



PPA Community Meeting DRAFT

Regular Meeting: January 28, 2019, 6:30pm

Prospect Park United Methodist Church, 22 Orlin Avenue SE

Board of Directors Present:

1. *Eric Amel*
2. *Jeffrey Barnhart*
3. *Devan Blanchard*
4. *Noël Gordon, Jr.*
5. *Claire Haskell*
6. *Dick Kain*
7. *Susan Larson-Fleming*
8. *Laura Preus*
9. *Joe Ring*
10. *Lynn Von Korff*
11. *Will Watkins*
12. *John Wicks*

Board of Directors Absent:

1. *Joleen Emery*
2. *Lydia McAnerney*
3. *Robert Roscoe*
4. *Student Representative (TBD)*

Community Members Present:

1. *MN Daily reporter*
 2. *MN Daily reporter*
 3. *Jerry Stein, PPA member*
 4. *David Frank, PPA member*
 5. *Dan Peters, PPA member*
 6. *Christine Peters, PPA member*
 7. *John Orrison, PPA member*
 8. *Susan Gottlieb, PPA member*
 9. *Julie Wallace, PPA member*
 10. *Del Hampton, Chair, PPA Environment Committee*
 11. *Preston Mosser*
 12. *Serafina Scheel, PPA member*
 13. *Brendan LaFranchi, Chair, NROC*
 14. *Cam Gordon, Councilmember, Ward 2*
- (Note: Incomplete record of attendees)

1. **Welcome, Review Agenda.** *Eric Amel*, Chair and PPA Secretary, convened the meeting at 6:35 pm. and reviewed the agenda with the attendees. Quorum for the Regular Community Meeting was established with more than twenty-five Association members in attendance.
2. **Special Election: PPA Board of Directors open position.** *Eric Amel* introduced a procedure for a special election to fill an open seat on the Board of Directors. Former PPA Director *Vince Netz* tendered his board resignation in writing January 14, 2019 citing new endeavors taking up more available volunteer time than anticipated. *David Frank*, a PPA member, and *Devan Blanchard*, a PPA Director, have volunteered to serve as election officials and circulated prepared ballots for members to write in their choice of candidate. Although properly notified via email to the membership and nominations requested, no advanced nominations prior to the meeting were noted. *Mr. Amel* asked for nominations from the floor. *Will Watkins*, a PPA member, stood to volunteer as a candidate and introduced himself to those assembled. No other nominations stepped forward or were heard. Motion by *Dick Kain*, a PPA Director:

Resolved, the sole candidate for the Director seat vacated January 14, 2019, *Will Watkins*, running on a "white ballot" (unopposed), is elected to the PPA Board of Directors.

Note: When only one nominee is put up and the bylaws do not require a ballot (which they do not), the chair can take a voice vote, or can declare that the nominee is elected, thus effecting the election by unanimous consent or 'acclamation.'" (RONR, 10th ed., pg. 428, lines 32-35)

Seconded by *Jerry Stein*, a PPA member. Discussion: *Amel* recapped for members what was just moved and seconded. *Del Hampton*, PPA Environment Committee chair, advocated for the capacity to write in candidates on the ballot. *Serafina Scheel*, a PPA member, advocated that since there was no advance candidates, the Association might step back and agree to have a longer, more thorough process. *Mr. Frank* pointed out that the PPA Bylaws dictate that a special election be held at the next Regular meeting of the Associate, which is tonight. *Dan Peters*, a PPA member, said it was not necessarily the preference of those that showed up for this meeting's election to postpone it. *Amel* said regular order requires that we take up the motion on the floor. Discussion closed. A vote by show of hands was taken. The clear majority was in favor of the motion. *Will Watkins* was elected to the Board of Directors.

