

ECCO Board Meeting Minutes for Thursday, May 2, 2019 at St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church

Minutes recorded and submitted by Monica Smith.

Board members present: President Judy Shields, Vice President Dane Stimart, Treasurer Gary Farland, Secretary Bobbie Keller, Ralph Knox, Marya Morstad, Nick Muellerleile, Rhoda Reighard and Lee Todd.

Board members absent: Jane Connelly, Daré Magnus-Lawson, Mary Sabatke and Jenny/Jonas Walter.

Resident guests: Ryan Brown and Lara Norkus-Crampton

Other guests: John Edwards from Wedge Live, Arlene Fried from Bryn Mawr and Andrew Hazzard from Southwest Journal.

President Judy Shields called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

### **Ward 10 Update**

No report.

### **President's Report, Judy Shields**

The *StarTribune* interviewed Judy Shields about the improvements to Lola's on the Lake as they enter their second season.

### **Announcements**

- Hennepin Ave will be closing to finalize construction. Watch for detours.
  - May 6-June 7 – Lake St to 31<sup>st</sup> St will be closed.
  - May 13-mid June – 31<sup>st</sup> St to 36<sup>th</sup> St will be closed.
- East Calhoun Pkwy resurfacing work is near completion. It is scheduled to reopen on May 8.
- Park Board updates:
  - Commissioners adopted an ordinance on April 17 to formalize the process to change the names of parkways. There is an indication that the Park Board will start the process to rename roads that include the name Calhoun.
  - The master plan process called Parks for All is beginning.
  - The comment period for Ecological System Plan is ending May 12.
- 5<sup>th</sup> Precinct News:
  - The 5<sup>th</sup> Precinct Open House is May 14, 5-7 p.m. at 3101 Nicollet Ave S.
  - Kathy Waite has been promoted to Deputy Chief of Patrol. The new 5<sup>th</sup> Precinct Inspector is Amelia Huffman.
- The Joyce Foodshelf 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration is Sunday, June 2, 2:00-5:00 p.m. at Bryant Square Park, 3101 Bryant Ave S.
- Metro Transit is holding an open house for two proposed Bus Rapid Transit lines: B Line (Lake St corridor) and E Line (Hennepin Ave corridor) on Wednesday, May 22, 4:00-6:30 p.m. at Walker Library, 2880 Hennepin Ave.
- The City Planning Commission will hold a joint public hearing with the Capital Long-Range Improvement Committee (CLIC) on Thursday, May 16, 6:00 p.m. at City Hall, 350 S 5th St.

### **Coordinator's Report, Monica Smith**

- The board approved the Treasurer's Report for January 1 – April 19, 2019.
- The ECCO Super Sale will be held on Saturday, June 2.
- Labor Day: Planning for Labor Day is beginning. The approved budget includes funding for Herme the Clown.
- Neighborhoods 2020: Neighborhood and Community Relations (NCR) released public comments. Several neighborhoods are asking for a delay in the process to redraft the recommendations on how the City and neighborhood organizations should work together. NCR will make a presentation to the City Council's Public Health, Environment, Civil Rights and Engagement (PECE) Committee on Monday, May 6, 1:30 p.m. at City Hall. A public hearing will be held at this meeting.

### **Committee Reports**

#### **Neighborhood Name Review Committee, Ralph Knox**

The board approved the slides and script that will be used at each of the three community meetings about the name of the neighborhood. The meetings will all be held at St. Mary's, they are:

- Thursday, May 9, 7:00 p.m.
- Saturday, May 11, 10:00 a.m.
- Tuesday, May 14, 10 a.m.

On April 29, the Minnesota Court of Appeals ruled that the name of the lake will go back to Calhoun because only the Legislature, not the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), can change a lake name that has been in use for more than 40 years. It has been reported that the DNR intends to appeal the ruling.

The Court of Appeals ruling does not interfere with the ECCO Board's ability to change its name. The ruling will drive further conversation in our neighborhood.

The next step for the committee is to work on the process to allow residents to vote on whether or not to change the neighborhood name.

#### **Livability Committee, Lee Todd**

The April 15 meeting included a presentation by Abigail Johnson from Feet First.

East Calhoun Pkwy development (3017, 3021, and 3025 East Calhoun Pkwy): ECCO's subcommittee met with the developers to see the revised proposal. The main roofline of the building is 39'8" (49' to the top of rooftop cabanas that are set back). The committee will draft a letter (likely stating no position on the project) for electronic approval by the ECCO Board. The Planning Commission will hold a public hearing for the project on Monday, May 13, 4:30 p.m. at City Hall.

Lake & James: No news. A land use application has not been submitted to the City.

A group met with Park Board staff and Commissioner Jono Cowgill to discuss pedestrian improvements to E Calhoun Pkwy such as better signage, painted crosswalks and bollards at the crosswalk near the Zen Center.

The next Livability Committee meeting is Monday, May 20, 7:00 p.m. at St. Mary's.

**NRP, Gary Farland**

The committee will meet in May.

**Social Committee**

The next ECCO Happy Hour is Monday, May 13, 5:00-6:30 p.m. at Lake & Irving Restaurant.

A summer social event is being considered.

**Friends of the Walker Library**

No report.

**Green Team, Dane Stimart**

The Earth Day Clean Up on Saturday, April 20 was a big success. The event included a Green Fair featuring Tesla electric vehicles, master gardeners and All Energy Solar.

The Green Team will hold their next meeting in June and is considering organizing a garden tour.

**Midtown Greenway Coalition**

No report.

**Renter Committee, Nick Muellerleile**

The committee is planning a renter social event on Thursday, July 11.

The committee's next meeting is Tuesday, May 7, 7:00 p.m. at Calhoun Square.

**Communications**

No report.

**Miscellaneous**

The annual filing for the Attorney General will be presented to the board for approval at the June meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

The next ECCO Board meeting is Thursday, June 6, 7:00 p.m. at St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church.