if *Ms. Buchberger*'s health insurance is covered. She did not request coverage in her proposal. *John Wicks* asked if PPERRIA shares rental space with Prospect Park 2020 and whether they pay. They share but do not pay. [note: this arrangement is documented in the 2014.07.28 PPERRIA BoD minutes APPROVED.] Rent is locked for two years at \$3,000 per month. *Roger Kiemele* gave endorsement of *Ms. Buchburger* as staff saying, "We are fortunate to have her." *Mr. Poppele* added that the staff support works well for PPERRIA and further indicated that salary v. hourly compensation was discussed. *Ms. Buchburger* requested hourly as it is currently unknown what the expanded position will take. *Dick Kain* asked about FICA. *Andy Mickel* asked how does PPERRIA manage the staff expense if CPP does not carry forward in a future year. *Mr. Poppele* acknowledged that PPERRIA would need to make up the difference, and one aspect of *Ms. Buchburger*'s employment is fundraising. *Steve Cross* said one task force recommendation was that any new initiative must come with its own fundraising. *Mr. Poppele* will look at FICA further. The proposed wage equates to \$21/hr.

Sound wall funds were transferred to PPERRIA identity program and consultant fees. *Susan Larson-Fleming* wanted clarification of the Community Concert program funding. *John Cushing* addressed. *Mr. Mickel* asked if a reserve fund is still kept for a lawyer. *Florence Littman* recalled lessons learned with the United Crushers cement plant episode and feels the legal fund with a reserve of nine to ten thousand dollars should be kept for just such a purpose. *Dick Kain* said the organization needs to keep dedicated monies separate as a trust. *Mr. Kain* said we are spending down the resources and he objects to doing so saying we are spending too much money out of reserves. *Mr. Kain* pointed to several line items and said this appropriation of funds is not sustainable. *Dick Poppele*

agrees that the situation is not sustainable yet asks with city money, what should be done? *Mr. Kain* replied don't spend it. *Mr. Cushing* said we need to raise money and the organization will not run out of money next year. *Serafina Scheel* sees this budget as a means for Prospect Park to build something and to use staff to develop something sustainable. Also, if we do not spend money, city accounting is worried about non-contracted monies and that the city could cut off additional funding. *Dick Brownlee* said the value of money is to spend it in a timely manner and to use it productively rather than let its value erode via escalation of costs. *Susan Gottlieb* sees issues: we know the city and if they sense we are not spending the money, funding may be taken away. *Ms. Gottlieb* would ask the committee continue to report, and would suggest that dedicated money remain dedicated. Meeting Chair *Christina Larson* concluded the discussion.

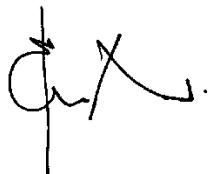
- B. **Approval of January meeting minutes.** *Christina Larson* asked for a motion to approve the January meeting minutes. *Richard Adams* requested clarification that our neighborhood Schneider Drug at 3400 University Ave SE is one of only three small business drug stores remaining in Minneapolis. *John Cushing* moved:

Resolved, that PPERRIA Board of Directors approves the January 2015 meeting minutes as amended.

Seconded. The resolution was unanimously approved on a voice vote.

6. **Adjourn.** *Christina Larson* requested a motion to adjourn the meeting that was answered, seconded, and approved on a voice vote by many board members simultaneously. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted:



Eric Amel
PPERRIA Secretary

APPROVED by the Board of Directors as amended, 23 March 2015.