3. **Community Announcements.** Brief announcements to the community were as follows:

- A. **Neighborhood Clean-up.** *Tom Kilton*, PPA member and perennial organizer of the Annual PPA Earth Day River Clean Up announced that the event will take place this year on Easter weekend, Saturday, April 20, 2019, 9am-noon. The clean-up posse will convene and organize at the intersection of East River Parkway & Franklin Avenue SE. Thank you to neighborhood businesses Seward Co-Op, Papa John's Pizza, and Zipp's Liquor for donating refreshments!
- B. **Towerside Park Endorsement to Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB)** *Del Hampton*, PPA Environment Committee Chair, provided an update. Prior, *Carrie Christensen* walked through the parcel where MPRB purchased property and would do like high level concept. MPRB hopes for neighborhood support for that process. We've drafted a letter of support. Discussion acknowledged NE and SE areas wanting more community garden space, and MPRB being supportive of that vision. *Jeff Barnhart* mentioned further benefits of green space. *Lynn Von Korff* also supported green space. With development on the north side of University it becomes especially important. She mentioned that in addition to neighborhood feedback, individuals can also provide feedback on the website. *Carrie Christensen* is the project manager for that project.
- C. **In Memorium: Mary Alice Kopf.** *Del Hampton* provided a small slide show and a moment to honor neighborhood maven and cheerleader *Mary Alice Kopf* for her contributions to the community. The garden club has told stories, with a clear message of "thank you," *Mary Alice*. PPA also wanted to acknowledge everything that she did. Daughter *Sarah* will be planning a memorial service in early summer, June time frame. *Lois Willand* and the PPE-List will keep neighborhood ears tuned for that.

4. **Neighborhoods 101: Association Training Designed for All (Directors Mandatory Attendance).** PPA invited Neighborhood Community Relations (NCR) of the City of Minneapolis to give a “Neighborhoods 101” training during PPA’s full community meeting.

Mr. Ariah Fine, Neighborhood Support Specialist with NCR, presented the training using an interactive format. Mr. Fine introduced the training agenda and packet of information. Participants were invited to ask questions at any time, and he offered NCR as a resource for PPA in the future.

Mr. Fine shared handouts (see Board Packet). PPA is one of about 70-80 neighborhood organizations in the city of Minneapolis. *Mr. Fine* emphasized the importance of representing the community well. <https://www.mncompass.org/> is a good resource for demographic data. PPA can consider factors like renters, homeowners, age, income, race, etc., and look for new opportunities to reach out to underrepresented communities.

Mr. Fine also gave an overview of history and funding. The Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP) started in 1991 and has now evolved into the Community Participation Program (CPP). Neighborhood organizations receive base funding, and can also apply for additional funding through grants, etc. A community member asked if our funding would sunset, and we were assured that current funds for PPA won’t sunset.

The training addressed key topics, including “what does a neighborhood organization do?” We explored the idea that a neighborhood organization is not just issue based, but importantly we are also serving residents of a geography. Door knocking is one way to get a sense of what different people in the neighborhood feel about a variety of issues. *Mr. Fine* introduced and facilitated a small group discussion and role play activity about door knocking as one way to meaningfully engage with people in a short window of time.

Mr. Fine continued to walk through the handouts. What does a neighborhood organization board do? Determine mission, provide meaning and context, set direction, provide oversight, and hire and direct executive staff.

What do individual board members do? Connect with residents and stakeholders, monitor the external environment (political, community, etc.), support fundraising, facilitate discussions, recruit members and volunteers, ask hard questions, and serve as volunteers.

Good questions for Board members to ask: How does this support our mission? How does this fit with our priorities? Do we have enough information? Have we involved our stakeholders? Is this right for our community? Are we exercising Due Diligence? Does it make financial sense?

Regarding fiduciary responsibilities, anyone who serves on the board has an important role in understanding the finances. It’s not just the treasurer. We all need to make sure the organization is using its resources to serve the community toward its vision and mission. *Mr. Fine* encouraged board members to ask questions. For example, if a Treasurer’s report doesn’t make sense, please ask for any changes that would improve it so we can all understand and be transparent. The report doesn’t need to go into all the details, but people should understand the basic situation of the finances.

Mr. Fine and the group also discussed conflict of interest topics. A classic conflict of interest example has to do with financial gains. People should also pay attention to the perception of a conflict of interest. There was a question about what to do if there is a conflict of interest concern. One first solution is to talk directly to the individual board member or consult with a trusted board member. It can be handled through direct conversation and within the organization. It can also be brought up on the agenda and the board can address collectively. Another level can be addressing it through consulting with NCR. Another participant brought up the idea that we should not be afraid to get involved in the community, because when we live in a community, actions might be close to home, but can also benefit everyone in the community. A concluding point was that an open discussion within the community can help determine whether there might be a conflict of interest.

