

# April 2007 PPERRIA Newsletter



## PPERRIA Board/Membership ANNUAL Meeting Notice

Monday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

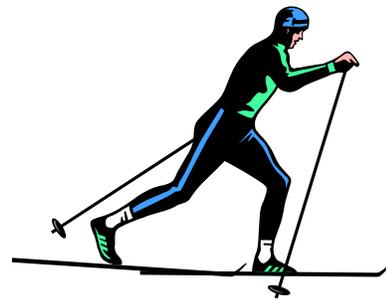
Refreshments will follow the meeting.

at the Prospect Park United Methodist Church,  
corner of Orlin and Malcolm Avenues Southeast

If you have special needs that require  
accommodations please contact Joyce Barta at  
612-378-9268 and we will make every attempt to  
meet that need.

## The Grand Rounds

What do you know about the Grand Rounds? If you want to learn more about it, and how it will effect your neighborhood, come to the PPERRIA Annual Meeting where Tim Spring, of the Midtown Greenway coalition, and our own John Holmquist and John DeWitt will tell us more about how it will be completed, where it goes to provide 50.1 miles of hiking, biking, skiing and driving paths through Minneapolis, and spill over into St. Paul. The Grand Rounds are considered to be the most significant example of an [urban](#) byway in the nation, as most such areas run through [rural](#) regions.



**Note: The May PPERRIA Meeting will be held on May 21 because of the Memorial Day holiday.**

1. President Joe Ring called the meeting of the Association to order at 7:15 p.m.
2. A motion to approve the agenda, as corrected, was made by Dean Abrahamson. Passed without noes.
3. Tony Garmers moved that the minutes of the February 26, 2007 be approved. Steve Ficker objected, and the minutes were amended. Amended minutes were passed without noes.
4. **Announcements:** Volunteers were sought for counting ballots at the annual meeting, and for the Earth Day River Cleanup.
5. **PPUMC Renovations:** Pastor Nancy Vigoran-Vangerud spoke about the planned renovations of the Prospect Park United Methodist Church. She indicated that the church was anxious to continue its participation in the community and noted that with the possibility of more students at Pratt School, the possibility of activities during the daytime at PPUMC would be welcomed. An elevator to make the church fully accessible is planned, a renovated kitchen and office space are anticipated. She noted that their capital fund drive was proceeding, and the goal of \$300,000 was already 2/3 subscribed.
6. **YMCA Activities:** A representative spoke about the University of Minnesota YMCA on University Avenue. No athletic facilities are in the building. The Y has programs for University students to tutor, provide arts and music programs, work with English Language Learner children, work with grade school and junior and senior high school students, and on social justice programs both locally and on trips out of state.
7. **Bike & Pedestrian Bridge over Freeway:** John DeWitt moved a resolution: The Prospect Park- East River Road Improvement Association (PPERRIA) strongly supports the construction of a bicycle/pedestrian bridge crossing the Mississippi River parallel to the existing railroad bridge between Lake Street and Franklin Avenue. As the eastern terminus of that bridge, the neighborhood would be well served by the connection to the hugely successful Midtown Greenway which currently terminates at West River Parkway. The bridge will also enable and encourage expansion of trails to the east into St. Paul and Ramsey County. The proposed twin tower suspension bridge should be sensitive to the ecology of the Mississippi River gorge while promoting non-motorized transportation in our region. Passed without noes.
8. **Livability Committee Report:** Work continues on attempts to obtain a **sound wall** along Highway 94 between the East River Mews and the St. Paul border. Data from the 1997 sound study was made available by Peter Lucas for comparison with a new study to be conducted by University of Minnesota students, which should be completed sometime in May. Dean Abrahamson, who is the City of Minneapolis Environment Committee Chair, stated that the city will take up the topic after the sound study is completed. The 2006 Crime Statistics show that there has been a 15% drop in crime around the student housing projects.  
Traffic studies show that **Franklin Avenue** carries 6,000 cars per day.
9. **SAAG Report:** Bills proposing a \$750,000 demonstration project as a result of the University Impact Study are pending at the legislature. Dick Poppele, President of the University Brunicks and Professor Robert Jones testified in favor of the bill. It is anticipated that bills from both the House and Senate will reach the floor. There is in addition 1.5 million dollars dedicated to mitigation of the impact of the building of the stadium and \$300,000 for problems created during construction.  
Peter Lucas raised questions about the planning of the roads around the stadium and the path of the planned light rail line. Peter Wagenius of the Mayor's office predicted that the

planned tunnel under the campus will not be built. The State of Minnesota must match any federal funds, and the state does not want the significant extra cost of a tunnel. Discussion centers on above ground route on Washington Avenue.

10. **Zoning Report:** Bob Sykora's request for approval of a variance for the construction of garages at 1717 Franklin Avenue SE. was approved by the Board of Adjustment after the city staff recommended against approval. He has plans for extensive renovation of the property.
11. **SEMCOL Funds Release:** Jerry Stein, representative to SEMCOL moved to release \$5,000 in NRP funds for the South East Minneapolis Council on Learning as approved in the NRP II Plan. Motion approved without noes.
12. **Nominating Committee:** Paul Zerby, chair of the PPERRIA Nominating Committee, discussed the procedures being followed by the nominating committee and distributed a letter to the membership. 20 directors, executive committee, and committee chairmen must be nominated according to the By Laws.
13. **Housing Improvement:** Roger Kiemele reported that he had had meetings with Bernie Waibel and Robert Miller about how other neighborhoods had proceeding in making funds available for housing repair. He will be working with Dick Poppele and a committee to determine how to use the \$158,000 that has been earmarked for housing improvement in the NRP II Plan.
14. **Overflow Espresso Cafe:** Molly Barnhart reported on progress of construction at Overflow Espresso Café at 2929 University Avenue SE in the Prospect Park Professional Building. Opening is anticipated in May. It will feature light lunches and a patio with a view of the planned rain garden at the site.
15. A motion to **adjourn** by Phil Anderson was passed without noes.

