



PPA Board of Directors

Regular Meeting (Virtual): June 27, 2022 6:30pm

Board Members Present: David Frank, Lynn Von Korff, Laura Preus, Jeff Barnhart, Eric Amel, Brit Howell, Jerry Stein, Reed Coffin, Jane Stockman, Dan Cross, Ben Tuthill, Susan Larson-Fleming, Amy Kaminsky

Board Members Absent: Jenna Hoge, Simone Hendrix, Karl Krause

Community Members Present: Aloida Zargoza, Kari Simonsen, Celeste Robinson, Mary Britton, Shanal Khawaja, Alma Ratliff, Kari Simonson, Alex Burns, Ila R. Koch, Kate Needleman

Staff Present: Liza Davitch

Call to Order. *Eric Amel*, PPA President, called the meeting to order at 6:37 pm and reviewed the agenda. *David Frank* moves to approve the agenda. *Susan Larson-Fleming* seconds the motion. All in favor.

1. Announcements/Updates

Welcome New Board Members. *Eric Amel* welcomes new board members Jane Stockman, Dan Cross and Karl Krause.

Election of Board Officers. *Eric Amel* opens up the floor to nominate board officer positions.

Eric Amel (President), *Britt Howell* (Vice-President) and *David Frank* (Secretary) are willing to stay in their current officer positions for the 2022-2024 term. *Susan Larson-Fleming* (Treasurer) is willing to remain in her position for one year. No other candidates step forward. *Eric* proposes the current slate for the next year. *Amy Kaminsky* seconds the motion. All in favor. Motion carries.

Approve Board/Community Minutes: April 25, 2022. *David Frank* moves to approve minutes. *Dan Cross* abstains as he wasn't in attendance. *Susan Larson-Fleming* seconds the motion. All in favor.

Ward 2 Update. *Celeste Robinson*, aide to Ward 2 Council member *Wonsley*, introduces herself and *Shanal Khamaja*, Urban Scholar intern in the Ward 2 office. Her work focuses on renters outreach in Ward 2.

Ward 2 just completed their Community conversation series. They held eight community meetings.

Infrastructure. There have been some delays in public works related items due to staff shortages at Mpls Public Works. Ward 2 has been working with *Britt Howell* on the 4th Street/Hubbard situation. They are also working with the Park Board (MPRB) on reopening the Witch's Hat Tower in some way. The Public Works and infrastructure committee is finalizing their work plan for the next few months. *Council Member Wonsley* is hoping to work on the Green New deal as part of that committee.

On the Green New Deal, the Rethinking I-94 work group will start soon and move forward with education and community outreach.

Hennepin Avenue redesign is coming to a final vote this week. The Mayor vetoed it at first. *CM Wonsley* strongly supports the 24/7 bus lanes pass and supports overriding the veto.

On Public Safety, they hosted a University area public safety forum, prompted by the fights and gunfire events at the 1721 University Coop. More than 100 people attended the forum. There is a lot of interest in inter-collaboration with the City, MPD, UMPD and the University.

The MN Department of Human Rights (MDHR) report on the MPD was published, confirming that MPD has a multi-decade history of racism, misogyny and excessive violence. The State Department is engaging the City in a Consent Decree, which is a legally binding settlement for the City to meet metrics of changes to the police department. *CM Wonsley* is a strong proponent of the Consent Decree. There will be opportunities for the community to give direct input to MDHR on the decree. It will be a guiding force for changes in the MPD. The CM is bringing a policy under the umbrella of universal discipline, that all City employees are being held to high standards of respect, equality, and anti-racism.

Consent Decree Informational Session on July 7, 2022:

https://tcdip.memberclicks.net/index.php?option=com_jevents&task=icalrepeat.detail&evid=460&Itemid=115&year=2022&month=07&day=07&title=wild-conversation-whats-a-consent-decree-and-how-will-it-impact-public-safety-reform&uid=2df9fdbcb15138ad814f4c1daf372a426

Share your thoughts on the Consent Decree:

<https://shoutout.wix.com/so/f2O62ZuBs?languageTag=en&cid=89da431c-d88f-44ff-a467-89e8c01b333a®ion=82d6bb82-e4a2-4aa4-4095-12c2282d8473#/main>

Shanal Khawaja speaks about the project she is working on with the Ward 2 office called The Housing Action Team. She is compiling legal resources for renters. They will be doing direct outreach with student renters in Ward 2.

Susan Larson-Fleming notes that *Kaaba Kabiye* has been working on a similar project with the PPA Community Building committee, designing legal resources as a curriculum. The Community Building's Renters Rights sub-committee has done significant work in the last few years on renters initiatives and fair housing equity issues.

Ward 2 contacts:

Ward2@minneapolismn.gov, Celeste.robinson@minneapolismn.gov, shanal.khawaja@minneapolismn.gov

2. Organizational Business: Committee Reports

Transportation and Safety Report. *David Frank*, speaks on behalf of the Transportation and Safety Committee chair.

Discussion of I-94, including proposal from *Alex Burns*, OurStreetsMPLS's Transportation Policy Coordinator.

Proposed Motion: Hold an educational community meeting on I-94 planning.
Britt Howell seconds the motion. *Dan Cross* makes an amendment to the motion that OurStreetsMPLS makes the PowerPoint presentation available in advance of the meeting for anyone who has questions or concerns. Motion passes.

Here is the link to the October 27, 2021 letter: 28 Community Organizations Reject Minnesota Department of Transportation's "Rethinking I-94" Planning Process.