Mr. Fine also discussed ways to build trust and common ground in a community. Social hour, food, and opportunities to get to know each other are all helpful ways to build trust. We can also talk about ground rules for conversations and respect for each other.

The training concluded with a recap of Minneapolis Neighborhoods 2020 and the goal to make neighborhood organizations reflective of the neighborhoods in which we live. We should be intentional about engaging under-represented communities. A conference on the topic is being held on Saturday, February 2, 2019 where council members and the Mayor plan to attend. A series of work groups have developed a set of recommendations for Neighborhoods 2020. PPA and other neighborhood organizations have a 60-day comment period to share feedback on this plan, before it will go to city council. PPA president *Eric Amel* explained that there will be a PPA ad hoc committee to review Neighborhood 2020 materials and provide feedback to the city. He invited anyone in the community to get involved.

5. **City of Minneapolis Racial Equity Action Plan.** *Noël Gordon, Jr.*, PPA Vice President, serves on the city's group for a Racial Equity Plan in Minneapolis. The goal is to deliver recommendations to the city and mayor on what steps can be taken to eliminate racial disparities in Minneapolis. *Mr. Gordon* is the PPA's connection to the city and expressed thanks to the Neighborhood Relations & Outreach Committee for sharing outreach materials. *Gordon* described how he was personally invited to attend a PPA meeting, and how the power of a personal touch can be motivating. He suggested the following action steps: 1. Everyone pick up a flier and invite someone to the next meeting. 2. Attend racial equity community meetings. 3. We will host the next strategic planning meeting here in prospect park. 3rd Wednesday of every month from 6 to 9:30. The next one will be longer to address strategic planning, following this Saturday's conference. The February meeting will be here in Prospect Park. There was a question about connections across plans. *Noël* described it as concentric circles of planning efforts. Minneapolis 2040, Neighborhoods 2020. He is hoping to help people navigate through it all.
6. **Ward 2 Update.** *Cam Gordon*, Ward 2 Councilmember, provided the community with a two-page **Report to Prospect Park, 1-28-19** document. Highlights include:
 - A. **Ward 2 Community Conversation on Improving Transportation in Minneapolis.** A meeting to share transportation hopes and concerns is planned for March 6, 2019, 7-9pm, at Matthews Park. It will feature discussion around a 10-year transportation plan and crash study

information. The vision is zero accidents, zero fatalities. Information will also be shared at the February 2, 2019 Community Connections Conference.

- B. **Glendale Townhomes Nomination.** *CM Gordon* has nominated the Glendale Townhomes property for local historic designation. That will be coming forward to the Heritage Preservation Commission (HPC) in February or March. If the commission accepts the nomination, it will initiate a formal study that could take up to 18 months to complete.
- C. **Neighborhoods 2020 Framework.** *CM Gordon* emphasized that it is important for everyone who cares about neighborhood organizations and community engagement to carefully review and provide feedback on the staff recommendations prior to the final recommendations being presented to Council in April.

CM Gordon was asked if a new spot for monthly neighborhood office hours has been identified to replace T-Rex Cookies. The next meeting on February 4, 2019 will be at Birchwood Café, 9:30-11am. Looking forward, *CM Gordon* said there will be a regular meeting place in Prospect Park, perhaps a small business such as the Teahouse at 2425 University Avenue SE.

- 7. **Adjourn.** The community meeting adjourned at 7:53 pm.



PPA Board of Directors DRAFT

Regular Meeting: January 28, 2019, 8 pm

Prospect Park United Methodist Church, 22 Orlin Avenue SE

1. **Call to Order.** *Eric Amel*, PPA President, called the meeting to order at approximately 8:00pm. A quorum of the Board of Directors attended.
2. **Consent Agenda.** *Eric Amel* presented the Consent Agenda for approval consisting of:
 - Committee Reports/Minutes
 - PPA Management Council, December 3, 2018; January 21, 2019.
 - PPA Community Meeting & Board of Directors Meeting Minutes: September 10, 2018; October 22, 2018; December 10, 2018.
 - PPA Transportation & Safety Committee, October 16, 2018; December 18, 2018; January 17, 2019.
 - PPA Environment Committee, January 22, 2019.
 - PPA Land Use Committee: November 13, 2018; December 11, 2018.
 - PPA Land Use Committee Vermilion Task Force Grievance Facilitation Notes: November 13, 2018.
 - PPA Neighborhood Relations & Outreach Committee, December 12, 2018

Dick Kain moved to accept agenda. Seconded. The Consent Agenda was approved from the published agenda without objection.

