

SECIA Board Meeting  
Tuesday, October 3, 2017, 6:30 – 8:30 pm  
Van Cleve Park, 901 15th Avenue SE

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

*Other:* Katy Baker (UMN undergraduate student & neighborhood sustainability liaison), Jillia Pessenda (Candidate for City Council, 1<sup>st</sup> Ward), Maya (Marcy Holmes), Cody Hoerning (UMN grad student, Como resident), Katie Fournier (housing and livability committee chair), Will Roberts (UMN grad student, Como resident), Lynn Anderson

Meeting Called to order at: 6:35 PM  
Introductions (5 min)

1. Community Updates (15 min)
    - a. Park - Jordan Nelson
      - i. Soccer season ending, Volleyball will kick off next week
      - ii. Cookout was a success, lots of positive feedback
      - iii. East of the River Park Master Plan is forming community advisory committee (see minutes from September 5, 2017 meeting for details),
        1. The city is presently holding interviews for committee positions
        2. Plan is going to be worked out over the next year, then implemented
        3. Last plan was 2007-2020, it is time for a new plan for ~2020-2035
        4. City is making their way around the regions of the city to develop new plans
        5. Plan defines layouts and look of each park, taking into account lots of data on how the parks have been used, and input from the community.
        6. One person from SE Como has applied for the committee, Abdullahi Ahmed
          - a. He has been selected by the park board
          - b. SECIA and Prospect Park are recommending another applicant from Prospect Park, Ruth Olkonas
          - c. Both applicants have been nominated
    - b. City Council Member updates
      - i. Cam Gordon
        1. Strong indication that neighborhood funding will be stable through 2019.
        2. Local law enforcement sends information on inmates to Homeland Security and their ICE division picked up 68/267 non-citizen inmates in 2016
          - a. Cam is working on solution to keep immigrant inmates from being deported and enforce reassurances that it's safe to call 911 for emergencies and that Minneapolis is a "sanctuary city"
          - b. ICE doesn't report back to the city, so the status of the 68 people is unknown
        3. Monitoring problems at Prime Place, 117 27th Ave. SE, concerning certificate of occupancy and rental license.  
<http://www.mndaily.com/article/2017/08/unfinished-apartment-leaves-students-without-a-home-for-fall>
2. Organization Business (20 min)
  - a. Review and approve September 5th minutes (attached)
    - i. **Motion: Approve September 5<sup>th</sup> minutes.**
    - ii. Mover: Joan, Second: Wendy, Unanimous approval
  - b. Executive Committee Meeting
    - i. Executive Director, Cody Olson, Performance Review and Recommendation (attached)
      1. Feedback compiled from request sent to board members, committee chairs, interns, city staff, all of whom interact with Cody
      2. Feedback was very positive, we recognize Cody's role in assisting the recovery of SECIA and all of his hard work and recommend a 4% raise (details in separate document), selected by Cody from several raise options

