



Prospect Park Association Community Meeting DRAFT

February 27, 2017

6:30 pm

Prospect Park United Methodist Church (PPUMC)

Board of Directors Present:

1. *Richard Adams*
2. *Eric Amel*
3. *Jeff Barnhart*
4. *John Cushing*
5. *Tony Garmers*
6. *Dick Gilyard*
7. *Del Hampton*
8. *Ken Hampton*
9. *Martha Joy*
10. *Dick Kain*
11. *John Kari*
12. *Lydia McAnerney*
13. *Sarah Nassif*
14. *Vince Netz*
15. *John Orrison*
16. *Dick Poppele*
17. *Robert Roscoe*
18. *Serafina Scheel*
19. *John Wicks*

Board of Directors Absent:

1. *Phil Anderson*
2. *Judy Britton*
3. *Viswa Challa*
4. *Tamara Johnson*

5. *Eric Lueneburg*
6. *Reed Polakowski*
7. *Peggy Rejto*
8. *Ladan Yusuf*

Community Members Present:

1. *Bridget Ferguson, PPA member*
2. *Trina Porte, PPA member*
3. *David Coats, PPA member*
4. *Sigrid Coats, PPA member*
5. *Dan Bryant, PPA member*
6. *Greg Bernstein, PPA member*
7. *Greg Simpson, PPA member*
8. *Monta Hayn, PPA member*
9. *Eric Lind, PPA member*
10. *George Abdallah*
11. *Joe Ring, PPA member*
12. *Meredith Poppele, PPA member*
13. *Preston Mosser, Prospect Park Properties*
14. *Ray Debn, Minnesota State Representative, District 59B*
15. *Kari Dziedzic, Minnesota State Senator, District 60*
16. *Cam Gordon, Ward 2 City Council Member*
17. *Jessica Buchberger, PPA Community Outreach Coordinator*

1. **Call to Order and Welcome.** *Vince Netz*, Chair and PPA President, convened the meeting at 6:42 pm.
2. **Announcement: SE Seniors Event.** *Lydia McAnerney*, a PPA director, announced a SE Senior fundraiser honoring two community members on Saturday, 29 April, 2017.
3. **Presentation: Good Neighbor Proposal Review.** *Jessica Buchberger*, PPA Community Outreach Director, introduced a roundup of Good Neighbor Fund proposals originating from Prospect Park neighborhood:

- A. **Hanging Gardens of Towerside.** A proposal organized by *Del Hampton* to install planter boxes to the façade of the parking structure at the southwest corner of 4th Street SE and 29th Avenue SE.
 - B. **Towerside Media Center.** A proposal organized by *Del Hampton* and *Jeff Barnhart* at the edge of the Towerside Community Garden, northeast corner of 4th Street SE and 29th Avenue SE, to let the neighborhood know what is going on in terms of development near the Prospect Park LRT station.
 - C. **University Avenue Bike Racks.** A proposal organized by *Jessica Buchberger* for branded bicycle accommodations at multiple locations along University Avenue.
 - D. **Community Social Media Intern.** A proposal organized by *Jessica Buchberger* to engage a University of Minnesota students intern to assist in up-to-date and community appropriate social media strategies and implementation.
4. **Presentation: State Senator Kari Dziedzic Update on Legislative Agenda.** *Kari Dziedzic*, State Senator, District 60, handed out a one-page summary sheet and gave a brief overview of the current legislative agenda to the community. Legislature is in session and actively hearing bills. Current State surplus appears to be \$1.4 million.

Questions from the community were heard:

John Cushing asked about real ID. *Sen. Dziedzic* responded it will be phased in over four years. The federal government signs off on the implementation plan. The state is working to avoid citizens paying twice for ID/license renewal. The House inserted an immigration item and some gun issues attached. The community asked why. The bill is tweaked in the senate and will go to conference.

Inquiry was made regarding Arts and Cultural of Legacy Fund. *Sen. Dziedzic* has not heard anything about it going away.