Regular Agenda. *Eric Amel* presented the Regular Agenda as published for approval. *Claire Haskell* moved to place an item onto the agenda regarding board member potential or perceived conflict of interest related to the lawsuit brought by Friends of Tower Hill Park against the Vermilion development project. *Mr. Amel* suggested that the item should be placed on the agenda following the Friends of Tower Hill Park presentation item. *Ms. Haskell* agreed to having the item discussed at that time. The regular agenda as amended was approved without objection.

3. Organizational Business.

A. Treasurer's Report. *Lynn Von Korff*, PPA Treasurer, circulated a handout of Treasurer's Report to the board members:

1. Community Participation Program (CPP) Business.

- a. **CPP and Cash Flow.** The City of Minneapolis approved the PPA CPP payment request to reimburse eligible expenses for the second half of 2018. PPA will receive these funds soon. This payment will ensure we have enough cash to cover PPA expenses, including new staff. PPA did not use the \$500 allocated at the January 2019 Board meeting for this purpose as the Treasurer completed the city grant submittal.

- b. **CPP 2019 Funding.** The City of Minneapolis approved PPA’s 2019 CPP funding. PPA needs to revise our CPP 2019 budget. No deadline imminent but must be completed. PPA should approve an overall 2019 budget. We need to revise our CPP budget for the third year. *Lynn Von Korff* and past PPA treasurer *Serafina Scheel* have recently worked on it. There are some funds available that could be an opportunity for achieving neighborhood 2020 goals. Items eligible under CPP are also eligible under NRP, e.g., outreach, staffing, etc.
2. **Proposed 2019 Budget Presented.** *Ms. Von Korff* wants to approve budget, but first talk about rent. Rent has increased from \$12,000 to \$18,000 annual. Rent to Landlord Prospect Park Properties has been constant. Landlord had covered additional costs. Sublessee payments have been less. An accounting oversight meant that there was a landlord overpayment in 2017-2018, but that should not continue in 2019. Now that the issue is identified, *Von Korff* seeks assistance to solve and suggests a Finance and Administration Committee is needed. In the past, the Board has had a standing committee tasked with Association administrative issues. Motion by *Von Korff*:

Resolved, the Prospect Park Association Board of Directors establishes a standing PPA Finance and Administration Committee.

Seconded by *Susan Larson-Fleming*. Discussion. *Noël Gordon, Jr.* expressed concern that the Board creates committees, and then they are not populated. Volunteered to serve on the committee were sought. *Will Watkins* volunteered. Seeking collaborators to bounce things off, *Ms. Von Korff* proposed to bring targeted items prepared to the committee with alternatives to discuss. Not feasible to do one one’s own as a treasurer. *Dick Kain* is also willing to be on the new committee. Will establish a committee, have a first meeting, and establish a chair. *Von Korff* is willing to be chair and keep meetings under an hour. Discussion closed, and a vote was taken. The resolution passed by acclamation.

Motion by *Lynn Von Korff*:

Resolved, the Prospect Park Association Board of Directors approves the PPA 2019 Budget as currently drafted to serve as budgetary guidance for the next two months, with the provision to return an updated 2019 annual budget to the Board for consideration at the March regular meeting.

Seconded by *Devan Blanchard*. Discussion. *Jeff Barnhart* disclosed landlord status that everyone knew, felt it did not affect the nature of the overall budget, already set. Discussion closed, and a vote taken. Motion carries. Unanimous.

3. **2018 Year-end Financial Statements.** *Lynn Von Korff* invited anyone to contact her if you have questions. The sheets are “stories in numbers” and everyone should understand them. On screen – balance sheet/income statement. Describes what we own, what we owe, and the difference between them. Cash on hand. As of 12/31 PPA has \$24,000 in cash. This was distributed in today’s e-mail. Shown on screen. “Statement of Activity” also handed out. Our responsibility as board members to ensure the stability of our funds and that they are being used to achieve our mission and priorities. No motion needed to accept this report.

