

ECCO Board Meeting Minutes for Thursday, April 2, 2020 via video conferencing.

Minutes recorded and submitted by Monica Smith.

Board members present: President Dane Stimart, Treasurer Judy Shields, Secretary Bobbie Keller, Jane Connelly, Ralph Knox, Mary Sabatke, Lee Todd, David Tompkins, Jonas Walter and Joe Wehri.

Board members absent: Vice President Nick Muellerleile, Deb Jessen and Marya Morstad.

Guests: none

Dane Stimart called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m.

COVID-19 Open Discussion

The board discussed how everyone is doing during the Stay at Home order.

The City of Minneapolis is in the process of implementing a COVID-19 Neighborhood Response Fund that will allow neighborhoods an opportunity to contribute NRP dollars to a fund administered by the Minneapolis Health Department. The fund will support efforts and expenses that are not covered by current City budgets but are eligible under the NRP Law. The ECCO Board will review once the City publishes the details of the fund.

ECCO actions:

- ECCO purchased a Zoom subscription (month-to-month) for \$16 per month for use in hosting meetings.
- The ECCO Board will host the April ECCO Happy Hour via Zoom on Monday, April 13, 5:00-6:30 p.m.
- The ECCO Board approved a motion to donate \$500 (from unrestricted funds) to Joyce Uptown Foodshelf.
- The weather is getting nicer and Bde Maka Ska is getting busy with walkers/runner/bikers, making social distancing a challenge. The ECCO Board approved a motion to send a request to the Park Board to immediately restrict access of East Bde Maka Ska Parkway to vehicle traffic to allow increased space for the public to walk, run or bike similar to West River & Nokomis Parkways.

Announcements

- Southwest Minneapolis Parks: The master plans for the Southwest area neighborhood parks were published and the public comment period has been extended until April 25. The only ECCO park included in the master plan is the Loon Lake Trolley Path. For more information and to comment, go to minneapolisparcs.org/sw.
- The Park Board is hosting an online listening session for the Cedar-Isles Master Plan on Tuesday, April 14, 7:00 p.m. For more information, go to minneapolisparcs.org/cedar-isles.
- Minneapolis Public Schools is moving ahead with voting on the Comprehensive District Design (CDD). The School Board is expected to discuss the CDD on April 14, with the final vote scheduled for April 28. For more information, go to cdd.mpls.k12.mn.us.
- Reminder to complete your Census 2020 form.

Coordinator's Report, Monica Smith

- Neighborhoods 2020 draft guidelines: Minneapolis has extended the comment period until July 15. The ECCO Board approved a motion to send a letter to Council President Bender thanking the City for extending the deadline but expressing ECCO's concerns that Neighborhood and Community Relations (NCR) will not have the capacity to administer a new program and have contracts in place by January 1, 2021. The letter will request that the City Council take action to extend the existing Community Participation Program (CPP) contracts for 2021 and implement the new program in January 2022.
- State Representative Jamie Long has asked for a contact list for ECCO Board members to keep in better communication during these difficult times.
- Lowry Hill East Neighborhood Association (LHENA) will be answering the City's Request for Proposal for the redevelopment of 2920 Lyndale Ave S. LHENA's idea is to propose a park and nonprofit co-working/event space on the site.
- ECCO will help to promote a virtual Easter Egg Hunt organized by an ECCO resident.

Committee Reports

Livability Committee, David Tompkins

The March Livability Committee meeting was a call-in meeting featuring guest speaker Ethan Fawley, Vision Zero Program Coordinator, City of Minneapolis, to discuss Vision Zero and the Transportation Action Plan. Vision Zero has a goal of zero deaths and severe injuries on City streets by 2027. The Transportation Action Plan is open for public comment through April 22. The presentation slides are available on the committee webpage: eastcalhoun.org/livability-committee.

The meeting also included information shared by an ECCO resident with concerns about the safety of intersections in the neighborhood.

The next meeting will be Monday, April 20, 7:00 p.m. via a video conference call.

ECCO Name Change Implementation, Dane Stimart

In light of COVID-19, the ECCO Board has decided to delay the request to the City to ask for formal recognition of the name ECCO until a more appropriate time.

A committee meeting will be scheduled to review options for a new legal name for the organization.

Social & Communication Committee

The next ECCO Happy Hour will be a video conference event on Monday, April 13, 5:00-6:30 p.m.

Green Team, Dane Stimart

The Park Board has canceled the Earth Day Clean Up originally scheduled for April 18.

The Green Team met on February 18. Minutes from that meeting will be shared next month.

Culture, Diversity and Inclusion Committee

No report.

NRP Committee, Judy Shields

The committee will share information regarding the COVID-19 Neighborhood Response Fund (see above) when available from the City.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 7, 2020, 7:00 p.m.