May 2004 PPERRIA Newsletter



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PPERRIA Board/Membership Meeting Notice/Agenda Monday, May 24th, 7-9 p.m.

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

- 1. Welcome
- 2. Approve agenda and minutes from 2/23/04, 3/22/04 and 4/26/04
- 3. Items for Consideration:
 - ∑ Motion: To approve NRP Phase II Plan Review
 - ∑ Motion: To release \$14,412 of NRP Phase II development funds
- 4. New/Old Business
- 5. Adjourn

Minutes from 4/26/04

- 1) The Prospect Park East River Road Improvement Association, Inc. (PPERRIA) Annual Board of Directors (BOD) Membership/Neighborhood (B/M/N) Meeting was called to order by Steve Banks, President, at 7 P.M. at the Prospect Park United Methodist Church (PPUMC) (Orlin and Malcolm Avenues S.E., Minneapolis, Minnesota, 55414). A quorum of the BODs was present. First time attendees, guests and neighborhood business owners were introduced. Motion made, seconded and passed without noes: "To accept the amended agenda for this meeting as available at this meeting." Amended were: A) Item 5 was moved between Items 1 and 2 as Mayor Rybak this evening had other meetings to attend; B) Several items were added to the Announcements, Item 4. The meeting is conducted according to Robert's Rules Of Order. A tentative agenda for this meeting was published in the 4/2004 PPERRIA Newsletter. See attached Items 1-A and 1B.
- 2) Mary Alice Kopf, Nomination Committee Chair, reported that the committee recommends that its slate of 19 be elected as 2004-2005 PPERRIA BODs. See Item 7 for names and election results. The committee was able to confirm 19 of 20 candidates. At least one additional candidate needs to be nominated at this meeting. Each PPERRIA member received a ballot as they signed in. Each can vote for up to 20, but not more than 20 candidates. As in previous years, though the election of BOD candidates was announced at least one month prior to this election, there were no self-identified candidates or offer of candidates to the election Committee prior to this meeting. The committee identified candidates. Paul Zerby declined the nomination as he is the elected Minneapolis Council member for the Second Ward, of which Prospect Park is a member. In addition, candidates can be added to the ballot at the meeting at which the vote is taken and there also may be write-in candidates. Nominated from the floor and added to the ballot were Dan Miller and Robert/Roger Kiemele. There were now 21 candidates for 20 positions. As candidates were introduced, it was commented that some candidates were not in attendance. One of the strengths of PPERRIA is that it has an elected BOD of 40 members and monthly meetings of an average attendance of at least thirty. The downside of having 40 members is that not all can attend meetings. Several attend to PPERRIA's business as their time allows. This is part of the ongoing issue of the role of the BODs within PPERRIA.
- Motion made by Esther Wattenberg, seconded by Sheri Emery and passed without noes: "That PPERRIA accept the 2003-2004 budget as available at this meeting." See attached Item 3-A. The PPERRIA By-Laws require that the coming year's PPERRIA budget be accepted at the Annual Meeting, the start of the coming year. The Treasurer was thanked for her work. There are several one time items that makes the total amount larger the previous year, but should be smaller this year: the Prospect Park History Book publication, Tree Spotter Project, Buckthorn Project, Website start up, Environmental Coordinator and SE Council on Learning (Studying the Pratt model). PPERRIA is now fully funding the PPERRIA Newsletter, as the PPERRIA/NRP for this purpose funds are at zero; the cost can be reduced if members will receive the newsletter via the Prospect Park Web Site, indicate your e-mail address when you return your 2004-2005 PPERRIA Membership Application. See attached Item 3-B. A large 2004-2005 cost will be incurred as the Phase II of the Prospect Park Historical Designation Project moves along. It is expected that contributions will not cover the full cost. Ahead, there will be a large reduced income as the few remaining History books are sold. The budget was balanced by transferring \$5,000 from PPERRIA's reserves, Saving Account. 2003/2004 actual budget was \$21,185, and estimated budget was \$25,330. 2003/2004 actual income was \$33,035 (\$18,778 from sales of the Prospect Park History book) and estimated income was \$26,040)(10,000 estimated book sales). The 2004-2005 estimated budget is \$16,242 with an estimated income of \$16,242. By the way (TROLLOP) is the Transportation, Land Use and Light Rail Committee. PPERRIA cash assets as of 4/22/04 are \$32,586.75.
- Announcements: A) Cheryl Vollhaber, Vice President Data-base, announced that received so far were 64 renewed2004-2005 PPERRIA memberships. All were encouraged to return the mailing sent out last weekend to each household in the neighborhood (900). The 2003-2004 membership was 228. B) The Pratt Ice Cream Social will be held at Pratt on 06/04/2004, 5 to 9 P.M. To donate plants for the Plant Sale call 378-3489. Circulated were volunteer sign-up sheets. See attached Item 4-B. C) Betts Zerby, History Committee Chair, presented Julie Wallace with a Prospect Park Historical Award for her efforts and actions to have her grandparents' (Dr. John Hynes, a long-time physician to the neighborhood) house/office moved from the site on University Avenue S.E. (now occupied by Fraser School) to Fourth Street S.E., on street north. She also