4. **Financial Procedures.** *Ms. Von Korff* served as a non-profit financial experience. *Von Korff* felt that PPA needed some financial control procedures for Lynn to feel comfortable as PPA Treasurer. They developed based on small non-profit organizations. Then search and staffing reviewed. They were shared in packet. Motion by *Von Korff*:

Moved, the Prospect Park Association Board of Directors adopts the January 15, 2019 draft PPA Financial Internal Controls Procedures, or grants authority for the PPA Treasurer to implement internal financial controls consistent with those procedures.

Seconded by *Will Watkins*. Discussion. *Noël Gordon, Jr.* proposed to amend the motion to replace the either/or connotation to be both/and. A vote was taken on the proposed amendment by *Mr. Gordon*. The amendment was adopted by acclamation. Discussion closed. A vote on the original motion as amended was taken. The resolution passed by acclamation.

Resolved, the Prospect Park Association Board of Directors adopts the January 15, 2019 draft PPA Financial Internal Controls Procedures, and grants authority for the PPA Treasurer to implement internal financial controls consistent with those procedures.

5. **Treasurer Activities.** In absence of staff, *Lynn Von Korff* has monitored PPA finances and taken the following actions:

- A. **Grants.** Learned CPP grant contract requirements and completed grant payments request.
- B. **Tax Filing.** Requested outside tax filing services offered by the City of Minneapolis. This is useful internal control since PPA now performs its own bookkeeping.
- C. **Insurance.** Arranged to pay PPA's Directors and Officers Insurance, which comes due soon. "D & O" insurance is a critical PPA board responsibility.

6. **PPA Accounting Services Contract.** PPA's accounting contract with Ignition Business Advisors runs through March 31, 2019 and requires a 60-day notice to cancel the agreement. PPA pays \$250 per month. According to the contract, service to PPA includes generally accounting and financial services:

- Providing monthly general ledger accounting/bookkeeping through QuickBooks on-line;
- Reconciling accounts monthly: checking and savings accounts;
- Preparing monthly financial reports and board report;
- Presenting annual summary of financial performance at a board meeting.

In apparent breach of the agreement, Ignition does not perform PPA's monthly general ledger/bookkeeping. PPA uses Ignition's QuickBooks online accounting software license: at a fraction of the contract value. In the near term, *Ms. Von Korff* is capable of the monthly and annual bookkeeping. Motion by *Von Korff*:

Resolved, Prospect Park Association will not renew the Ignition Business Advisors contract for accounting and finance services; and directs the PPA Treasurer and the Finance and Administration Committee to obtain PPA's own QuickBooks online license, and transfer PPA's accounting data to

that license before the current Ignition Business Advisors contract ends on March 31, 2019; and to further develop and present to the Board of Directors a recommendation to address PPA's long-term accounting needs.

Seconded by *Will Watkins*. Discussion. *Claire Haskell* asked why the contract says they are providing monthly accounting and they are not. *Von Korff* responded that there might be a history why the past treasurer and staff changed things, but we don't currently have that background. *Laura Preus* asked for clarification on the segregation or checks and balances of billing paying, check signing, and accounting. *Von Korff* responded that this is the intent of the financial procedures document. As the treasurer is the acting PPA accountant, the president will sign checks in lieu of the treasurer. Additionally, paying bills for many things is set up to be automatic withdrawal. Discussion closed. A vote on the motion to not renew the financial accountant agreement before March 31, 2019 was unanimous in favor of the motion. *Noël Gordon, Jr.* offered a big thank you to *Lynn Von Korff*, and everyone joined in applause.

B. PPA Search and Selection Committee Recommendations.

Sean Hart, a PPA Search and Selection Committee member, introduced that the committee was assigned to solicit and screen candidate for a three-month temporary Office & Volunteer Coordinate part-time position and make a personnel recommendation to the Board. Another ad hoc committee is tasked with developing a recommendation to the Board on permanent staffing structure for PPA. *Mr. Hart* distributed a handout with summary information asking that Board members return the handout at the end of the meeting because it included candidate's names.

