

ECCO Board Meeting Minutes for March 6, 2014 at St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church

Minutes recorded and submitted by Monica Smith and approved by the ECCO Board by electronic vote prior to publication.

Board Members Present: Linda Todd, President; Andrew Bornhoft, Vice-President; Susie Goldstein, Treasurer; Anja Curiskis; Kate Davenport; Paul Harstad; Liz Heyman; Ben Jilek; Lara Norkus-Crampton; Harry Savage; David Tompkins; and Heather Wulfsberg.

Board Member Absent: Emily Balogh

Guests: Commissioner Anita Tabb; Council Member Lisa Bender; Matthew Crockett, Ward 10 Council office; and ECCO resident Bob Hentges.

ECCO Board President Linda Todd called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Council Member Lisa Bender, Ward 10

- Minneapolis is working toward offering curbside organics citywide.
- Regarding Southwest LRT: The City Council passed a resolution (on March 5th) to restate their position that they do not support co-location of LRT and freight in the Kenilworth Corridor (including the option for shallow LRT tunnels).
- Parking restrictions are in place until April 1st. No parking on even sides of non-snow emergency routes.
- Airplane noise: The FAA will not be implementing RNAV for departures at MSP at this time. RNAV will be implemented for arrivals. A City Council working group will continue to focus on airplane noise.
- The City is working on a redevelopment plan for the Kmart site on Lake/Nicollet that would allow the City to purchase property.
- The City's lawsuit against 1800 Lake is in the discovery phase.

Park Board Commissioner Anita Tabb

- The Park Board will be installing a solar array at Parade Stadium. The solar project at the Tin Fish will be installed in 2015-16.
- Foresters are observing the stressed trees on the 31st St median. If the trees don't survive, they will be replaced with drought tolerant trees.
- Re Emerald Ash Borer (EAB): The Park Board has been removing ash trees and will replant this year. They are planning a public meeting to share their Ash tree replacement plan. The Park Board does not treat diseased trees, but they do allow residents to hire certified arborists to treat boulevard trees. According to the Park Board, there is no definitive evidence that the treatment chemicals are killing bees.
- Re RNAV: Commissioner Tabb is supportive of seeking an environmental study before the MSP airport is allowed to expand and implement RNAV.

RNAV Update

As noted above, the FAA will not be implementing RNAV for departures at MSP at this time. Heather Wulfsberg and Ruth Cain had a conference call with Congressman Jim Oberstar (former chair of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee) about

RNAV. Oberstar suggests speaking with the air traffic controllers for more information about RNAV. The ECCO Board is focusing on protecting Lake Calhoun from air and noise pollution.

Staff Report, Monica Smith

- The ECCO Board approved the 2013 CPP Annual Report. Highlights of the report will be posted on our website: www.eastcalhoun.org.
- The ECCO Board approved \$400 to host the 3rd annual puppet show on Saturday, June 7.
- The Friends of Roberts Bird Sanctuary asked ECCO to co-sign a letter to the Metropolitan Council requesting mitigation for negative impacts of the sewer rehabilitation construction. The ECCO Board voted to co-sign the letter.
- Neighborhood and Community Relations (NCR) is hosting the 2nd Annual Community Connections Conference on Saturday, March 22nd from 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. at the Minneapolis Convention Center. The event is free. Registration is open.
- There will be a public Meeting for roadway improvements on Hennepin/Lyndale Avenues (between Franklin Ave and Dunwoody Blvd) on Tuesday, March 25, 6:30 – 8 pm at the Walker Art Center. Project website: www.hennepinlyndaleproject.com.
- The Minneapolis Health Department has published a resource guide to help aging citizen navigate the city services they need. The *Healthy Homes* resource guide can be found at www.minneapolismn.gov/health.

Committee Reports

Communications, Andrew Bornhoft

The website now includes a link to the Uptown Neighborhood News Facebook page. A suggestion was made to include a calendar feature to the ECCO events page.

Green Team, David Tompkins

Kathy Scoggin and David Tompkins are the co-chairs of the Green Team. The next meeting is Wednesday, March 12, 7 p.m. at Dunn Bros. on 34th and Hennepin. New members, ideas and energy are welcome.

Tastemakers is hosting a discussion about the decline in the bee population on Tuesday, March 18, 6:00-8:00 p.m. at the Ritz Theater. Linda Todd will attend to learn more for a possible project in East Calhoun.

Uptown Neighborhood News, Anja Curiskis

The paper continues to seek more ad revenue and story ideas.

Bicycle Festival, Anja Curiskis

Planning is underway for the 2nd annual Bicycle Festival, Saturday, May 31st 1:00-3:00 p.m. at St. Mary's.

Midtown Greenway Coalition

Paul Harstad will serve as ECCO's representative to the Midtown Greenway Coalition Board. Thanks to Harry Savage for his service on the MGC Board.

Midtown Corridor Alternatives Analysis

The Policy Advisory Committee selected the Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA) for Midtown transit improvements: a dual alignment of enhanced bus on Lake Street and rail on the Midtown Greenway. Funding has not yet been identified for the project.

Livability Committee

The next meeting is Monday, March 17, 7 p.m. at St. Mary's. The agenda includes a proposal for a three story, mixed-use development on the NE corner of Lake St and James Ave and a variance request for a single-family home at 3347 E. Calhoun Pkwy.

President's Report, Linda Todd

- RNAV update: A joint hearing of the House and Senate Transportation committees was held on March 4 about MSP airport noise and expansion. The ECCO Board submitted a letter petitioning our legislative representatives to devise legislation to protect the Chain-of-Lakes from negative impacts of increased air traffic.
- Southwest LRT: Harry Savage will prepare a resolution supporting Southwest LRT to present to the Livability Committee at its March 17th meeting.
- Linda Todd and Kate Davenport will represent the ECCO Board at the Uptown Opportunity Task Force meeting on March 25th.

Meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Next meeting is Thursday, April 3, 2014, 7 p.m. at St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church.