

ECCO Board Meeting Minutes for Thursday, September 5, 2019 at St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church

Minutes recorded and submitted by Monica Smith.

Board members present: President Judy Shields, Treasurer Gary Farland, Secretary Bobbie Keller, Jane Connelly, Ralph Knox, Marya Morstad, Nick Muellerleile, Rhoda Reighard, Mary Sabatke, Jenny Walter and David Tompkins.

Board members absent: Vice President Dane Stimart and Lee Todd.

Resident guests: Ryan Brown and Mike Connelly.

Other guests: Emma Pachuta, Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board and Arlene Fried (Bryn Mawr resident).

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

Emma Pachuta, Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board (MPRB)

Emma Pachuta attended the meeting to present the planning process for the MPRB Comprehensive Plan, known as Parks for All.

MPRB's current Comprehensive Plan runs from 2007- 2020. MPRB is undertaking the planning process for the plan that will go into effect in 2021.

Visionary values:

- Sustainability
- Visionary leadership
- Safety
- Responsiveness and innovation
- Independence and focus

The plan sets policy guidance and direction for the organization.

The plan will build on existing planning documents and focus on the system as a whole, not on recommendations for individual parks.

MPRB is currently in the Vision and Discover phase of the process. Input will be gathered by focus groups, events, public forums/meetings, online tools/social media, feedback forms at recreation centers and surveys.

A community advisory committee (CAC) is being formed.

For more information about this process, go to minneapolisparcs.org/parksforall.

Pavilion at Bde Maka Ska/Lake Calhoun

The pavilion at the lake was destroyed by fire on May 16, 2019. MPRB initiated short-term and intermediate projects to restore basic services (electricity and drinking water) to make the site safe for park users and concessions until a long-term plan can be established.

MPRB has had difficulty getting contractors to bid on the work due to the extremely tight market this year and the nature of the work.

By late August electricity was restored to the Minneapolis Sailing Center and Wheel Fun, and electrical hookup was installed for Lola's food truck.

Asphalt pavement work is scheduled for September 9-10 (the fence will remain on site until September 16). The drinking fountain will be installed in October.

For more information, go to:

minneapolisparks.org/park_care_improvements/park_projects/current_projects/bde-maka-ska-former-pavilion-site-2019-projects/.

Ward 10 Update

No report.

Announcements

- The Minneapolis Sailing Center sent a thank you acknowledging ECCO's donation.
- Neighborhood and Community Relations (NCR) has scheduled Learning Labs. The most directly relevant to ECCO are:
 - Effective Planning for Community Engagement:
 - Wednesday, September 11, 10:00-11:30 a.m. at City Hall, Room 319
 - Tuesday, September 17, 5:30-7:00 p.m. at UROC, 2001 Plymouth Ave
 - Disability Awareness:
 - Wednesday, September 25, 5:30-7:00 p.m. at Phillips Community Center
 - Thursday, October 21, 10:00-11:30 a.m. at Central Library
- The Community Connections Conference date has been set for Saturday, February 1, 2020.

Coordinator's Report, Monica Smith

- The Labor Day Celebration was a success. Thanks to all of the volunteers who secured bingo prizes and helped the day of the event. Barricades for the parade route were a new addition this year at the suggestion of Minneapolis Police Department.
- The 2019 Wine Tasting Fundraiser is Thursday, October 10. The ECCO Board approved a motion to give a ticket price discount to our volunteers for the event. Volunteers who work at least 90 minutes can buy a ticket for \$15. A promotional flyer will be delivered on the backside of the next Neighborhood Name flyer.
- Southwest Service Area Master Plan: The Community Advisory Committee has upcoming meetings scheduled to continue to discuss park concept designs and provide recommendations to the project team. For more information: minneapolisparks.org/sw.
- Neighborhoods 2020 update: Mayor Frey's proposed budget lays out a plan to provide funding for neighborhood organizations when the current funding from the Tax Increment Finance (TIF) district expires in 2020.
- St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church recently published revised rates for meeting room rentals. St. Mary's is developing a plan to provide ECCO with space for three (3) complimentary meetings each month beginning in 2020. ECCO has agreed to pay \$150 for the 2019 Labor Day Celebration and \$100 for the 2019 Annual Meeting.
- Hennepin County Library holds the records of several Minneapolis neighborhood associations in its archival collections at the Central Library. The library is asking for donations of historical records from other neighborhoods to add to the archives.

Committee Reports

Livability Committee, David Tompkins

Highlights from the August Livability Committee meeting:

East Calhoun Pkwy development (3017, 3021, and 3025 East Calhoun Pkwy): The project team expects to break ground in December.

Lake & James: The project is on hold. The developer is fixing up the existing housing and will continue to rent the properties until a decision is made.

The Pedestrian Safety subcommittee welcomed dialogue to set priorities for near- and long-term solutions. The idea of converting our neighborhood streets to one-way streets was proposed by one neighbor.

A resident shared concerns about a house that has been under renovation and now appears to be abandoned on the 34xx block of Holmes.

David Wade from Family Housing Fund gave a presentation about Accessory Dwelling Units (ADU).

Neighborhood Name Review Committee (NNRC), Ralph Knox

Name suggestions were accepted through September 2.

The NNRC met on September 3 to narrow the list of suggested names to 10 potential names. A mailer will go out to residents asking our neighbors to vote for their top three choices. A three-person panel will review the votes and assign a point system of three points to each 1st choice vote, two points to each 2nd place vote and one point to each 3rd place vote. The top two (most popular) names will be identified through this process. The final step is to ask the neighborhood to vote for one of the top two names. The 10 potential names are: East Bde Maka Ska, East Lakeside, ECCO, Hennepin Heights, Lakeside Village, Lakewood, Loon Lake, North Lakewood, Uptown Lakeside and Uptown Village.

NRP, Gary Farland

The committee did not meet in August.

Social Committee

The next ECCO Happy Hour is Monday, September 9, 5:00-6:30 p.m. at Lake & Irving Restaurant.

The committee will schedule a date for Caroling.

Friends of the Walker Library, Mary Sabatke

The library is accepting donations of used books for the book cart (fundraiser).

Green Team

A resident contacted ECCO with concerns about how the boulevard trees are trimmed near power lines. The resident is following up with the Park Board.

Midtown Greenway Coalition, Jane Connelly

- Gardening help is needed on Saturday, September 7 at 10:00 a.m., on the Greenway and 28th Ave.
- Extend the Greenway Ride + Rally -- Join a bike ride and rally to support the effort to extend the Greenway over the river to St. Paul. Meet at Lake Monster Brewing, 550 Vandalia St on Sunday, September 15 at 12:30 p.m.
- Concerns have been raised about homeless camps along the Greenway. Report problems to Hennepin County.

Renter Committee, Nick Muellerleile

The committee did not meet in August.

Communications

No report.

President's Report, Judy Shields

- The Annual Meeting is Thursday, October 3. Elected officials have been invited to speak. The agenda will also include a report of the work of the board and committees over the past year (committee chairs will submit information for slides), treasurer's report and board elections. Four board seats and two alternates are up for election. A promotion mailer will go out to all residents.
- South Uptown held a recent fundraiser at LynLake Brewery (raising \$200).
- South Uptown is willing to collaborate with ECCO on the 2020 Super Sale.
- Monica Smith's contract was renewed for the next year at the same terms.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

The next meeting is the ECCO Annual Meeting on Thursday, October 3, at St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church. Pizza and socializing at 6:00-6:30 p.m.; the meeting begins at 6:30 p.m.