3. There are enough CPP (community participation program) funds to cover it for next year, but could earmark NRP (neighborhood revitalization plan) funds if necessary
4. **Motion: Approve a 4% pay raise for Cody Olson beginning with the next payroll period.**
  - a. Mover: Joan, Second: Ramy, Unanimous approval
- ii. SECIA Committees – Executive committee recommends restructuring to focus effort on our number one priority goal, community building. Secondary goal of restructuring committees is better utilization of staff and volunteer’s time and effort.
  1. Community building committee took a hit with Jim’s cancer diagnosis and Marlaine’s resignation
  2. Feedback from Cody’s performance review highlighted interactions between staff and committees – much of this isn’t Cody’s fault and is instead the result of poor committee involvement and structure
  3. One night per month would increase staff involvement and allow people to be present for discussions on multiple committees on the same night
  4. Multiple board members advocate committee restructuring and the development of larger, more representative committees.
  5. Karl: premature to draft a motion, we should take it back to exec and draft a formal plan for December and discussion at annual meeting
  6. Ideally gain community feedback and have a recommendation from annual meeting
3. Board update – (10 min)
  - a. Como Cookout – September 23, 2017 – reflection
    - i. Cookout was great, lots of fun, Cody and others enjoyed putting it on
    - ii. Current estimated minimum attendance was 830 people (actual est. 850-1000)
    - iii. Hoping for additional sponsors next year, but business involvement was sufficient this year
      1. Most business responded to request for support, but few provided sponsorship
    - iv. Shoutout to Ron for the food and bringing together fraternity brothers
      1. Noticed many students got excited about local free food
    - v. Karl – one disappointment was smaller East African turnout than years past
    - vi. Also Como student cooperative event was on the same day
      1. Cody – we are making plans to engage both CSCC and the East African community in the future
        - a. Sending representative to the mosque open house
  - b. Legislative Information Management System (LIMS) - [lms.minneapolismn.gov](https://lms.minneapolismn.gov)
    - i. New program for looking at how to interact with city legislative process
  - c. SECIA Board recruitment plan – currently 4(+2) open seats
  - d. Annual meeting – November 14, 2017 – planning
    - i. Elections, 4 regular board member seats will be open, and 2 appointed student positions are also open, no membership fee (unlike other neighborhood associations)
    - ii. Report preparations, e.g., budget and accounts status
  - e. Office and Staff update – Cody (5 min)
    - i. Garage sale Saturday 9/30, and Sunday 10/1
      1. 10 houses participated (8 for both days)
      2. Having it after the cookout was nice to spread the word
      3. Kenos (intern) is requesting follow-up feedback from those who participated
        - a. Joan – it was really slow on Saturday
      4. Lynn – historically, there was a ‘beacon’ sale with high visibility on Como that passed out flyers listing the other sale locations in the neighborhood
4. Committee Updates (40 min)
  - a. Community Building & Communications - Jim
    - i. Nothing this month
  - b. Environmental – Calder
    - i. Nothing this month
  - c. Livability & Housing – Katie

- i. Housing strategy/Marketing committee had sent updated recommendation to the board on signs
    - 1. 10 metal neighborhood signs \$730 + annual city fee from a graphics company
    - 2. Full logo with light colors for visibility (see separate document for details and locations)
  - ii. Karl – we missed it, Cody – it was sent early in the month
  - iii. Thanks to Cody and Kenos for tracking down city members and accompanying regulations for installation of signs
  - iv. Cody – there is additional money (~\$6k) available for street updates such as these signs and/or banners and another ~\$2k for diverter project (not utility box wraps)
  - v. Lack of quorum pushes vote on funding sign project
  - vi. Could present this project with an example sign at annual meeting
  - vii. Website updates are a bit behind
    - 1. We could appoint a web intern
  - viii. Diverter project table at cookout drew lots of interest
  - d. Safety - MPD 2nd Precinct Police Advisory Council (PAC) meeting notes - <https://courtwatch2pac.com/>
  - e. University District Alliance - Bill & Katie
    - i. Transitions – new University Relations Director named: Eric Garcia Luna
      - 1. Formerly employed in Mayor Hodges office, senior policy in development
      - 2. Worked for senator Klobuchar
    - ii. Replacement for Doug Carlson will be named shortly
      - 1. Memorial service for Doug next Monday at a Presbyterian church at 1pm (contact Katie if you're interested in attending)
    - iii. Request from UDA to name representative for 2018-2020 cycle
      - 1. Katie willing to serve again
      - 2. Bill isn't going to serve again next year
      - 3. We need a new rep, doesn't have to be a board member
  - f. Zoning – Joan
    - i. 959 17<sup>th</sup> ave SE – still looking for a variance request on parking spaces and size of addition
    - ii. No update from city planning on this request
  - g. Projects - Gardens, Utility Box Wraps, etc.
    - i. Utility Box Project – Voting Results – Como Cookout (attached)
      - 1. Lila asked for permission to do door to door fundraising
        - a. Executive committee approved this fundraising
      - 2. Box on 18<sup>th</sup> and Como will be wrapped this week if weather allows
      - 3. Booth suggestion – give people something to do, like vote on something
      - 4. Options will be available for additional voting at annual meeting
  - h. Other
    - i. Obento-Ya closed - Ramen Kazama coming - <http://www.citypages.com/restaurants/obento-ya-closes-will-be-replaced-by-a-ramen-kazama/445427943>
5. New Business
6. Adjourn: 8:18 PM, 1hr, 43 minutes

SECIA Minutes October 3, 2017:

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