Brigitte Ferguson asked about proposed legislation regarding protests and penalties for blocking traffic. *Sen. Dziedzic* responded that unfortunately she got assigned to the Agriculture committee--is using that opportunity to focus on housing issues—and is not on the Judiciary. That committee lead is not going to hear one of the bills: that the protestors need to pay. The other is to enhance the penalties. *Dziedzic* thinks the tools exist already yet ironic rural folks are pushing for the bill. Senate has one vote margin. *Governor Dayton* has not weighed in yet.

Brigitte Ferguson asked about the plan to keep local law enforcement out of immigration issues. *Sen. Dziedzic* responded on the targeting of “sanctuary cities” and analysis being done on the legal technicalities. (Editorial note: It is unclear whether Minneapolis and St. Paul technically qualify as “sanctuary cities,” a term that has no formal definition under the law. <http://www.twincities.com/2017/01/25/are-st-paul-minneapolis-sanctuary-cities-trumps-federal-cuts-raise-questions/>) *Dziedzic* reports that Susan Seagal, City of Minneapolis Attorney, doesn’t think so. *Dziedzic* reports the Hennepin County Sheriff continues to assert we are not asking this community about immigration status. The lobby is targeting senators to educate.

Dick Gilyard asked if *Sen. Dziedzic*'s position on the Agriculture Committee can be leveraged to introduce and support urban agriculture (the emerging "Agrihood" model). *Sen. Dziedzic* responded with her interest in helping with food deserts, farm-to-food shelf, and agriculture education. Meetings with ag educators reveal STEM learning opportunities in food science, pathology, and mechanics. Resources can potentially connect to schools like Pratt and community programs like Luxton to educate that food does not magically appear, and healthy meals when prepared by the children are appreciated more and children eat better. *Mr. Gilyard* calls for aggressive systems like aquaponic.

Glendale Townhomes was brought up. As a member of the Housing Committee, *Sen. Dziedzic* reports a bill is introduced allocating \$5 million for Glendale. The deferred maintenance in Minneapolis public housing alone is \$100 million. \$20 million is funded for the entire State of Minnesota. *Dziedzic* asks where do you start? Part is capacity, as in cities have capacity to do more. On Glendale, continues to be discussions. Questions and more questions. Too much at the Federal level. Not on radar. Glendale does not feel represented and want more talks with Ward 2 City Council Member *Cam Gordon*. *Sen. Dziedzic* says she has not received direct email as of late from Glendale constituents.

Lydia McAnerney asked about private jails.

5. **Other Business.** None was heard.
6. **Next Community Meeting.** The next meeting is Monday, March 27, 2017.
7. **Adjourn.** The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:35 pm.



Prospect Park Association Board of Directors Meeting DRAFT

February 27, 2016

7:00 pm

Prospect Park United Methodist Church (PPUMC)

1. **Call to Order and Regular Agenda.** Chair and PPA President *Vince Netz* called the meeting to order at 7:38 pm. A quorum of the Board of Directors attended. *Mr. Netz* introduced the published Regular Agenda for consideration. Motion to place item 4c. Ice Cream Social Proposal prior to item 4a. 2017 Finances. *Lydia McAnerney* moved to approve the Regular Agenda as amended. Seconded. The Regular Agenda was approved by acclamation.
2. **Consent Agenda.** *Vince Netz* presented the Consent Agenda for approval consisting of:
 - PPA Management Council minutes, February 13, 2017
 - PPA Land Use & Planning Committee minutes, February 7, 2017

Richard Adams moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Seconded. The Consent Agenda was approved by acclamation.

3. Announcements

- A. **Good Neighbor Fund - Major League Soccer Tickets.** *Vince Netz*, PPA representative to the Good Neighbor Fund, announced the donation of major league soccer tickets for upcoming Minnesota United matches taking place at the TCF Stadium. These will be distributed among the UDA neighborhood associations. PPA will donate its portion to youth groups via Luxton Rec Center programs.
- B. **Neighborhood Organizations and Elections Reminder.** *Vince Netz* highlighted a letter from *David Rubedor*, Director of Neighborhood and Community Relations, City of Minneapolis to All Neighborhood Organizations. The letter, included in the board packet, states in part:

"I especially want to remind you that your contracts with the City state that your organization may not engage in political activity. Partisan political activity is also absolutely prohibited by the Internal Revenue Service for all 501(c)(3) organizations. The City uses the same rules as the IRS in our oversight of the political activities of organizations."