Respectfully submitted,  
Elizabeth Zerby

### **Housing Committee Begins Meeting**

Roger Kiemele and Dick Poppele have begun steps to get an NRP Housing Committee moving toward setting up a program to encourage Prospect Park/East River Road residents to seek NRP II loan funds for eligible home improvements. In an attempt to determine interest in such loans, a flyer will be sent out with The Bridge newspaper to residents with a return survey to express such interest. Roger and Dick have met with those from other neighborhoods who have had such programs, and are planning to meet with loan managers to learn how these programs work.

**April NRP/PPERRIA Contractor Activities 03/09/2007 – 04/04/2007**

<b>Supported PPERRIA activities, NRP I, and NRP II</b>			
<b>Contractors' services:</b>	<b>Hours billed</b>	<b>Total expense</b>	<b>% of total Budget</b>
<b>03/09/ to 04/04/07</b>	<b>18.00</b>	<b>\$ 360.00</b>	<b>0.2 %</b>
<b>Performance bonus</b>		<b>\$ 72.00</b>	
<b>10/18/95 to 03/09/07</b>	<b>10,702.41</b>	<b>\$184,803.15</b>	<b>95.7 %</b>
<b>10/18/95 to 04/04/07</b>	<b>10,720.41</b>	<b>\$185,235.15</b>	<b>95.9 %</b>

**Total revised PPERRIA NRP Phase 1 budget for independent contractor services = \$206,426.89\*; \$8,116.22 remains.**

**PPERRIA Committees and Chairs**

<b>Community Events</b>	<b>Gratia Reynolds</b>	<b>grandmagratia@yahoo.com</b>	<b>331-5312</b>
<b>East River Gorge Park</b>	<b>Tom Kilton</b>	<b>tom@tomkilton.com</b>	<b>339-3064</b>
<b>Education &amp; Human Services</b>	<b>Susan Larson-Fleming</b>	<b>flemings@usfamily.net</b>	<b>331-8819</b>
<b>Executive</b>	<b>Joe Ring</b>	<b>jring@visi.com</b>	<b>379-4587</b>
<b>History Project</b>	<b>Betts Zerby</b>	<b>ejzerby@yahoo.com</b>	<b>379-8095</b>
<b>Landscape</b>	<b>Mary Alice Kopf</b>	<b>mollisk@earthlink.net</b>	<b>379-7436</b>
<b>Landscape subcommittee: Tree Health Project</b>	<b>Paula Denman</b>	<b>pjdenman@mn.rr.com</b>	<b>338-1871</b>
<b>Livability</b>	<b>Joe Ring</b>	<b>jring@visi.com</b>	<b>379-4587</b>
<b>Zoning &amp; Plan Review</b>	<b>Florence Littman Phil Anderson</b>	<b>littm005@umn.edu philanne@ties2.net</b>	<b>331-2970 627-9471</b>

## Prospect Park East River Road Neighborhood Calendar

To include items in PPERRIA calendar, contact Joyce Barta at 378-9268 by **Thursday, May 3, 2007.**

Date and Time	Event and Location	Whom to contact
Tuesday, April 17	<b>JOY Outing</b> Call for information.	Eric Cherland 370-4925
Tuesday, April 17 7:00 pm	<b>(Tentative) Zoning &amp; Planning Committee meeting</b> at Prospect Park United Methodist Church	Florence Littman 331-2970
Thursday, April 19 6:00-8:00 pm	<b>Pratt Council meeting</b> at Pratt	Greg Bernstein 378-3489
Saturday, April 21 9:30 am – noon	<b>Earth Day cleanup of Mississippi River.</b> Meet on E River Parkway near the Franklin Bridge.	Tom Kilton 339-3064
Monday, April 23 7:00 pm	<b>ANNUAL MEETING of the PPERRIA Board of Directors &amp; Membership</b> at Prospect Park United Methodist Church. Board member election.	Joe Ring 379-4587
Wednesday, April 25 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm	<b>Garden Club</b> at Gratia Reyholds, 70 Orlin Ave. SE	Gratia Reynolds 331-5312
Sat April 28 10 am -5 pm Sun April 29 1 pm – 5 pm	<b>Minneapolis Home Tour</b> featuring 3 homes in Prospect Park. Tour guides will be available in mid-April.	<a href="http://www.msphometour.com/">http://www.msphometour.com/</a>
Wednesday, May 2 7:30 pm	<b>Luxton Park Council meeting</b> at Luxton Park	Jim Widder 331-6129
Friday, May 4 11:00 am- 1:00 pm	<b>JOY Book Club</b> at Luxton Park	Eric Cherland 370-4925
Monday, May 7 - note date change 7:00 pm	<b>PPERRIA Executive Committee meeting</b> at Prospect Park United Methodist Church	Joe Ring 379-4587
Monday, May 14 11:30 am- 1:30 pm	<b>JOY Pot Luck</b> at Luxton Park	Eric Cherland 370-4925
Wednesday, May 9 5:00 pm	<b>Glendale Resident Organization meeting</b> at 92 St. Mary's Ave.	Latrishia Collins 342-1952
Tuesday, May 15	<b>JOY Outing</b> Call for information.	Eric Cherland 370-4925
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**PERRIA Web Site: <http://www.pperr.org>**

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Prospect Park East River  
Road  
Improvement Association, Inc.  
66 SE Malcolm Avenue  
Minneapolis, MN 55414  
612/331-2970 (voice mail)

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U.S. Postage  
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