has been nominated by PPERRIA for a 2004 Minneapolis Historic Preservation Award.

- D) Becky Sechrist, Pastor of the PPUMC, reminded all that there has been a neighborhood-wide mailing regarding a 5/22/2004 fundraising dinner to help replace the carpeting in the basement area (where PPERRIA meetings are held). All were invited to notice condition of the carpet. We all have contributed to that condition. See attached Item 4-D. E) Jerry Stein and Susan Larson-Fleming reviewed the current threat to the Pratt Building and the Public School and Community Education Programs held in that building. In 2/04, the Minneapolis School Board publicly announced that within two weeks they were going to vote to close the Pratt Public School, move the community education programs and sell the Pratt Building. There are nine other Minneapolis schools also to be closed. A flurry of public response and action resulted in the decision date be moved to October 2004. The neighborhood has created a number of ad-hoc committees with wide neighborhood participation to review and make recommendations on the many issues of this proposed action: a school in the neighborhood, the community education in the neighborhood, the Pratt site and building, obtaining and examining the data for the district as well as for Pratt that the school board used, and general demographic and other data of the neighborhood. It was pointed out that the issue of community/family/student/school partnership that tends to be the best predictor of school success by individual students is not part of the school board's criteria. As of this meeting, the school board is behind on its April/May schedule of public consultation leading up to the permanent school superintendent and the election in November 2004 of three school board members. See www.44clarence.com/pratt. F) Joe Ring reported that there will be a benefit for the Phase II study concerning the proposed designation of the central Part of Prospect Park as a Historic District on the National Register. The Pratt building and site would be included in the historic district and should facilitate the retention of the building. On 5/2/04 at 7 pm in the Pratt Gymnasium, Ted Sawyer, graduate of Pratt, artist and Director of Research and Education of the Bullseye Glass Company of Portland, Oregon will present a lecture and presentation on "The Art of Fused Glass." There will also be a silent auction of his work as well as local glass artists. The event is sponsored by the Buillseye Glass Company, the J. Ring Glass Studio and PPERRIA. See attached Item 4-F. G)Lois Willand reminded all to watch for the announcement of the Summer Concerts at the Pratt Performance Circle.
- 5) Minneapolis Mayor R. T. Rybak spoke for an extended time about the city of Minneapolis and answered questions from the membership.
- 6) Merrilyn Belgum, Queen Mother of Comedy and 1936 eighth grade graduate of Pratt Public School and at that time resident on Bedford Street S.E., convinced the membership that there is a connection between laughter and life and nothing can be exempt from humor. She said that after 41 years as a social worker, she decided to become funny full-time. She and several members who were residents of Prospect Park together shared stories! A red, white and blue boa (the colors of Pratt) was given to the Pratt Council. Watch for the boa at future Pratt events.
- 7) Julie Lund, appointed Chief Election Judge, announced the results of the election for 20 2004-2006 PPERRIA Board of Directors. Elected were: Jane Burnham/Steve Banks, Susan Larson-Fleming, Travis Emdin, Bill Kahn, Jan/Tom Kilton, Florence/Walter Littman, Bill Seeley, Vera Marshalll, Cheryl Vollhaber/Andy Mickel, Shawne/Scott Johnson, Ralph Rapson, Susan Thrash/Joe Ring, Kris/Mark LaFavor, Rachel/Satish Ramadhyani, Phil Anderson, Elizabeth Zerby, Peter LaSha, Eleanor/David Brown, Dan Miller, and Roberta/Roger Kiemele. Elected first alternate was Christine/NG/Michael Atherton. If during 2004-2006 there is a vacancy on the 40 member BOD, the alternate will be elected to the BOD at a PPERRIA Executive Committee Meeting. See Item 3.
- 8) Motion made, seconded and passed to adjourn this meeting and enjoy the refreshments arranged by Mary Alice Kopf and Vera Marshall. Annually providing the Annual Meeting cake was Judy Bratt. Pots of flowers were provided to those on the agenda with cups of flowers available to all who attended this meeting.
- 9) The 2004 Annual PPERRIA Board of Directors (BOD) meeting was called to order.
- A) Motion made, seconded and passed without noes. "That the following be elected 2004-2005 Officers and Executive Committee members: President Joe Ring, Treasurer Lois Willand, Secretary Daniel Patenaude, Vice President Elect Phil Anderson, Vice President Immediate Past President Steve Banks, Vice Presidents Data Base Manager Cheryl Vollhaber and Website Manager Andy Mickel, Vice President Membership Tom Kilton, Vice President Zoning Florence Littman, Vice President Finance Bill Seeley, and Vice President Newsletter Editor Betts Zerby. In addition, all past presidents are Ex Officio members of the Executive Committee.

