

SECIA Board Meeting  
Wednesday, July 5, 2017, 6:30 – 8:30 pm  
Van Cleve Park, 901 15th Avenue SE

Present: Karl Smith, Ben Brummel, Jim Nyberg, Joan Menken, Ramy Selim, Lee Hibbard, Phil Roban,  
Wendy Menken, Stewart Smith, Marlaine Cox, Cody Olson  
Excused: Shannon Engstrom (Leave of Absence), Bill Dane

Absent:

Other: Katie Fournier, Calder Hibbard, Cam Gordon

Meeting Called to order at: 6:34PM

Introductions (5 min)

1. Committee/other updates (60 min)
2. Park - Jordan
  - a. Little Free Library opening
  - b. BBQ event (50-100 people)
  - c. Movie in the Park – Princess Bride, well attended
  - d. Summer Camps Continuing
3. Community Building & Communications – Jim
  - a. SECIA meeting with NCR Community Engagement Specialists (Stacy Sorensen's meeting notes attached)
    - i. We were missing Abdirashid Ahmed, East African Community Specialist, with whom we were looking forward to hearing from
    - ii. Discussion covered a lot of familiar ground – didn't learn too much that we can apply towards what we want to accomplish
    - iii. We will meet with Abdi another time – he may provide a connection to the mosque
    - iv. Stacy? suggested to connect with community leaders – especially the mosque
    - v. Build trust with community by holding specific events – especially the mosque
    - vi. Younger residents may be more receptive – especially at the mosque
    - vii. Word of mouth is probably a better strategy for communication than having formal meetings
    - viii. Other ideas
      1. Fairshare Farm event
      2. East African Student Group
      3. Cookout events
      4. Best practices list from NCR
  - b. Katie: what are the goals of this committee?
    - i. Jim – We are still working on it
    - ii. Karl – Broadening participation is the main goal
  - c. Community Connections Lab Series - <http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/ncr/index.htm>
    - i. Courses that can be signed up for to promote engagement of specific groups
    - ii. Karl – members of the community building committee should participate as well as interested members of the Board and community.
4. SE Como Website update – Ben & Cody
  - a. We welcome additional feedback
  - b. Group board photo to add to website
    - i. Tentatively at August board meeting
5. Environmental – Calder
  - a. Traffic Diverter project from Urban forestry department
    - i. Will be a page for the website
    - ii. Joint meeting with Housing and livability committee at the end of August to figure out how to move forward with diverter project
    - iii. Katie – invited David Bower, part of the special district section of the public works department – the contact person for the urban forestry class – to meet with the committee

- b. General Mills TCA
    - i. Residents in vapor intrusion region received a flyer
      - 1. General Mills is done with the cleanup
      - 2. GM claims to have removed all of the TCE and to no longer have responsibility
      - 3. pollution control agency (PCA) will likely hold them accountable and look at other locations north of Hennepin
      - 4. PCA is working to develop a long-term solution
    - ii. Environmental committee is talking with the PCA to come to a resolution
    - iii. Wendy – the PCA is testing north of Hennepin before moving south of Hennepin – trying to get both locations to similarly low levels of TCE
  - c. Solar Power Hour
    - i. Wednesday, July 26<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 PM
    - ii. Environmental committee has partnered with Minnesota Rural Electric Association (MRNA)
    - iii. Basically just an informal talk presented by Ramy’s friend in MREA
    - iv. Should be advertised at sustainability office and at local businesses
    - v. Is currently advertised in the Como Tidbits
  - d. Need more members for all of the community gardens
6. Livability & Housing – Katie
- a. Project for Pride in Living Bunge Project
    - i. SECIA letter of support for the Riverton-PPL development plan for the Bunge site. (attached)
      - 1. **Motion: Approve letter of support for the Riverton-PPL development plan**
        - a. Mover: Joan, Second: Ben, unanimous approval
    - ii. Beautiful renderings
      - 1. Message “May Peace Prevail on Earth” printed on the side
      - 2. Designs are not final
    - iii. Silos demolished, then construction in stages – Riverton first, then PPL development
    - iv. Riverton helps residents learn governance practices and is a Co-op
  - b. **Motion: The Livability Committee recommends to the Board that it authorize its Livability Committee to explore the feasibility of the recommendations in the Report of the UofM’s Urban Forestry Class, Spring 2017, and that the Livability Committee enlist the cooperation of the Environment Committee in this exploration.**
    - i. Mover: Katie, Second: Karl, unanimous approval
  - c. Ordinance on rental signs finally has language
    - i. Wording has been changed to “temporary sign”, which won’t actually stop real estate signs from being affixed to homes
    - ii. Cam – wants prohibition of advertisements on single family homes
      - 1. There is likely existing law on the size of home business signs – may be limited to just a small plaque
      - 2. Katie and Cam will talk to Kevin who is (one of the?) author(s) of the legislation
    - iii. The ordinance contains more than just this item – it is very long and complicated
  - d.
7. Safety - MPD 2nd Precinct Police Advisory Council (PAC) meeting notes  
- <https://courtwatch2pac.com/>
- a. MPD Second Precinct Update – Nick Juarez
    - i. Karl – Nick will come next month
    - ii. Lee – Friends at 23<sup>rd</sup> were walking home from Mannings and were approached by a van with people in ski masks – friends took off running and the van followed – they appeared to have guns. Police said that these people were “filming a movie” and drove away. No escort provided, police were very nonchalant about it, Monday June 11<sup>th</sup>

