



Prospect Park Association (PPA) Community Meeting

February 24, 2020

Prospect Park United Methodist Church, 22 Orlin Avenue SE

Board of Directors Present:

1. *Eric Amel*
2. *Jeffrey Barnhart*
3. *Devan Blanchard*
4. *Becca Cowin*
5. *David Frank*
6. *Britt Howell*
7. *Laura Preus*
8. *Joe Ring*
9. *Robert Roscoe*
10. *Lynn Von Korff*
11. *John Wicks*

Board of Directors Absent:

1. *Will Watkins*
2. *Amy Kaminski*
3. *Susan Larson-Fleming*
4. *U of M Student Representative (TBD)*

Community Members Present for Community Meeting (and possibly part of Board Meeting):

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| 1. <i>Christine Nelson</i> | 12. <i>Kyle Orcholski</i> |
| 2. <i>Peggy Rejito</i> | 13. <i>Joyce Linman</i> |
| 3. <i>Jerry Purple</i> | 14. <i>Samantha Messina</i> |
| 4. <i>Lupe Castillo</i> | 15. <i>Jay Benedict</i> |
| 5. <i>Ami Naff</i> | 16. <i>Mary Britton</i> |
| 6. <i>Ben Tuthill</i> | 17. <i>Matthew Messin</i> |
| 7. <i>Sam Smith</i> | 18. <i>Julie Mackenzie</i> |
| 8. <i>Judy Bevern</i> | 19. <i>Rob Nordin</i> |
| 9. <i>Nancy Kosciolk</i> | 20. <i>Brooke Magid Hart</i> |
| 10. <i>Betsy Snyder</i> | 21. <i>Sean Hart</i> |
| 11. <i>Anne Sechter</i> | 22. <i>Tom Kilton</i> |

Draft Minutes. Meeting called to order at 6:38 pm

Voting in the special election was postponed until later in the Community Meeting, to ensure quorum would be met. More than quorum arrived at the meeting.

1. **Cam Gordon update.** Council Member Gordon shared the news that Glendale Townhomes were not recommended by HPC for Historic Designation. There will be a Public Hearing on March 3. The final City Council decision will be made at the end of March. Bob Roscoe noted that public housing is a significant part of social fabric and that Glendale was designed to look non-institutional and be a welcoming community. Lynn Von Korff added that it is a significant part of the neighborhood. Cam thought there were several architectural and layout aspects of Glendale that should be preserved. Joe Ring mentioned that an area of Prospect Park was historically preserved and he talked about the process of the preservation application. Cam also gave an update on the Wallis Project (formerly known as Vermillion) and that the City Planning Commission approved the most recent version of the project but there was an appeal from PPA that will be

forthcoming.

2. **SE Seniors update.** Betsy Snyder, the new Director of SE Seniors, introduced herself and gave an update on SE Seniors' future move to The Pillars senior apartments, just down the street. Betsy also gave an update on the funding that SE Seniors recently secured.

3. **Community Announcements**

Judy Berven, Prospect Park Garden Club

The current iteration of the garden club takes care of all the ovals, circles, Chergoski Park, and more! They have a work crew, gather people on Saturday mornings and tend gardens! Every fourth Wednesday of the month they hold a potluck dinner and a short membership meeting. Gardeners and non-gardeners are welcome! They also put on the Garden Tour every summer. They also clean up trash and do watering all summer long. The Club is purely volunteer based, so members do some fundraising (like the cards for sale at tonight's meeting, and at the plant sale during the annual ice cream social). A current project, on the Barton Triangle, is a collaboration with Interesting Tactics, a student group, to design and plan some new garden spaces.

Earth Day Clean-up

Tom Kilton announced that the 2020 date will be April 18. Meet down by the parkway for a light breakfast and coffee. The group will start cleaning up along the River Rd. from 9:30 to 11:30. There will also be a pizza lunch. No need to bring anything - gloves and bags are provided. It's a great opportunity to clean up after the snow melts, and to meet your neighbors.

Climate Action Plan Kick-off

Mary Britton introduced the Climate Action Plan kickoff event, on March 28 from 10am to 2pm. There will be organizations and experts there to get residents signed up for energy audits and learn about more resources. Environment Committee meets every fourth Tuesday of the month, from 6:30-8pm at Luxton Park.

Critical Parking Meeting

Jan Nelson announced the Critical Parking information session on March 11, at 7pm, at the Textile Center. This will be an informational, question and answer style meeting.

Pratt Ice Cream Social

The 2020 event will be held on Saturday, May 30, from 12pm to 3pm. There will be two PPA applications for the Good Neighbor Fund: National Night Out event, and the Fall Student Event at the tower which will also involve voter registration. Jan also noted that Neighborhoods 2020 funding information will come out this Friday.

Wallis Update

The Planning Commission voted to recommend approval of the project. This was appealed by PPA for several reasons, including relevant information that was not in front

of the Planning Commission. PPA will speak at the public hearing at 10am on March 5.

- 4. Special Election:** Lynn Von Korff nominated Sammie Messina, who will be a write-in candidate, who is a Graduate Student studying non-profit management at the Humphrey School. Julia Mackenzie, also running for the board seat, introduced herself. Voting commenced.

Vote on new NRP Priority

Lynn Von Korff gave a refresher on the Community Building project, and the Tenants' Rights Pilot Project which came out of it. This will be a pilot, to try to understand what the needs are, to work alongside the University's resources and not overlap, to address tenants' needs. This will utilize NRP funds, leftover for housing projects. We need a motion (a vote) from the community and then again by the PPA Board, to move the priority and funding forward. There is also hope to create some reciprocity between landlords and tenants.

PPA membership was given more than 21-day notice of two proposed motions, to create the new priority and to reallocate \$15,000 in funds to the new priority. The proposed motions and a description of the proposed priority and project were printed in the PPA newsletter and presented at the January 27th community/board meeting.

Lynn Von Korff made the following motion: "To create a new NRP priority 'Tenants' Rights Project' to educate renters in the wider Prospect Park community on their rights and to connect them with resources available should their rights be violated. This priority will include research and data collection, events, student and community meetings, focus-groups, and workshops, collaboration, and the creation of resource materials." Becca Cowin seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

- 5. Election Conclusion:** Sammie Messina was elected with a majority vote. She will assume her board seat at the next board meeting, after the Community Meeting concludes this evening.
- 6. Next community meeting will be March 23.**

Meeting Adjourned at 7:41

Written by Nellie Jerome and reviewed by Laura Preus.

Respectfully submitted by Laura Preus, PPA Secretary.