The committee wanted to have basic personnel policies and procedures in place day one, and so formed documents by and large culled from State of Minnesota statute. These policies include an Employee Code of Ethics to sign, Supervision Plan for Temporary Employees, Temporary Employee Paid Time Off Policy, Harassment Policy and Procedures, and Security Procedures for Office. However, the draft documents were inadvertently left out of the Board packet to solicit Board opinion, and the committee would like to bring back to the next regular meeting. Motion by *Dick Kain*:

Resolved, *the Prospect Park Association Board of Directors approves the drafted personnel policies and procedures on a provisional basis, and that they will come back to the Board for approval at the February regular meeting.*

Seconded. Discussion. *Claire Haskell* amended to say provisional approval coming back to the meeting in February meeting. The amendment was adopted by acclamation. Discussion closed and a vote on the amended motion was taken. Approved unanimously.

Mr. Hart continued stating that six candidates were offered interviews. Five interviews took place. One candidate withdrew. The committee was pleased with the number of applicants and quality of applicants. Hoping for Board to approve the committee doing the selection and negotiation. The committee considered PPA goals and 2020 plan for outreach. We have funding we are not fully utilizing. Committee considered how are we going to use PPA funds efficiently and toward the goals of the organization. With the high-quality applicants, the committee considered an opportunity option to hire two staff.

Motion by *Noël Gordon, Jr.* to move forward into closed session discussion with the intention to support prepared Motion 1 and prepared Motion 2, Option 2. Seconded by *Will Watkins*. The Board recessed into closed session at 9:07pm for 15 minutes.

C. PPA Search and Selection Committee - Closed Session. Staff recommendations.

Sean Hart, on behalf of the PPA Search and Selection Committee, reported the committee's confidential personnel recommendations, in order of preference. The staffing committee gave a description of candidates and their strengths. They also called references. Effectiveness in outreach and volunteer work was key in consideration.

The Board first took up prepared Motion 2, Option 2. Motion by *Noël Gordon, Jr.*:

Moved, the Prospect Park Association Board of Directors authorizes the Search and Selection Committee to hire two temporary candidates, each candidate hired for a temporary three-month at 20-hour per week. Staff expenses (wages, payroll taxes, benefits, and all other staff-related expense) for both temporary three-month positions combined will be no more than 3-month (25%) of PPA's 2019 annual budgeted staff expense (i.e. $\$11,954 = 25\% \times \$47,814$)

Seconded by *Will Watkins*. Discussion. *Mr. Gordon* proposed to amend the prepared motion to change "at 20 hours per week" to read "up to 20 hours per week". *Gordon* also offered an amendment that the major focus of second hire should go toward outreach and tasks specifically associated with Ice Cream Social, and other related duties. *Gordon* also talked about clarifying role titles, e.g., staff and fellow. *Gordon's* first two amendments were adopted by acclamation. Discussion ended, and a vote taken on the original motion as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

Resolved, the Prospect Park Association Board of Directors authorizes the Search and Selection Committee to hire two temporary candidates, each candidate hired for a temporary three-month up to 20-hour per week. The first position will be an Office & Volunteer Coordinator. The second position will be an Administrative & Outreach Assistant with specific focus on Ice Cream Social organizing and related tasks. Staff expenses (wages, payroll taxes, benefits, and all other staff-related expense) for both temporary three-month positions combined will be no more than 3-month (25%) of PPA's 2019 annual budgeted staff expense (i.e. $\$11,954 = 25\% \times \$47,814$)

The Board then took up prepared Motion 1. Motion by *Claire Haskell*:

Resolved, the Prospect Park Association Board of Directors authorizes the Search and Selection Committee to proceed with selection, negotiation, and hiring using the committee's candidate rankings shared with the Board.

Seconded by *Dick Kain*. Discussion. *Mr. Kain* explained how CPP money is reimbursed, and we do not receive the dollars unless we spend them. *John Wicks* asked about staggering the start dates such that one staff is grounded first. *Lynn Von Korff* responded that an orientation process has been organized. Discussion closed, and a vote taken. The resolution was approved by acclamation. *Susan Larson-Fleming* abstained because she is acquainted with one of the candidates. Hard copy sheets were re-collected.

4. Other Business.

- A. **NCR-Neighborhoods 2020 Strategy.** *Eric Amel* introduced the business of the Neighborhood & Community Relations staff completing their recommendations to form the Neighborhoods 2020 Framework draft document. A public comment period is open from January 28, 2019 to March 31, 2019. The Association needs a plan to respond on behalf of the neighborhood.

Moved by *Amel*.

