

ELLIOT PARK NEIGHBORHOOD, INC.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES
EPNI office, 719 10th Street South
January 11, 2010

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Arthur Agnew, Jean Cole, Mike Harristhal, Paul Ireland, Dean Jacobson, Ken Lawrence, Brian Nasi, Nancy Nasi, Christopher Naumann, Millie Schafer, Patti Wettlin, Howard Young.

DIRECTORS ABSENT: Kim Forbes, Jeff Millikan.

OTHERS PRESENT: Bruce Jacobson-Close Landscape Architecture; Susan Braun, David Fields, Lynn Regnier-EPNI staff.

President Schafer called the meeting to order at 7:05pm.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Agenda was reviewed and amended to add an announcement from Christopher Naumann. Approved as amended. m.Howard/Chris.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The December 14, 2009 Board Minutes were approved: motion Chris/Mike.

COUNCIL MEMBER LISA GOODMAN

- ‘Lunch With Lisa’ resumes January 27th, 11:45 am – 1pm at the University of St. Thomas, Minneapolis campus. Mike Christenson, CPED Director, is speaking on job growth in Minneapolis: Past, present and future as part of a four-year planning process.
- The City Council reorganized this week with Barb Johnson elected as the new chair. The Health, Energy & Environment Committee has been dissolved and replaced with two new committees: Health and Public Safety; Regulatory Services, Energy and The Environment.
- Snow issues continue to be a problem due to the amounts and timing of snowfalls, followed by rain that turned to ice. Sidewalk regulations require that someone call and report violations, followed by a 7-day waiting period before a city order can be issued and shoveling done. Lisa encouraged everyone to make calls to help get sidewalks cleaned up. A Snow Emergency was declared for Christmas Night but not declared on Christmas Eve, as it normally would have been done, as the city was concerned that too many people would be away because of the holiday and were not able to move their vehicles. The impound lot would not be able to house that many vehicles and there would not be enough tow trucks either.
- The Minneapolis Telecommunications Network oversees public access programming and there is a vacancy for an open appointment if anyone is interested in participating.
- Tandem Developers have sold their last remaining unsold condo units at Skyscape to a local company who will market and sell them.

- The 1st Church of Christ Scientists property was in foreclosure and slated for public auction by the county when the city stepped in and took ownership for six months. This allows time for reviews of possible reuse and new ownership. The property is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.
- Owners of the 1212 South 7th Street property have applied for a demolition permit. The request is to be reviewed by the HPC.
- Chicago Avenue reconstruction is entering its second phase. It appears that the streetscape additions will be moving forward as 30% of property owners must opt out in order for the additional improvements to be removed from the project. That has not occurred.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

November 2009 financial report: Treasurer Dean Jacobson reported on November 2009 financials as recorded in the December 7th (draft) finance minutes, noting:

- There were two payroll periods in November as compared to three for October.
- Citizen Participation Contract reimbursement received in full for 2009: \$10,837.
- \$1,500 expense under Professional Fees/Consultants was paid to Close Landscape Architecture as previously approved for consulting work.

The November 2009 Financials were approved, received and filed as presented.

Annual Giving Campaign Update: Lynn reported that we received \$19,435. Included in that is the full \$15,000 challenge grant amount from the Vikings. We also had 100% participation by board members. The total donations were not high but the amount reflects a 42% increase in new individual donors and some larger donations from neighborhood institutions.

2010 BUDGET

Introduction: Susan presented the 2010 budget and noted that without the professional fees/consulting line item of \$30,000 expenses decreased overall from the 2009 budget by over \$12,000.

DEEP Contract Proposal: David presented background on the development of the Centennial Commons Initiative and its expansion into the DEEP District Initiative-Downtown East & Elliot Park Neighborhoods. He reminded the board that The McKnight Foundation has supported the work of CCI with four years of funding, now in its third year. He presented draft materials and a preliminary Scope of Work from Close Landscape Architecture (CLA), moving the work of CCI forward into the DEEP Initiative. CLA worked with the organization to develop the EP Master Plan that was approved and then incorporated into the city planning in 2003. They have been working with EPNI in more recent months to map out and define what the next steps need to be and what this looks like. They have recruited additional professionals who are participating in these workshop sessions. The contract proposal defines the work product in three phases with the first one-and-a-half phases totaling \$50,000. CLA is offering an in-kind match of \$25,000. Bruce Jacobson reminded all that the goal was not to start over-great plans are already written-but to find the missing drivers and to cultivate the

stakeholders who will take this and make it happen. Susan presented a list of Sources of Funding for DEEP Framework Consulting Services that included six resources currently available to EPNI, (and several potential resources that are being explored), that cover the \$25,000 contract expense. Motion by Chris/Ken and approved: **Motion to move forward with the DEEP Contract Proposal Scope of Work as presented.**

Other Line Items: Susan presented the remainder of the budget with explanations for line items that had changed significantly from the 2009 budget. Discussion followed, particularly regarding salaries and salary freezes that other companies are experiencing. Motion Patti/Chris approved with one opposed.

Motion to approve the 2010 Budget as presented.

BOARD STRUCTURE

Millie presented a list of items open for consideration as the Executive Committee is undertaking a review of the current board structure. A task force will review these items at a meeting scheduled for Monday, January 25th @ 4pm at the EPNI office. Paul Ireland, Ken Lawrence and Howard Young all volunteered to work on this with the Executive Committee. The task force intends to have a report for the February board meeting. In the event that any board structure recommendations require any changes to the bylaws then those items would have to receive final board approval by the March 8th board meeting in order to be presented to the community at the Annual Meeting in May.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Next Board Meeting: Monday, February 8, 2010 @ 7pm at the EPNI office, 719 10th Street South.
- Chris Naumann announced that he has accepted a position as director of a nonprofit organization in Green Bay, WI and he starts February 1st. He is resigning from the board and as chair of the BLUH Committee. Susan thanked him for his service and noted that he will be missed.

ADJOURNMENT: The Board meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm

Respectfully Submitted 1/12/10 by Lynn Regnier, Finance & Communications Coordinator