- B) Motion made, seconded and passed without noes: "That the 2004-2005 President, Joe Ring and Treasurer, Lois Willand, are authorized to deposit funds into PPERRIA's checking and savings accounts and to sign checks and documents to withdraw funds from these accounts.
- C) Motion made, seconded and passed without noes: "That this BOD meeting be adjourned." There were no additional items considered at these meetings.

Daniel Patenaude, Secretary

Written changes and comments to 117 Arthur Ave. SE or marko029@umn.edu.

Proposed motion:

To approve the completed NRP Phase I Plan review.

The review was accepted by the Executive Committee at its April 12th meeting and due to its length was distributed to the PPERRIA Board of Directors via e-mail. If approved, the review will be posted on the website and copies of the review will be available at various neighborhood locations and will be made available to anyone who requests a copy. A summary of the review will be prepared for distribution to the neighborhood.

Proposed motion:

To release \$14,412 in Phase II development funds for to pay for costs related to completing NRP Phase I and developing and implementing a Phase II Participation Agreement and Neighborhood Action Plan.

The NRP Policy Board allocated funds to the neighborhoods to assist in NRP Phase I review and Phase II Participation Agreement and Action Plan development. \$14,412 was allocated to Prospect Park and approved by the Policy Board its April 19 meeting.

Neighborhood Cleanup - September 11

This year's Neighborhood Cleanup will be held on September 11. Tom Kilton has agreed to chair the event once again. There will be hazardous waste pickup at a designated area, and pickup at the curb of non-hazardous large items. Remember, the City of Minneapolis will pick up large items and yard waste with your regular garbage pickup.

TreeSpotters Dutch Elm Disease Project

Symptoms of early Dutch Elm Disease (DED) are most noticeable the week after Memorial Day, (May 31st). Watch for wilting of branches in the crown, and yellowing or browning of leaves which often remain attached to the tree for an extended period of time (some of the yellow leaves may fall off). Other diseases may be confused with DED, but an experienced inspector will determine which disease is present. Please keep you eyes open and look up often on your strolls with your babies, while walking your dog, or any time you are walking around Prospect Park East River Road. Minneapolis has scouts that constantly survey our urban forests, but residents are in the best position to detect elm problems early enough to be treatable.

We are fortunate that Mark Stennes, of Top Notch Tree Care, and Bob Meisch, District Forester for our neighborhood, have agreed to work with us on this project. Mark has been involved with the research on and evaluation of DED and treatments since 1976. Bob Meisch oversees the tree inspectors that scout our area for signs of tree diseases.