<https://www.twincitiesboulevard.org/learn-more/rethinking-i-94/community-letter/>

Alex adds that a forum is a great way to invite community input. OurStreetsMPLS has held forums with SNG, Union Park District, and the Hamline coalition. They do a lot of door knocking and distribute flyers for the event on doorknobs and are willing to distribute flyers for a PPA meeting on the topic as well.

Alex can be reached at alex@ourstreetsmpls.org, 651-402-0334
More information can be found on the MNDot I-94 Website:
<https://talk.dot.state.mn.us/rethinking-i94>

The Hubbard Situation. The May Land Use and Transportation & Safety meeting was a joint committee meeting to discuss access to 4th street. *Evan Roberts* sent a letter to Hubbard which was included in the June board packet. He received a follow-up phone call and was told limiting access was due to safety concerns for employees due to incidents such as catalytic converter thefts and carjackings. For those reasons, they were not inclined to reopen it.

At the June Transportation and Safety meeting there was a discussion on getting council members involved or pursuing legal action. *Kari Simonsen* did some preliminary work with a lawyer. The chance of success would be around 50% with a cost of \$50,000 to 100,000. PPA only has a few thousand dollars in its legal fund. It was agreed that communication is better than litigation. *Britt* has spoken with *CM Wonsley's* office on the issue. They are willing to be involved as long as there isn't a lawsuit. They are willing to work with PPA and write a letter to Hubbard. There is some question as to whether the vacated street is in Minneapolis or St. Paul and if St. Paul council members should be involved.

Proposed Motion: Motion: Include the Transportation & Safety committee's letter to Hubbard and the document with background notes in the minutes.

Susan Larson Fleming seconds. All in favor.

See links here:

[Letter to Hubbard Broadcasting](#)

[Transportation & Safety Committee Notes from Evan Roberts regarding Hubbard Fence.](#)

Environment Committee Report. *Mary Britton*, chair of the Environment Committee, reports that the committee installed four Prospect Park street banners. There are two on 27th Avenue near Glendale Townhomes, and two on Malcolm Avenue, north of University Avenue. The committee felt that it was worth the time and effort to install the banners to foster a sense of inclusiveness in the neighborhood.

The July 18 EcoTour/Bike Tours/Yard Sales/Rain Gardens event was a success.

Seventeen yard sales were held. The trunk sale at Pratt parking lot was canceled because there weren't registrations for it. There were 11 EcoTour stops. Visitors had substantive questions, most notably on electric cars, electric heat pumps, and solar panels. It was a great opportunity to chat with community members, learn about their interests, and offer support and information. There were three community rain garden sites with volunteer stations. BrittFit50 organized two Nice Ride bicycle tours. Fifteen people signed up for them.

Eric Amel thanks *Jenny Michlitsch*, *Britt Howell*, *Mary Britton*, *Lydia McAnerney* and everyone involved in the event planning and hosting.

Community Building Committee Report. *Susan Larson-Fleming*, Community Building co-chair, presents a motion.

Proposed Motion: Revise PPA's annual budget as follows: NRP Renters Right grant income = \$11,800; Renters Right project salary expense = \$11,800. These funds are restricted by city contract for the Renters' Rights project. The board originally approved \$4,000.

Eric Amel seconds the motion. All in favor. Motion carries.

Land Use Committee Report. *Eric Amel* announces that *John Wicks*, Land Use committee chair and longtime board member, is stepping aside from his position and there is a need to fill the Land Use chair position. The board would like to create a task force to find a replacement. Until the chair position is filled, the committee needs a volunteer to schedule and administer the monthly Zoom meeting and send out invites.

Finance and Admin Committee Report. *Lynn Von Korff* presents the Finance and Admin motions.

Proposed Motion: Give notice to members of a board motion to adopt new bylaws August 22nd. Proposed bylaws have been reviewed by Mission Guardian (PPA's legal counsel) and conform to NCR contract requirements.

Susan Larson-Fleming seconds the motion. All in favor. Motion carries.

Proposed Motion: Adopt new "Member Grievance Policy" prepared by Mission Guardian.

Susan Larson-Fleming seconds the motion. All in favor. Motion carries.

Board members and committee chairs were reminded to review the board orientation manual emailed to them in June.

NCR requires that PPA hold a board orientation. To fulfill this requirement, the board agreed that Finance should create a board orientation schedule. Every month or so at board meetings, a board member will present for 3 minutes or so on a key topic. Board members can swap topics among themselves if they prefer a different topic than the one assigned. Lynn gave a brief orientation on PPA committees as an example.

3. Other Business

Staff Performance Review Task Force (board members only). Presented by *Lynn Von Korff*

Proposed Motion: Approve staff performance review and compensation recommendation to increase Liza's hourly wage by 4.5% retroactive to January 1st, 2022 and revise the 2022 annual budget to reflect the increased wages.

Susan Larson-Fleming seconds the motion. All in favor. Motion carries.

Review Consent Agenda: Reports & Minutes

Eric Amel moves to approve the following minutes: Transportation and Safety: May 11 and June 8, 2022; Environment Committee: February 8, March 28, April 12 and May 10, 2022; Community Building: April 12, 2022.

Susan Larson-Fleming seconds the motion. All in favor. Motion carries.

Adjourn. *Eric Amel* moves to adjourn the meeting at 9:01pm. Motion was unanimously approved on a voice vote. The meeting was adjourned.

Minutes written by *Lizya Davitch*, PPA Staff

Respectfully submitted by *David Frank*, PPA Board Member and Secretary