Mr. Netz emphasized that the PPA board will comply with these strictures by not endorsing candidates, conducting candidate forums, or by referring to the candidacy of any guest elected officials.

- A. **Towerside Business Alliance.** *Vince Netz* announced the formation of the Towerside Business Alliance that embraces Prospect Park neighborhood and extends along University Avenue and the Green Line corridor into St. Paul to roughly the Raymond Avenue intersection. *Jeff Barnhart*, a PPA director, serves as acting president. *Mr. Netz* serves as the organization secretary. *Mr. Barnhart* credited his associate *Preston Mosser* as executing a lot of the work in organizing the new alliance. As businesses join, the intention is to have an organizational platform in place. Surly Brewing is providing a meeting venue. A business directory is planned with a goal to have 100 businesses. Businesses can range from home based to storefronts to

Surly to nonprofits such as the Textile Center and PPA. All businesses are encouraged to join the organization with the hoping to keep fees low. The organization is a 501(c)(6), a nonprofit association designed to help small businesses advance their industry or geographic area. A bank account has been opened. *Mr. Netz* said most neighborhood associations have a companion business council such as this to deal with coordination of services and neighborhood business standards. As a 501(c)(6), the allied business association can do legislative lobbying. Stadium Village Business Association (SVBA), the closest established business association, is not coverage for the Prospect Park neighborhood.

2. Organizational Business

- A. **Ice Cream Social Proposal.** *Vince Netz* introduced *Greg Simpson*, *Greg Bernstein*, and *Eric Lind*, all PPA members and Ice Cream Social organizers, to speak on a proposal to engage PPA in facilitating the annual Pratt Ice Cream Social event. *Mr. Simpson*, asked if the Association would be willing to take managerial and fiscal responsibility going forward. The long-time event was run for 15 years by Pratt Council even when Pratt School was taken offline as a Minneapolis public school. The fundraiser worked to sustain Early Childhood Family Education (ECFE), and nursery school programs. Last year Pratt Council disbanded and the active Pratt PTO would like to make some changes after running the event last year. Pratt School itself is growing yet there are less neighborhood children in attendance. The need to recruit energy from pool of parent volunteers less connected to the Prospect Park neighborhood has hit a limit in bandwidth. The PTO wishes to scale the Ice Cream Social back to a school event. At issue is a school event and neighborhood event are not the same potential energy, nor reflect the legacy of the historic annual celebration. This proposal is to work together to keep the event like the legacy model. *Mr. Bernstein* proposed first, deciding if PPA wants to be involved and commit, and second, to look at specifics of the deal to follow. Many PPA community members already help. But beyond the fiscal agent, the food is a big component in effort and makes money. Help planning that piece is sought.

Dick Gilyard emphasized that the Ice Cream social is a signature event and hope to work out mechanics. The event introduces thousands to the neighborhood and brings together several community layers: school, neighborhood, city. *Del Hampton* asked for a proposed process. *Mr. Netz* said the intention is to get a green light to move forward with the development of a memorandum of understanding (MOU). *Mr. Bernstein* expanded on details of proposal: PPA would take fiscal and managerial agency of food other than ice cream and cake (Luxton Park staff and hired help manage this). *Richard Adams* moved:

Resolved, *the Prospect Park Association will take fiscal and managerial agency for food and tower portion pending further details.*

Seconded by *Sarah Nassif*. Discussion. *Martha Joy* inquired since PPA seeks fundraising opportunities, can this partnership serve that need as well? *Mr. Netz* said the event historically runs in the black. The food sales portion could be stipulated to allot 1/3 of profit to PPA coffers. *John Cushing* said we should have this discussion, yet questioned whether PPA has the time and energy to execute. The actual dollars may not reflect the labor investment. What is the deadline to move forward? *Mr. Bernstein* spoke on logistics: planning usually start ‘about now’ to reach the first Friday in June (June 2, 2017 this year). Planning consists of four or five meetings. There is impetus to be on pace now, as Pratt PTO is interested in bringing in food

trucks. If organizers wish to continue to use perennial food vendor *Ron Lichtscheid* (sp), also known as ‘der Weiner-Meister’, it would be material to the conversation prior to committing.

