

PPA Virtual Board/Community Meeting Minutes – February 22, 2021

Board Members in Attendance: Rachel Coffin, Mary Britton, John Wicks, Joe Ring, Lynn Von Korff, Eric Amel, Susan Larson-Fleming, Britt Howell, Amy Kaminsky, David Frank, Jenna Hoge, Jerry Stein, Ben Tuthill, Jeffrey Barnhart, Evan Roberts, Laura Preus

Board Members Absent: Simone Hendrix

Guests: Lupe Castillo, Eddie Estrin, Kate Needleman, Dan Ratcliff, Ann Schecter, Julia Wallace, Cam Gordon, Jacob Colling, Mary McFarland, Jane Sumner, Sally Bell, Vera Marshall, Florence Littman, Dan Cross, Kari Simonson, Krista Ostrom, Elisabeth Johnson, Nancy Olsen, Aloida Zargoza

Staff: Liza Davitch

6:35 Meeting is called to order. Quorum is confirmed. Mary Britton makes a motion to approve the agenda. John Wicks seconds. All in favor.

6:35 Announcements/Updates

Lynn gives a report on Marcy-Holmes plans to hire a consultant to explore ways UDA neighborhood organizations might work together or possibly merge.

The MHNA board has approved the hiring of an outside consultant who will explore if there are any mutually beneficial opportunities for the four neighborhood associations of the University District Alliance (Marcy-Holmes Neighborhood Association, Prospect Park Association, Southeast Como Improvement Association and Cedar Riverside Community Council). These opportunities could range from the simple cost sharing of services (staff, rent, or other operational costs), all the way up to restructuring to form one City-funded association (made up of two, three, or even four neighborhoods, much like you find with the Longfellow Community Council or the Nokomis-East Neighborhood Association?).

Marcy Holmes has hired Amy Arcand from Willow consulting as the consultant for this project. She has experience working with neighborhood organizations. PPA's UDA representatives will meet Amy at the next UDA neighborhood organization meeting. Amy will be in touch with PPA's board for next steps. There is no action the PPA board needs to take.

Britt Howell gives an update on issues of safety around the Valhalla Clinic and discusses what we can do as a Neighborhood Association.

There have been a number of incidents possibly involving patients of the clinic. The clinic's clientele has increased but their security has not. Britt has been working with Cam Gordon and the Transportation and Safety committee on these issues and Cam has sent them a letter. Britt will help facilitate and coordinate a meeting with the director of the clinic who will also attend the next Transportation and Safety committee meeting. Nick Juarez, the Crime Prevention Specialist from Ward 2 will also be looped in.

7:15 Cam Gordon presents his monthly newsletter to PPA.

https://mcusercontent.com/8a12b3152d8f70e97e090b501/files/aefd65e8-db47-4807-ae1f-18277b78036a/Cam_Gordon_Report_to_Prospect_Park_2_22_21.pdf

7:20 Organizational Business

Evan Roberts gives the Transportation and Safety Committee update.

Neighbors on PPA's Transportation & Safety Committee and Pratt School are building an improved community gathering space on Malcolm Avenue between Sidney Place and Orlin Avenue. Projects being planned in this area include:

- The Jackson Family Memorial with a curriculum to learn about the first African-American children to attend Pratt School,
- Pratt School Playground remodel and renaming,
- Tower Hill Nature Play area,
- A "shared space" on Malcolm Ave. where pedestrians have priority and cars must slow to 10mph.

One of the first steps is calming traffic and experimenting with a new street layout. This spring PPA will use Minneapolis Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP) funds to buy materials for wooden planter boxes that will slow traffic, while still letting vehicles through. The planters will create a "chicane" at the intersection with Sidney Place. Public Works will be laying out flex posts to test the dimensions of where the planters will be. They hope to begin constructing them in March and April.