Residents who attended the informational session last year will be provided with color pictures of early DED symptoms. The pictures will also be posted on the PPERRIA website and sent out via the PP-elist. If you do not have access to either of these, please contact me and I'll see that you receive a photo.

A process for identifying diseased elms and evaluating them as candidates for treatment has been identified. If symptoms are noted on trees on public or private property, call me and I will compile a list of suspect trees for our project tracking purposes, and forward it to Bob Miesch. All reports are confidential; however, you may call Bob directly if you prefer (370-4840).

An inspector will check the trees for disease (the city does not charge for inspections). If the tree is healthy enough to consider for treatment, it will then be evaluated by Mark Stennes, who is waiving his \$75 inspection fee for us. On private property, owners will decide if they wish to treat their elms. For trees on public property, we will attempt to raise funds for treatment.

Below is an excellent article on DED disease and its history written by Ralph Sievert, Director of Forestry.

Paula Denman (612-338-1871 or pjdenman@mn.rr.com), project coordinator.

Elm Firewood Spreads Dutch Elm Disease

During the summer of 2003, over 2000 diseased elm trees were removed from boulevards and parks. Another 2000 were removed from private property. The reason for these removals is to control the spread of Dutch Elm Disease (DED). While these numbers are nowhere near those of the late 1970s when 30,000 trees were lost in

one year, they are still significant. The sad part is that such losses can be reduced if homeowners would properly dispose of elm logs and not store them as firewood.

The Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board has been in the business of controlling Dutch Elm Disease since it first appeared in 1963. The success of this control has been the rapid disposal of diseased wood. This lesson was learned from other municipalities that first experienced losses from DED.

DED is caused by a fungus that first entered the United States on elm logs from Europe. In the beginning it was not known how the disease spread from tree to tree. After years of research the destructive cycle of DED was discovered. One method of transmission is when roots of nearby trees graft together. However, the majority of incidents are caused by movement of the Elm Bark Beetle (EBB).

The EBB is a very small insect that is the size of a pencil tip. As part of its life cycle the EBB feeds on the tiny twigs of American Elm trees. In so doing it spreads the microscopic DED fungus from tree to tree. It is only logical that the more EBBs that are feeding, the more DED spreads.

Because EBBs reproduce in the dead wood of certain species of elms, the control of DED lies in reducing beetle breeding places. This is why the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board has such a vigorous program of controlling diseased elms. As soon as a tree is discovered to have DED, it is condemned and removed. Waiting for the tree to completely die would be a mistake. The cities that waited to remove disease trees until they died spent a significant amount of money in a short amount of time. In comparison Minneapolis spent less money and would have very few remaining elms if this approach had been taken.

It doesn't matter if the dead wood of an elm tree is standing in a dead tree or if it is cut up into smaller pieces. The EBB will use it for reproducing in either form. This is why it is so important not to store elm logs as firewood. For example, one fireplace size elm log is capable of producing several thousand EBBs. Since EBBs can fly for more than a mile it easy to see how quickly the insect can infest nearby trees.

Each summer, the Forestry Section assigns Diseased Tree Inspectors to look for DED infested trees. These arborists diligently monitor both public and private elms. Municipal ordinances give the inspectors the right to enter private property as part of these duties. As a result they become quite familiar with the DED numbers in a particular neighborhood.

When the number of diseased elms in a particular location increases to a point where more elms are being condemned than would be otherwise, the inspectors instinctively look for elm logs that are being stored as firewood. Homeowners that are not aware of the fact that elm logs serve as a breeding ground for EBBs are unknowingly helping to spread the disease. Such firewood piles are condemned just like a tree would be. If the property owner does nothing after notification, a contractor can be assigned to dispose of the elm logs. The cost may then be assessed to the property.

While this method works, it is actually the least preferred course of action. The best route is education. The Forestry Section of the Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board believes that property owners will not store elm logs for firewood when they know the consequences of doing so. If you are storing elm logs with plans of using them as firewood, please dispose of them properly. There is nothing wrong with burning the logs as a means of disposal. However, this should be done before there are leaves on trees. Otherwise take the logs to a nearby recycling facility.