Ms. Nassif commented since it takes many more volunteers to serve at the hotdog stand, food truck vendors were an alternative. But to eat cost that much more cash. The current practice allows more access to families. *Dick Poppele* said this is a way to bring the neighborhood together as a signature event. The statement was seconded by *Lydia McAnerney* and further seen as opportunity to open doors to new, vibrant members. *Mr. Hampton* commented on his involvement in the plant sale piece. If PPA commits, how do we know we have the people to do the work? He suggested it is difficult timing given the changes. *Ms. Nassif* represented a different view that there is no time like the present. *Mr. Netz* recalls a past rain storm saying weather is a risk but moreover said that the leadership goal is to present a memorandum of understanding (MOU) at the next board meeting for further consideration.

Tony Garmers, a PPA director, will continue the glamorous job of guarding the tower yet the wizard has taken on an apprentice. *Mr. Bernstein* said event volunteer staffing profiles similar to past years yet envisions structure being reviewed and revised for future years. *Meredith Poppele* cautioned that time is of the essence as the organizational process often takes three months. *Mr. Bernstein* will lead the task force for now giving continuity. The current hotdog vendor is accommodating and low risk as he reallocates unused product to his next events, whereas food truck demands down payment and carry minimum sales requirements. *Mr. Cushing*. Totally supports the proposal despite the caveats of his earlier remarks.

Richard Adams called the question. All directors present were in favor of voting on the motion. Motion approved by acclamation; *Del Hampton* abstained.

B. 2017 Finances.

- 1. Review Treasurer’s Report.** *Serafina Scheel*, PPA Treasurer, stated the report in the board packet titled Profit & Loss Budget Performance, January 2017 is the newly formatted monthly financial report. It shows only January expenses. There is not a history in the format.
- 2. Review and Approve 2016 Procedural Audit Responses.** *Serafina Scheel*, PPA Treasurer, briefed the board on the PPA response to audit findings and what we plan to do about them. *Ms. Scheel* characterized the audit items as like reports for other small nonprofits: nothing of notable concern, but an opportunity to target timelines and milestones to accomplish improved procedures and policy. PPA still needs to clean up some items such as Articles of Incorporation, etc. The plan is to submit this response to the procedural audit and bring the new financial policies suggest by the audit to the board for approval in April or May. *Vince Netz* indicated the need for a task force to complete the work. *John Orrison* moved:

***Resolved,** the Prospect Park Association will form a task force to determine how to realize the needed policies for the 2016 Procedural Audit and report to the Board of Directors in April or May, 2017.*

Second by *John Cushing*. Discussion: none. Motion approved by acclamation.

3. **Finance Task Force.** *Serafina Scheel*, PPA Treasurer, states PPA needs a measured plan to guide how we approach fundraising and proposes to form task force to craft a framework and proposal to set priorities in terms of fundraising. The primary questions are:
- A. What is the process to include more community members?
 - B. Where are we placing the money?
 - C. Plan for how to allocate PP Forward money.

Ms. Scheel has a vision for Finance Task Force membership: *Lydia McAnerney* has volunteered. *Vince Netz* proposes this is a task force directly to the board of directors and the group should be assembled in the next three weeks to work over next few months. *John Cushing* moved:

Moved, *the Prospect Park Association will form a task force, consisting of membership proposed by the Treasurer, to articulate a framework and propose priorities for coordinated PPA fundraising activities, and to report directly to the Board of Directors in May, 2017.*

Second by *Sarah Nassif*. Discussion. *John Orrison* sees the spectrum as bigger and the task force name should reflect that goal: PPA Development Task Force. Discussion closed. Amended motion approved by acclamation:

