



SECIA Annual Meeting

November 14, 2018

- 6:30 – Registration (name, address, e-mail), Mix, Mingle, Snacks, and Review Displays
- 6:40 – Welcome to the Annual Meeting
 - 1) Community Project/Activities - Updates/Highlights
 - 2) MPD Second Precinct / UMPD Community Engagement Team
 - 3) Van Cleve Park Director
 - 4) Elected officials
- 7:15 – Meet your neighbors, MPD and UMPD representatives, Van Cleve Park Director and elected officials – mix & mingle – follow up on what you heard
- 7:45 – State of SE Como – SECIA Staff and Board Report
 - 1) Introduction of Board Members and Staff
 - 2) Highlights
- 8:15 – Guidelines for Board membership and Board Elections
- 8:45 – General Q & A and Election Results



SECIA Community Projects

- Diverter Project – MWMO supported design phase
– Peggy Booth for the Diverter Project Committee
- Gardens – Fair Share Farm, Como Corner, Talmage Crossing, Accord Native Garden – Lila Smith for the Garden leaders – Kathy Knudson, Suzanne Maeder
- Utility boxes – art wrap project – Lila Smith
- Community Building – flyers, folders, bags – door knocking – Cody Hoerning
- Good Neighbor Fund – Como Cultural and Dance Series – Will Roberts

SECIA Diverter Garden Project – Presentation at SECIA Annual Meeting – November 14, 2018



Overview – details on the next slide

- A. **What's SECIA diverter garden project?**
[slide 1. photo – existing Talmage-15th diverter]
- B. **What we could gain from improving the diverters?** [slide 2. MB prairie garden illustration]
- C. **Where are we at in the project?**



SECIA Diverter Garden Project – Presentation at SECIA Annual Meeting – November 14, 2018

Note: the topic titles in brackets are for reference & not necessarily stated in presentation.

Hello. I'm Peggy Booth & live on 25th Avenue Southeast. I'm one of 5 neighbors who have volunteered to be the diverter project committee.

A. **What's SECIA diverter garden project?** [slide 1. photo – existing Talmage-15th diverter]

- 1) [Origins] The City installed 5 diverters in SE Como almost 50 years ago in order to reduce drivers cutting through the neighborhood on residential streets.
- 2) [Upkeep issues] Over time diverters became overgrown & weedy. The City allocates no resources to the upkeep of diverters. Neighbor volunteers have worked hard to maintain some diverters.
- 3) [Grant/contract] So last spring, SECIA board obtained a grant from the Mississippi Watershed Management Organization (MWMO) & contracted with Metro Blooms to develop a prototype garden design to create more benefits.

B. **What we could gain from improving the diverters?** [slide 2. MB prairie garden illustration]

- 1) [Safety] The diverters need to be safe for drivers, bicyclists, and pedestrians. Current diverters have not resulted in any fatalities or serious injuries. But, they are not very visible at night particularly for inexperienced drivers. Concerns have also been raised that drivers, bicyclists & pedestrians can't see each other. City standards now require boulevards & diverters to be visually open. [gesture 3-7 feet]
- 2) [Water Quality] We all want clean rivers & lakes – which means we need to do our part to help water quality. Rather than mounding up soil (like the original diverters), best management practices call for a shallow depression or swale to collect & filter rain & snowmelt. Even better is to divert stormwater from the street into the swale. The prototype design would achieve these water quality benefits.
- 3) [Pollinator Habitat] The health of our environment & food supply depends on pollinators (like bees, & butterflies). To survive these pollinators require more habitat. The proposed garden is beautiful native plants and flowers for pollinators.

C. **Where are we at in the project?**

- 1) [Accomplishments] We've had 2 neighborhood meetings – in June & September; & sought neighbor input. Metro Blooms has completed the garden design & the grant agreement with WMO will also be done this year.
- 2) [Next steps] We've started the next phase of the project to confer with traffic safety professionals. We'll continue to outreach to residents.
- 3) [Implementation?] No decision has been made to go ahead with project implementation. It would require approval by the City Public Works Department & the SECIA Board. We'd work with the City to see what work they could do at no cost to the neighborhood. We'd need to figure out how the improvements will be maintained over time. And if the project is to go ahead, we'd also need to get a grant & get volunteers to implement it.