Minneapolis is known across the country as one of the last havens for streets that are lined with the arching canopy of American Elms. By condemning diseased trees and eliminating elm firewood plies, we can continue this reputation for years to come.

Submitted by: Ralph Sievert Director of Forestry March 13, 2004

2004-05 PPERRIA Meeting Schedule

Executive Committee PPERRIA

Monday, May 10	Monday, May 24
Monday, June 14	Monday, June 28
Monday, July 12	Monday, July 26
Monday, August 9	NO AUGUST MEETING
Monday, September 13	Monday, September 27
Monday, October 11	Monday, October 25
Monday, November 8	Monday, November 22
Monday, December 13	NO DECEMBER MEETING
Monday, January 10	Monday, January 24
Monday, February 14	Monday, February 28
Monday, March 14	Monday, March 28
Monday, April 11	Monday, April 25

NOTE: All PPERRIA meetings are on the 2nd Monday (Executive Committee) and 4th Monday (General Membership/Board) of the month, unless otherwise noted (*). Meetings take place at the Prospect Park United Methodist Church at 22 Orlin Avenue Southeast at 7:00 p.m. and are open to the public. The August and December PPERRIA meetings are scheduled only as needed.

Save Pratt!

For current information on the status of Pratt School, see the Save Pratt! website at http://44clarence.com/pratt. Also, check out the PPERRIA website at http://www.pperr.org. To subscribe to the community e-list and receive current neighborhood news and events announcements, send an email to

jon.and.lois.willand@worldnet.att.net.

PPERRIA Committees and Chairs

Community Events	Lois Willand	378-9697
East River Gorge Park	Tom Kilton	339-3064
Education & Human Services	Susan Larson-Fleming	331-8819
Environment	Bill Kahn	378-5287
Executive	Steve Banks	321-9064
History Project	Betts Zerby	379-8095
Housing Redevelopment	Florence Littman	331-2970
	Dean Lund	378-2486
Housing Improvement	Andy Mickel	331-8396
Landscape	Mary Alice Kopf	379-7436
Membership	Dan Patenaude	378-3038
	Tom Kilton	339-3064
Tower Hill Park	Susan Thrash	379-4587
Transportation and Land	John Dewitt	338-1871
Use		
Zoning & Plan Review	Florence Littman	331-2970
	Phil Anderson	627-9471

May NRP/PPERRIA Contractor Activities

Reporting period April 7, 2004through May 7, 2004. Major activities and results:

Supported various PPERRIA committees and the Executive Committee		Maintained the neighborhood calendar & supported production of PPERRIA newsletter		
Worked to establish and strengthen Block Clubs		Worked to evaluate Phase I of NRP		
Worked with students, parents, and teachers at Pratt		Worked to begin planning Phase II of NRP		
Expense for contractors' services:	Hours bil	led	Total expense	% of total Budget
Totals 04/05/04 to 05/07/04	121	.25	\$2008.00	1.3 %
Totals 10/18/95 to 04/07/04	9401	.10	\$158,180.34	93.5 %
Totals 10/18/95 to 05/07/04	9,522	2.35	\$160,188.34	94.7 %

Total revised PPERRIA NRP budget for independent contractor services = \$181,623.46*; **\$8952.02*** remains.

^{*} These revised amounts reflect additional funds reallocated to this strategy 11/27/00, 2/27/01, 6/25/01 and 7/22/02 and adds in funds from Safety & Security A.1. Block club coordination, PARC B.2. History editor and from Education A.1.a. Neighborhood learning center – Education committee worker and Neighborhood Education Worker, and \$15,000 from Education A.1.a Pratt Liaison (contract 12/3/03). NOTE: Current NRP Contractors include Kari Simonson, Block Club Coordinator and Joyce Barta, Implementation Coordinator, whose contracts expire 4/30/04, and Janet Madzey-Akale, Education Worker, whose contract expires 6/15/04. PPERRIA Contractor is Paula Denman, whose contract expires 12/31/03.