Resolved, *the Prospect Park Association will form a PPA Development Task Force, consisting of membership proposed by the Treasurer, to articulate a framework and propose priorities for coordinated PPA fundraising activities, and to report directly to the Board of Directors in May, 2017.*

- C. **Rent Agreement Update.** *Richard Adams*, Rent Agreement Task Force Chair, said PPA has an Amendment to Lease Agreement until April 30, 2017. The last board meeting approved a Tenant Agreement showing rent split until April 30, 2017. (See board packet for both these documents.) The plan is to frame a permanent lease agreement going forward from that date. *Mr. Adams* said the Tenant Agreement was too rigid and asked the board to rescind and revise. Each partner was going to fundraise \$1,500 to cover the immediate need.

The goal is to keep the space. There is new action at the office lately such as Garden Club use that makes *Mr. Adams* bullish toward greater community use.

Other aspects of the lease space business include a 10% rent increase. Prospect Park Properties will absorb initially yet property taxes will go up in the coming year and represents about 1/3 of operating cost annually. In good faith negotiation, *Jeff Barnhart*, Prospect Park Properties, LLC and a PPA director, is happy to make the PPA office situation work in the short term, but respects the need for a plan as costs may be a stressor going forward. *Mr. Barnhart* also plans to do some improvement to suite entry, toilet rooms, and floor finishes. *Vince Netz* described proposed improvement initiatives. New flooring is donated, the owner will install. *Dick Gilyard* is working on some design direction for the spaces.

Mr. Adams said with space revisions an extra office is available: SE Seniors is a single office; PPA is one office; PP2020 is one office leaving one office available for a specific type of organization. *Mr. Netz* talked to the possibility of virtue tenants. Must provide ten to 15 hours monthly to differentiate from an U.S. Post Office box.

Serafina Scheel moved:

Resolved, the Prospect Park Association rescinds the temporary rental agreement for office space at 2828 University Ave. SE, Suite 200, approved at the January 23, 2017 Board of Directors meeting to revise its terms for review and re-approval by the board.

Second by *Dick Kain*. Discussion. *John Wicks* asked about split calculation. PPA pays \$1,000 per month. Other office users pay \$500 per month. *Dick Gilyard* said in addition to rent partners, we are framing the space as a community resource. It is community space and we are working to raise the money together. We all strive for the same improvement of the neighborhood. *Sarah Nassif* registered concern about equity in access given those in the room. Current use seems ‘clubbish’ as opposed to open and inclusive. *Mr. Adams* responded the agreement business is a step toward this very idea. The purpose of the PPA office for neighborhood improvement has evolved over its brief history. Going forward it is meant to provide access to more tenants. *Del Hampton* aired questions on the funding gap. The lease is \$3,000 per month. Yearly needs to be stated. Further, what is mechanism to add tenants? *Mr. Netz* said SE Seniors is the biggest user during the day and is helping to sustain the office. Their energy is spurring on this sense of a community space. *Dick Gilyard* has written a piece on this synergy. A campaign to invite all 8,000 neighborhood residents back into PPA shared office space is envisioned by *Mr. Netz*.

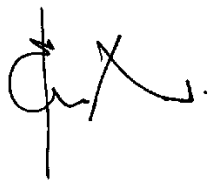
Mr. Adams proposes to rewrite and submit a new document, and redistribute it for consideration at the next meeting. Discussion closed and a vote called. Motion approved by acclamation; *Mr. Barnhart* abstained to avoid conflict of interest.

3. Other Business.

A. NRP Funding Strategy. *Jessica Buchberger*, PPA Community Outreach Coordinator, briefed the board that with upcoming new Minneapolis Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP) funding, PPA needs to come up with a strategy for how to use the money. PPA has not yet been appraised of the City’s NRP process details. Nonetheless, the funds will have rules for their application to neighborhood projects.

4. Adjourn. *Vince Netz* requested a motion to adjourn the meeting answered by many simultaneously. Seconded by *Sarah Nassif*. Unanimously approved on a voice vote. The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:52 pm.

Respectfully submitted:



Eric Amel
Prospect Park Association Secretary

APPROVED by the Board of Directors, March 27, 2017.