

ECCO Annual Meeting Minutes  
October 4, 2018  
St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church

### **Attendance**

Approximately 40 residents attended the Annual Meeting including 2017-18 Board members: President Ralph Knox, Vice President Gary Farland, Treasurer Luke Schaan, Secretary Bobbie Keller, Marya Morstad, Rhoda Reighard, Judy Shields, and Lee Todd.

The event began with pizza and a social hour.

ECCO Board President Ralph Knox called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

### **Michael Malone, District 6 Commissioner, Neighborhood and Community Engagement Commission (NCEC)**

Commissioner Malone was elected to serve as the District 6 representative to the NCEC in August 2018. Malone lives in Whittier and works for the Heritage Park Neighborhood Association.

The NCEC advises the Mayor and City Council on community engagement issues.

NCEC update:

- Heather Worthington, Director of Long Range Planning, attended a recent NCEC meeting to give an update on Minneapolis 2040 (the revised draft had not been released at the time of her presentation). The public was invited to speak and give feedback.
- Neighborhoods 2020 is an initiative to plan for the future of neighborhood organizations once the current funding source for neighborhoods expires in 2020. There are three work groups that are working to make recommendations for the following: Program Guidelines and Funding; Governance; and Citywide Community Engagement.
- The Community Connections Conference will be Saturday, February 2, 2019.
- The NCEC is reviewing the Biko Report that was published in 2016. The report was commissioned by the City and is an evaluation of neighborhood programming and support.

### **Minneapolis 2040**

ECCO tried repeatedly to get a representative from the City to attend the meeting to present the revised draft of Minneapolis 2040. A representative was not made available nor was a recap of the changes to Ward 10 provided.

Background: Minneapolis 2040 guides growth in the City over the next 20 years. The plan covers topics such as housing, job access, land use, and how we use our streets. The original draft of Minneapolis 2040 was released in March 2018. The public comment period closed on July 22, 2018. ECCO submitted formal comments in that process. The revised draft of the plan was released on September 28.

Ralph Knox presented the changes based on his research.

- Upzoning to fourplexes remains the same for ECCO and other neighborhoods in the central part of the City. The plan was revised for the north and south sides of the City to allow upzoning to triplexes (vs. fourplexes in previous draft).
- The Built Form Map guides the scale of development for every parcel in the City independent of the uses allowed on the site.
- Regarding Shoreland Overlay Districts: "Update the Zoning Ordinance, including the Shoreland and Critical Area Overlay Districts, to reflect goals and policies of this plan as well as any relevant requirements of federal and state legislation."
- Regarding Small Area Plans: "Minneapolis 2040 will be used to guide future land use and built form guidance in areas covered by past small area plans."
- For transportation, the new plan is more restrictive. New projects are not required to provide any parking. Policy 19: "minimize the number of vehicle curb cuts that hinder bicyclist comfort; be deliberate in the placement of drop-off zones and other curb side uses, and evaluate the bicycling benefits as a part of the decision-making process."

Upcoming meetings comment on Minneapolis 2040:

- Ward 10 Community Meeting for Minneapolis 2040 on Wednesday, October 24, 6:30-8:00 p.m. at VFW, 2916 Lyndale Ave.
- Public Hearing for Minneapolis 2040 at Planning Commission on Monday, October 29, 4:30 p.m. at City Hall.
- Public Hearing for Minneapolis 2040 at City Council meeting on Wednesday, November 14, 4:30 p.m. at City Hall.

#### **Treasurer's Report, Luke Schaan**

ECCO has \$32K in the bank and is expecting reimbursements from the City of \$9,939. The balance for this time last year was \$37K.

Funding sources include:

- Fundraisers: The Wine Tasting is our biggest fundraiser. Funds go to ECCO's unrestricted account to pay for community events and grants to other nonprofits.
- Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP). ECCO was allocated \$361K in 2010 for NRP Phase II. The remaining balance is \$117K.
- Community Participation Program (CPP). ECCO received \$25K per year for community engagement and administration.
- Park Dedication Fees. Money that developers pay to the Park Board to expand and enhance parkland within the neighborhood in which the project was developed. The current balance is \$119K and will increase when Ryan Companies pays the fees for the Sons of Norway site.

#### **ECCO programs for residents, Monica Smith**

- Home Security Grants of up to \$100 per household for allowable security upgrades.
- Rain Barrel, Compost Bin, and Raingarden Grants of up to \$100 per property.
- Radon program – testing and mitigation grants.
- Lead in drinking water testing program.

Details for these programs can be found at [eastcalhoun.org/programs](http://eastcalhoun.org/programs).

### **Upcoming events, Monica Smith**

- ECCO sponsors a monthly Happy Hour at Lake & Irving Restaurant, 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month, 5:00-6:30 p.m. The next event is Monday, October 8.
- Wine Tasting Fundraiser, Thursday, October 11, 6:00-9:00 p.m. at St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church. Tickets are \$25/advance and \$35/door. ECCO keeps 100% of proceeds from tickets we sell. Thanks to the premiere sponsors: Ackerberg, Bader Development, Hennepin Lake Liquor, Lake & Irving Restaurant, and Peterssen/Keller Architecture.
- Ward 10 Community Meeting for Minneapolis 2040, Wednesday, October 24, 6:30-8:00 p.m. at VFW, 2916 Lyndale Ave.
- Southwest Minneapolis Parks Workshop, Tuesday, October 23, 6:30-8:00 p.m. at Bryant Square Park. The workshop will focus on neighborhood parks in ECCO, CARAG, East Harriet, Kingfield and Lyndale. The Loon Lake Trolley Path is the only parkland in ECCO that is being looked at in this process.
- Public Hearing for Minneapolis 2040 at Planning Commission on Monday, October 29, 4:30 p.m. at City Hall.
- Public Hearing for Minneapolis 2040 at City Council meeting on Wednesday, November 14, 4:30 p.m. at City Hall.

