

ECCO Board Meeting Minutes for Thursday, June 4, 2020 via video conferencing.

Minutes recorded and submitted by Monica Smith.

Board members present: President Dane Stimart, Vice President Nick Muellerleile, Treasurer Judy Shields, Secretary Bobbie Keller, Jane Connelly, Deb Jessen, Marya Morstad, Lee Todd, David Tompkins, Jenny Walter and Joe Wehri.

Board members absent: Ralph Knox and Mary Sabatke.

Guests: Cynthia McDonough, ECCO property owner.

Nick Muellerleile called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

The meeting began with a moment of silence in honor of George Floyd, who died at the hands of Minneapolis Police on May 25.

Announcements

- Minneapolis Public Schools voted to approve the Comprehensive District Design (CDD) at their meeting on May 12. For more information, go to cdd.mpls.k12.mn.us.
- Remember to complete your Census 2020 form. ECCO's participation rate is at 66% (as of 5/25/20).

Coordinator's Report, Monica Smith

- The ECCO Board approved the following:
 - The annual report to be submitted to the MN Attorney General.
 - A motion to provide \$3,000 (of funds previously reserved for a Neighborhood Priority Plan) to the Neighborhood Organizations Respond to COVID-19 Fund. Note: this is a follow-up to last month's meeting to fulfil the 21-day notice required by the City.
 - Placement of a \$600 ad promoting ECCO's COVID-19 initiatives in the May 28 issue of the Southwest Journal (via electronic vote between meetings).
 - Waiver of the pre-approval process for a resident to be reimbursed \$396.25 for a radon grant.
 - Establishment of a PayPal account.
- The Wine Tasting event for 2020 has been cancelled. Dates are being considered for 2021.
- The comment period for the Neighborhoods 2020 draft guidelines ends July 15. We have not yet drafted ECCO's response. The board may have to vote electronically if it doesn't meet in July and the City does not extend the deadline.
- Council President Bender is hosting a Ward 10 Community Gathering (via Zoom) on Friday, June 5, 4:00-5:30 p.m.

Dane Stimart arrived and took over as meeting chair.

Open Discussion on Recent Events and COVID-19 Initiatives

Some actions taken in response to the riots after Mr. Floyd's death:

- ECCO sent e-blasts with safety tips.
- Dane Stimart and Jonas Walter helped board up LaLa Homemade Ice Cream and others helped with clean-up in Uptown.
- Marya Morstad created an ECCO Neighborhood Watch Facebook page.
- Blocks organized their own text chains to watch out for one another and communicate any problems.

The board discussed a variety of options for providing money and/or volunteers in response to the destruction from the riots. The board has called a special meeting to be held after the Livability Committee meeting on July 15 to begin implementing ideas.

New Business

The Zen Center is planning some improvements that require a variance, but details have not been provided. We will get more information to bring to the Livability Committee meeting on June 15.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

The special board meeting will be held after the Livability Committee meeting on Monday, June 15, 2020, 7:00 p.m.