***Resolved,** the Prospect Park Association Board of Directors appoint an ad hoc committee to work on the neighborhood 2020 strategy, convened by Noël Gordon, Jr. and seeking to recruit a broader community participation using PPA's e-mail assets.*

Seconded by *Susan Larson-Fleming*. Discussion. We would send out PPA newsletter and PPE-list to let people know about this effort and invite people more broadly to participate. *Noël* will own getting it started. If people have questions or ideas, then *Noël* is happy to be involved. A lot of *Noël's* interests in involvement comes together around this. Discussion closed. Unanimous vote to approve.

- B. **Towerside Letter of Support to MPRB.** *Eric Amel* introduced the business from the Environment Committee regarding a letter of support for a proposed Towerside Park to the attention of the Minneapolis Parks & Recreation Board (MPRB). Motion by *Lynn Von Korff*:

***Whereas,** a new Towerside Park is a part of the overall neighborhood plan and is included in the Prospect Park Planning Framework for 2040 submitted to the City of Minneapolis in 2017.*

***Resolved,** the Prospect Park Association Board of Directors approves a letter of support for the proposed Towerside Park, including the use of park dedication fees, on behalf of the Prospect Park neighborhood to the attention of the Minneapolis Parks & Recreation Board.*

Seconded by *Dick Kain*. No discussion took place in addition to the introduction provided by *Del Hampton*, PPA Environment Committee chair during the earlier community meeting. Resolution passed by acclamation.

- C. **Phase I Malcolm Yards MOU (Wall MOU).** *Eric Amel* introduced the business brought forward from the Land Use Committee of a letter of support that affirms the intentions of an update regarding the previous January 3, 2017 MOU agreement with Wall Development. *Laura Preus*, PPA Secretary and a member of the MOU ad hoc committee, reported that the letter is still in the committee process and being slightly modified from what was sent out in the board packet. The committee opts not to move on the business at this meeting. The Alternative Committee Process per the PPA Bylaws will be used to allow the Land Use Committee to send a finalized letter of support to the City of Minneapolis Planning Commission prior to the project's hearing date on February 11, 2019. The ad hoc committee is hopeful that the draft letter and all its attachments found in the board packet has provided the Board a chance to review the MOU update, the current comments, and register any concerns.

- D. **Friends of Tower Hill Park Update.** *Joe Ring*, a PPA Director, introduced Friends of Tower Hill Park (FTHP), a non-profit organization dedicated to maintaining the beauty and historic nature of the Witch's Hat Water Tower and Tower Hill Park. *Mr. Ring* emphasized that FTHP is an entirely separate entity from PPA, and indicated that, while PPA has many areas of

work, FTHP is focused more specifically on the concerns of Tower Hill Park. He indicated that, as its own entity, FTHP can continue PPA's long legacy of preserving and celebrating the Witch's Hat water tower and its park setting, either in partnership with PPA and/or through separate initiatives.

There was a question about the purpose of the lawsuit. At present, FTHP is engaged in legal action against the Art and Architecture Vermilion Development project. *Mr. Ring* explained that the Minnesota Environmental Rights Act (MERA) protects historic resources on behalf of the State of Minnesota and offers a process for determining whether there are possible negative impacts on the views to and from the Witch's Hat water tower that could still be mitigated. *Ring* explained that he was giving the presentation because he is both a PPA board member and a FTHP board member and other PPA board members had indicated uncertainty about the relationship between the organizations.

Claire Haskell made a motion on behalf of *Lydia McAnerney*:

Moved, for the purposes of clarity, that all the PPA officers and board members disclose the exact relationship regarding their involvement with the lawsuit brought by Friends of Tower Hill Park against the Vermilion Development Corporation.

The motion was not seconded, yet was discussed, and then tabled by *Ms. Haskell*, especially given that other board members had already talked about their relationships with FTHP during the update.

E. Next Month Preview: Board Vision Setting. *Eric Amel* quickly reiterated that agenda for the February 2019 Community Meeting is intended to be devoted to vision ideation with and by our neighbors.

5. Adjourn. Moved by many and seconded by many to adjourn the meeting. Unanimously approved on a voice vote. The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted:



Laura Preus, Secretary, Prospect Park Association

APPROVED AS AMENED by the Board of Directors, February 25, 2019 Regular Meeting.