Total PPERRIA Funds Available for Buckthorn Removal per Exec. Committee 7/8/02: \$1,400.00; Total PPERRIA Staff Funds spent to date: \$168; Total Hard Costs spent to date: \$0; Total Remaining: \$1,232.00. – Joyce Barta

Prospect Park East River Road Neighborhood Calendar

To include items in PPERRIA calendar, contact Joyce Barta at 378-9268 by **Thursday**, **June 10, 2004.**

Date and Time	Event and Location	Whom to con	tact
Tuesday, 7:00 pm May 18	(Tentative) Zoning & Planning Committee meeting at Prospect Park United Methodist Church	Florence Littman	331-2970
Thursday, 6:00-8:00 pm May 20	Pratt Council Meeting at Pratt Community Center; childcare and rides available.	Gary Jordan,	673-9713
Saturday, 5:00 pm May 22	Fundraiser for new carpet at PPUMC. Meat and vegetarian entrees prepared by John Kari	Reserve Tickets	378-2380
Sunday, May 23	Prospect Park Community Choir Concert at Prospect Park United Methodist Church	Curt Oliver 763	3-208-6556
Monday, 7:00 pm May 24	PPERRIA BOD & Membership meeting at Prospect Park United Methodist Church	Joe Ring	379-4587
Wednesday 6:30-8:30 pm May 26	Garden Club meeting location TBA	Mary Alice Kopf	378-7436
Wednesday, 7:30 pm June 2	Luxton Park Council meeting at Luxton Park building	Jim Widder	331-6129
Friday, 5:30-8:30 pm June 4	Pratt Ice Cream Social at Pratt Community Education Center. Food, Ice cream, games. Climb the tower!		668-1122
Tuesday, June 8	Last day of school for Minneapolis Public Schools		
Wednesday, 5:00 pm June 9	Glendale Resident Organization meeting at 92 St. Mary's Ave.	William Tweet	342-1952
Monday, 11:30 am - June 14 2:00 pm	JOY Potluck Picnic at Luxton Picnic area	Julia M-F bu MacKenzie-Cross	usiness hrs 331-5823
Monday, 7:00 pm June 14	PPERRIA Executive Committee meeting at Prospect Park United Methodist Church	Joe Ring	379-4587 321-9064
Tuesday, 7:00 pm June 15	(Tentative) Zoning & Planning Committee meeting at Prospect Park United Methodist Church	Florence Littman	331-2970
Monday, 7:00 pm June 28	PPERRIA BOD & Membership meeting at Prospect Park United Methodist Church	Joe Ring	379-4587
Wednesday 6:30-8:30 pm June 23	Garden Club meeting location TBA	Mary Alice Kopf	378-7436

Day and Time	Recurring Community Events	Whom to contact
Monday-Friday 10am- 4pm	Food, toys, art supplies, seasonal clothing, necessities can be donated to Care & Share Food Shelf, 92 St. Mary's Ave.	Ginia Klamecki 331-7056 Shirley Davis 342-1952
2 nd & 4 th Tues.4- 4:30pm 2 nd Mon 11:00-11:25am 2 nd Mon 11:30am -12:00	Bookmobile at Luxton Park Bookmobile at Univ. Good Samaritan Center Bookmobile at Pratt Community Center	Bookmobile 630-6630
Tuesdays 7:00 pm	Community Choir at PPUMC (Note: does not meet during the summer)	Curt Oliver 763-208-6556

Under the Witch's Hat & Wallace House Winners!

The Prospect Park neighborhood history, *Under the Witch's Hat,* has received two awards this spring. It was the recipient of a Community Education award by the Historic Preservation Commission. The Center for the Urban Environment selected the book as one of 21 finalists for awards. Congratulations to the History Committee, Betts Zerby, Mary Alice Kopf, Florence Littman and Karen Murdock, and its editor, Dean Abrahamson.

The restoration of the Dr. John and Mrs. Martha Hynes home received a Preservation Award by the Historic Preservation Commission. Congratulations to Julia Wallace.

Are You a PPERRIA Member?

PPERRIA's year runs from Annual Meeting (this year April 26) to Annual Meeting. If you haven't sent in your membership form, please do so. Send in the envelope provided with last month's mailing! If you lost it, call Cheryl Vollhaber and ask for another. (612) 379-7234.

PPERRIA Web Site: http://www.pperr.org

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