1. Karl – contact Inspector Todd Loining, Second Precinct - Todd.Loining@minneapolismn.gov
  2. Cam – the board should write a letter to the police department about this
    - a. Wendy – Ask PD “who were these people?, what were they doing?, why can’t you respond?” Katie – “which PD approved the filming?”
    - b. This is a real threat
8. University District Alliance - Bill & Katie
- a. Duplex task force has been slowed down by a request for information
    - i. Want numbers for lots that are eligible for duplex conversion
      1. Will probably receive in a few days
    - ii. If anyone knows of a duplex conversion that is proceeding, please send the address to Katie, to be used as examples for why legislation should be changed
    - iii. UDA has a longstanding contract with Metropolitan Design Center – part of UMN
      1. MDC is asking for UDA money for design work on the Gramery Corridor
        - a. MDC has not done much yet, there have been difficulties
    - iv. Two UDA leaders are retiring
      1. Executive UDA committee is meeting tomorrow, Katie will find out whether and when the retired members will be replaced
      2. SECIA should consider writing thank you letters to them
      3. **Motion: Send a formal letter of gratitude for Jan Morlock and Peg Wolff for their work with and on behalf of SECIA**
        - a. Mover: Wendy, Second: Karl, unanimous approval
        - b. Katie will draft and send to Cody and Karl
9. Zoning – Joan
- a. Have not received any notification about 13<sup>th</sup> and Como since the last meeting
  - b. Nothing new to report this month
10. Projects - Gardens, Utility Box Wraps, etc.
- a. Utility Box Wraps – update
    - i. Good Neighbor fund money will arrive within a month
    - ii. Vomela, the wrapping company, has signed the agreement, bill should arrive shortly. They will wrap the boxes at Rollins & Como (Van Cleve Park), 15<sup>th</sup> & East Hennepin (Chin Dian), and 22<sup>nd</sup> and Como (Sporty’s) this summer
  - b. Fairshare Farm ON – Sunday July 9<sup>th</sup>, 12-2pm
    - i. Pizza will be served – bring an ingredient to share if you can
11. Other
- a. Community building meeting last month
    - i. Jim – Figure out what we were already doing and existing opportunities
    - ii. Ben, Marlaine, and Cody attended
    - iii. Highlights: National Night Out – August 1, 2017 – increase attendance and awareness, use the website, somewhat late to start planning, but can join adjacent block parties
    - iv. Board members with knowledge of past community building efforts are invited to attend our next meeting or email Jim
    - v. Next meeting is Tuesday, July 11<sup>th</sup> from 7-8 pm, SECIA Office, Northeast College Prep
12. City Council Member updates (10 min)
- a. Cam
    - i. 10<sup>th</sup> ave bridge rehab has state funding
      1. Everything will be done underneath the bridge – no delays should occur
    - ii. Frustrated with PCA TCE cleanup efforts
      1. Will try to communicate with them to support cleanup efforts

2. Wendy – Court cases lost momentum – lost class-action status, now the only cases are people suing individually, which makes it harder to fight against General Mills (GM)
  3. Cam – didn't GM do damage to the City? Wendy – the city should be able to put pressure on GM and support our efforts.
    - a. Wendy – We Need to have a conversation beyond this board meeting
  4. Director of Community Planning and Economic Development, Craig, is resigning, intern person will be in charge, new person will likely be appointed in January
    - a. Very large department – encompasses zoning
    - b. May be good in the long term
    - c. Short term, it will cause difficulties in the department
  5. Traffic lights missing on 18<sup>th</sup> and Como
    - a. Cam – I'm sure they will be replaced
    - b. Stewart – that is the proposed bike area, maybe they are prematurely beginning the development
13. Review prior meeting minutes (5 min)
- a. Review and approve June 6th minutes (attached)
  - b. Motion: Approve June 6<sup>th</sup> Minutes as revised**
    - i. Mover: Joan, Second: Karl, unanimous approval
  - c. Informational - Executive Committee Meeting June 29<sup>th</sup> meeting
    - i. Next one at Chindian
14. Organization Business (30 min)
- a. Board update – (10 min)
    - i. May Housing Reports (attached)
      1. Cody – we need to determine whether we want to continue offering home loan program
      2. We have about \$162k remaining
      3. We need subgroup to meet with Stacy to work on it
        - a. Cody, Wendy and others need to find some time to work on it
    - b. Office and Staff update – Cody (5 min)
      - i. New unpaid intern until August, Alex
        1. Currently working on graphic design and outreach
      - ii. Working on event planning – cookout, solar power hour, garage sale, ...
    - c. Performance review is still pending
15. New Business
- a. Cookout
    - i. Putting together a comprehensive list of local businesses to advertise the cookout and ask for their participation/donation
      1. Businesses can sponsor cookout items
      2. Board members should ask local businesses for participation
      3. Cody will send out more info for us
      4. Lee – Blue Door Pub has proceeds that go to a non-neighborhood charity, perhaps we could get them to donate locally
16. Adjourn (8:10PM, 1hr, 37 min)

SECIA Minutes July 5, 2017:

Note taker: Ben Brummel, Exec reviewed \_\_\_\_\_ ; Board Approved: \_\_\_\_\_