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

The committee works on zoning issues, traffic, safety, and public event matters relevant to the neighborhood.

The work in the past year included:

- Sons of Norway development
- Proposal for a development on East Calhoun Parkway: 3 properties between Lake St and W 31<sup>st</sup> St. The developer is interested in an assisted living facility that requires an upzoning and conditional use permit to exceed the allowable height. The City staff is recommending that the properties not be allowed to be upzoned.
- Proposal for a development on Lake St and James Ave. No recent news on this project.
- Suburban World Theater. A developer is renovating the historic theater to be used for an event venue.
- Noise and parking issues on East Calhoun Pkwy including late night disturbances on the parkway between Lake and W 31<sup>st</sup> St. Parking restrictions are being enforced.
- Traffic and safety issues: A subcommittee was formed and they conducted a traffic survey in the neighborhood.
- Interface for allocating Park Dedication Fee for an opportunity to influence projects.

The committee meets the third Monday of each month. The next meeting is Monday, October 15, 7:00 p.m. at St. Mary's.

### **NRP Committee, Gary Farland**

NRP funds for ECCO:

- NRP Phase I - \$794K allocation, the balance is 0. The largest Phase I project was building the Tot Lot.
- NRP Phase II - \$361K allocation, the balance is \$117K.

- CPP - \$25,900 allocation each year 2017, 2018 and 2019. The funding beyond 2019 is uncertain.
- Park Dedication Fees. The Park Board controls these funds with input from the neighborhood. Current balance for ECCO is \$119K and will increase when Ryan Companies pays the fees for the Sons of Norway site.

Recent NRP expenditures:

- Contributed \$2,162 to the refurbishment of the Lake of the Isles warming house
- Contributed \$20K to the Bridge for Youth, Rita's House

Radon Program:

Kicked off in 2015. 156 test kits have been distributed. The most recent test results show:

- 39.3% safe – recommend retesting in 5 years
- 33.4% should retest with a long term test to get a more accurate reading
- 27.3% elevated levels – mitigation is recommended

Lead Program:

Kicked off in 2018. 28 kits have been distributed. The most recent test results show:

- 1 test was 32.1 ppb but the homeowner retested and the results showed 3.5 ppb (note: the EPA advises that levels should be below 15 ppb)
- All other tests were below 7.1 ppb

### **Communications Committee**

Communication in the past 12 months:

- Monthly e-newsletter
- Two mailings in 2018
- Website and Facebook page

Thanks to outgoing Communications Committee Chair Caroline Vaaler.

### **Social Committee, Marya Morstad**

Social activities in the past 12 months:

- Monthly Happy Hour at Lake & Irving Restaurant, 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month, 5:00-6:30 p.m.
- Holiday Caroling, December 2017
- 46<sup>th</sup> Annual Super Sale on June 2. Special thanks to long-time organizer Sylvia Kafkas who is retiring from this volunteer position. A new organizer will need to be identified for this event to continue in the future.
- Community Potluck and Puppet Show on June 2
- Labor Day Celebration. Special thanks to Brad Albertson for procuring all of the bingo prizes and a big thanks to all of the businesses that donated prizes.

### **Green Team**

The Chair is Dane Stimart.

The mission of the Green Team is to promote awareness and engagement for Land, Air, Water and Wildlife in its neighborhood and wider communities.

Initiatives include:

Land:

- Trash pick up 2x year
- Recycling and composting

Air:

- Household power
- Transportation

Water:

- Leaf clean-up awareness
- Invasive species

Wildlife

- Wildlife plaques
- Promote pollinating plants

Volunteers are needed to join the team.

### **Advocacy**

ECCO representatives serve on the following:

- Bde Maka Ska/Lake Harriet Master Plan (completed in May 2017). Harvey Zuckman was ECCO's representative.
- Friends of Walker Library, Mary Sabatke is ECCO's representative.
- Midtown Greenway Coalition, Tim Haas is ECCO's representative.

### **Thanks to the following who fulfilled full or partial terms in 2017/18:**

Amy Rutherford and Caroline Vaaler.

And thanks to the family and friends of board members who volunteer for various ECCO events.

### **Board members continuing their term in 2018/19:**

Gary Farland, Tim Haas, Rhoda Reighard, Judy Shields, Dane Stimart, Lee Todd, and Jenny/Jonas Walter.

### **Board Elections**

The following individuals were elected (or reelected) to the ECCO Board: Bobbie Keller (2<sup>nd</sup> term), Ralph Knox (2<sup>nd</sup> term), Marya Morstad (2<sup>nd</sup> term), Nick Muellerleile (1<sup>st</sup> term), Mary Sabatke (2<sup>nd</sup> term), and Daré Magnus-Lawson (1<sup>st</sup> term).

The following individuals were elected as Alternates to the ECCO Board: Jane Connelly, Luke Schaan, and David Tompkins.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Next meeting is Thursday, November 1, 7 p.m. at St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church.