Mary Britton gives the Environment Committee update. The committee kicked off the "25 by 2025" initiative. They hired neighborhood youth from Luxton Park to distribute flyers to every household in Prospect Park and gave out gift certificates for their work. They now have registration forms and a youth volunteer waiver that releases PPA of liability.

Lydia is working hard on Earth Day cleanup events. Unlike previous years, the events will be stretched out over a couple of weeks instead of one day due to Covid.

The Environment Committee did not receive the MWMO grant they applied for to help install rain gardens at Glendale, Pillars and the Towerside Church. Because of this they had to modify their previously approved budget to include rain garden site consultations which will strengthen their next grant applications.

The environment committee budget PPA approved in January was:

2021 Budget:

Flier distribution/event assistance - \$500

Printing/Supplies - \$500

Yard Signs/T-Shirts - \$500

New Proposed 2021 Budget:

Flier distribution/event assistance - \$400

Printing/Supplies - \$400

Yard Signs/T-Shirts - \$300

Rain Garden Site Consultations: \$625

They received \$100 in donations and will be getting \$300 more from Wells Fargo in the next few months. This covers the increase in the total budget.

- The Environment Committee submits a motion to approve the revised Environment Committee budget. Eric Amel seconds the motion. All in favor. Motion approved.

Susan Larson Fleming gives the Community Building Committee update. They committee continues to work with Pratt PTO on the Jackson memorial project. Pratt is also interested in incorporating the Jackson story into their curriculum.

The Pratt Site Council and PTO are working with them on the walking bus route which will start again in the Fall. Community Building will be raising additional funding for it.

Ben Tuthill gives the Renter's Subcommittee update. The committee continues to discuss support for TOPA and also rent control legislation.. They are working to support a group of renters in Prospect Park who are having issues with their landlords.

"Who Keeps Us Safe?" Safety workshop round up: They had five workshops in January and February that addressed a wide range of concerns. Numbers in attendance ranged from 25-45 people per workshop. The Prospect Park anti-racism organization worked with PPA to deliver the series. Ben advocates continuing this work with other organizations. All the workshops are available to watch on their Youtube channel. <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCzxmSEcPnJWQQXONdNV8eyA>

John Wicks gives the Land Use Committee update. Following the discussion at the last board meeting on the Unified Design Standards Project, there was concern that it wasn't distributed in an appropriate time frame for the board to review it, so it was tabled. It was rediscussed at the Land Use meeting and they did a simple reorganization of the document.

- John Wicks makes the motion to approve the Unified Design Standards Project guidelines. Amy Kaminsky seconds. Jenna Hogge and Ben Tuthill abstain. Motion carries.

Lynn Von Korff gives the Finance and Admin Committee updates.

PPA's year-end 2020 financial statements were in the board packet. The PPA board approved using 2020 excess net revenue to help cover 2021 expenses - necessary because PPA funding level will be greatly reduced for the second half of 2021. You'll recall that the Community Participation Program (CPP) grant contract ends 6/30/21 so PPA is requesting all eligible CPP funds prior to that date to help cover 2021 expenses. We lose any CPP funds unspent after 6/30/21. We don't anticipate leaving funds unspent.

Bylaws: There will be a PPA bylaw review task force meeting at 6pm Tuesday March 9th. PPA's legal counsel has provided a first draft of the revised bylaws. The purpose of the March 9th meeting is to outline steps in the process to get board, committee and community input. For example, we will probably visit with each PPA committee to get input on key issues. We will bring the proposed timeline/process to the next board meeting on March 22nd.

PPA Office Space/move Task Force met for the first time last week and we meet again tomorrow. Our progress to date is described in the minutes provided in the board packet. One key action item is finding a low cost or free storage or office space to use after we leave our current location. The committee has been exploring options. We

need to find that space before we can determine if it's possible to leave our current space before June 30th.

8:31 Other Business: Review Consent Agenda: Reports and Minutes

- Amy makes a motion to approve the minutes. John seconds. All in favor.

8:40 Britt Makes a motion to adjourn the meeting. All in favor. Meeting adjourned.