

ECCO Board Meeting Minutes for April 12, 2018 at St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church

Minutes recorded and submitted by Monica Smith.

Board members present: President Ralph Knox, Vice President Gary Farland, Secretary Bobbie Keller, Marya Morstad, Rhoda Reighard, Mary Sabatke, Judy Shields, Dane Stimart and Caroline Vaaler.

Board members absent: Treasurer Luke Schaan, Tim Haas, Lee Todd and Jenny Walter.

ECCO guests: Jack Whitehurst, NCR, and Matthew Lassegard, community member.

Announcements

- The Minneapolis Pops sent a thank you letter for ECCO's \$500 donation.
- The Park Board is beginning a master planning effort for the Southwest area, which includes all neighborhood parks south of I-394 and west of I-35W. A Community Advisory Committee will be formed.
- The City will host a pre-construction informational meeting for the Hennepin Ave project on Monday, April 23, 6:30-7:30 p.m. at St. Mary's.
- The City is looking at reconstructing Hennepin Ave (from Lake St north to Douglas Ave) in 2023. An open house meeting will be held on April 11, 6-8 p.m. at Jefferson School, 1200 26th St W. The City is also seeking feedback via an online survey at surveygizmo.com/s3/4265320/Hennepin-Avenue-Business-Owner-Surveysurveygizmo.com.
- The draft of Minneapolis 2040 (the Comprehensive Plan) has been released and is available for public comment through July 22. Go to minneapolis2040.com for more information and to comment.
- Hennepin Ave (between Lake St and 31st St W) will be closed on Sunday, April 29 for a Thai New Year Celebration hosted by Amazing Thailand.

Ward 10 Update

A representative from the Ward 10 office was not available to attend the meeting. The ECCO Board will request that Council Member Bender attend one ECCO meeting each quarter and ask her associates to attend the other monthly board meetings to provide updates and to encourage communication.

Neighborhoods 2020 Roadmap, Jack Whitehurst, NCR

Jack Whitehurst, Neighborhood Specialist from Neighborhood and Community Relations, attended the meeting to discuss the Neighborhoods 2020 Roadmap. The Roadmap is a draft of a document that addresses the role of neighborhoods after the dedicated funding source for neighborhood associations expires in 2020. The Roadmap is open for public comments through April 30.

The ECCO Board reviewed and approved a draft of comments to submit to the City as feedback to the Roadmap. Thank you to Judy Shields, Mary Sabatke and Caroline Vaaler for drafting the comments in advance of the board meeting.

Committee Reports

Livability Committee

The March 19 Livability Committee meeting included:

- An information presentation about the possible redevelopment of 3017, 3021 and 3025 E Calhoun Pkwy. The project team is exploring the possibility of a 35' building that would feature rental apartments for seniors (both independent and assisted living). The team is studying the idea and will return to the Livability Committee with more details in May.
- Formation of a subgroup to work on parking and traffic issues. That group is working on a survey to send out to neighborhood residents to help identify problem areas and potential solutions.

Upcoming Livability Committee meetings:

- Monday, April 16, 7:00 p.m. at St. Mary's. The agenda will include discussing Minneapolis 2040, the draft of the Comprehensive Plan.
- Monday, May 21, 7:00 p.m. at St. Mary's. The agenda will include the E Calhoun Pkwy redevelopment and a proposed redevelopment at Lake St and James Ave (1711 Lake St and 3000, 3004 and 3008 James Ave).

NRP, Gary Farland

- The lead and radon testing workshop was held on Tuesday, February 20, at St. Mary's. The workshop featured speakers from the Minnesota Department of Health and Minneapolis Water Works.
- The contractor confirmed receipt of ECCO's funds for the Lake of the Isles warming house project.
- The next committee meeting will be Monday, April 30, 7:00 p.m. at St. Mary's.

Communications, Caroline Vaaler

A postcard will be mailed in May to promote the spring activities.

Social Committee

- The next Happy Hour is Monday, May 14, 5:00-6:30 p.m. at Lake & Irving.
- The annual Super Sale will be Saturday, June 2.
- Volunteers are needed to ensure that we can move forward with the annual street party on Saturday, June 2. A request will be sent in an eblast and posted on NextDoor.
- The board approved \$100 to hire people to deliver a flyer to promote spring events.

Friends of the Walker Library, Mary Sabatke

- The library will feature a new art exhibit each month. ECCO resident Kay Christianson is the featured artist in April.
- The jewelry sale is being planned for August. Donations are being accepted any time.
- Donations are also welcome for the Book Cart.

Green Team

Earth Day Clean Up is Saturday, April 21, 9:30 am – Noon at Bde Maka Ska. Meet at the Refectory.

NOTE: The clean up date has been changed to Saturday, May 12 due to weather.

Midtown Greenway Coalition

No report.

Staff Report, Monica Smith

- Applications are being accepted for individuals interested in serving on the Neighborhood and Community Engagement Commission (NCEC). Application deadline is May 11.
- The board appointed Rhoda Reighard to serve as ECCO's elector for the NCEC seat representing District 6. The election will be held on June 14.
- CARAG is requesting that the City install rain gardens on the boulevards as they reconstruct Hennepin Ave. ECCO will consider providing support as more information becomes available.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

The next ECCO Board meeting is Thursday, May 3, 7:00 p.m. at St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church.