ODD
SIDE
SNOW
PLOWING

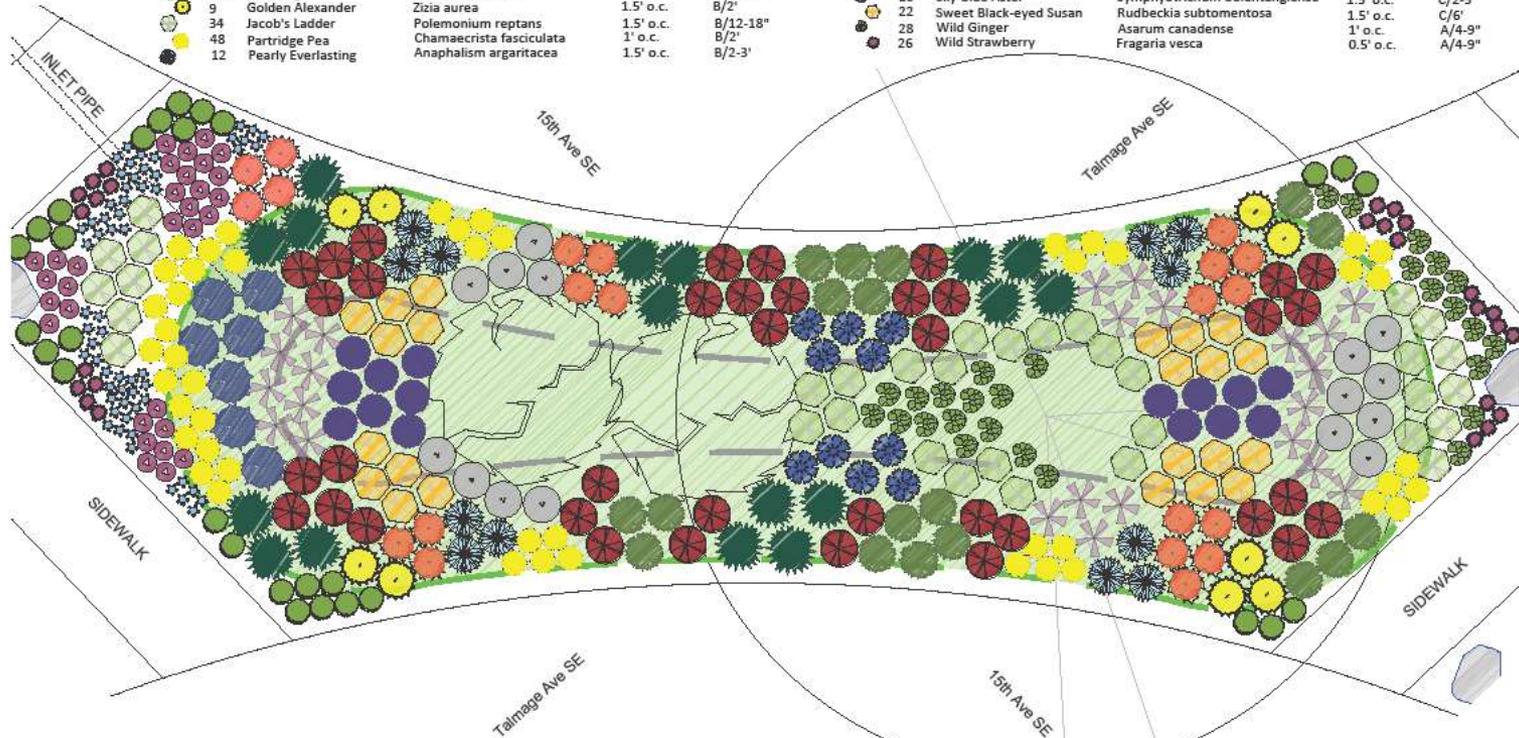




PLANT LIST

QTY	COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	SPACING	ZONE/HT
1	Swamp White Oak	Quercus bicolor	15' o.c.	C/30'
2	Button Bush	Cephalanthus occidentalis	8' o.c.	C/8'
15	Blazing Star	Liatris spicata	1.5' o.c.	C/6'
21	Butterfly Milkweed	Asclepias tuberosa	1.5' o.c.	B/12-24"
29	Creeping Thyme	Thymus serpyllum	1' o.c.	A/4-6"
15	Eastern Beebalm	Monarda bradburiana	1.5' o.c.	B/18-24"
18	Fox Sedge	Carex vulpinoidea	1' o.c.	B/12-24"
9	Golden Alexander	Zizia aurea	1.5' o.c.	B/2'
34	Jacob's Ladder	Polemonium reptans	1.5' o.c.	B/12-18"
48	Partridge Pea	Chamaecrista fasciculata	1' o.c.	B/2'
12	Pearly Everlasting	Anaphalism argentea	1.5' o.c.	B/2-3'

QTY	COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	SPACING	ZONE/HT
17	Prairie Dropseed	Sporobolus heterolepis	2' o.c.	C/2-3'
31	Prairie Smoke	Geum triflorum	1.5' o.c.	A/6-12"
24	Purple Coneflower	Echinacea purpurea	1.5' o.c.	C/2-4"
60	Pussy Toes	Antennaria neglecta	0.5' o.c.	A/6-12"
7	Rattlesnake Master	Eryngium yuccifolium	2' o.c.	B/4-5'
38	Sedum 'Autumn Joy'	Hylotelephium 'Herbstfreude'	1.5' o.c.	B/18-24"
10	Sky-blue Aster	Symphyotrichum oolentangiense	1.5' o.c.	C/2-3'
22	Sweet Black-eyed Susan	Rudbeckia subtomentosa	1.5' o.c.	C/6'
28	Wild Ginger	Asarum canadense	1' o.c.	A/4-9"
26	Wild Strawberry	Fragaria vesca	0.5' o.c.	A/4-9"



SE Como Raingarden
 Talmage Ave SE & 15th Ave SE
 Minneapolis, MN

PLANTING PLAN

- Area of Planted Divert: 1014 ft²
- Area of Raingarden: 729 ft²
- Depth of Raingarden: 18"



Designed by: Jennifer Moeller
 Metro Blooms
 P.O. Box 17099
 Minneapolis, MN 55417
 Phone: (651) 699-2426
www.metroblooms.org

SE Como Tallmage & 15th Diverter Plant Species

						Zone C	
			Swamp White Oak <i>Quercus bicolor</i>	Button Bush <i>Cephalanthus occidentalis</i>	Blazing Star <i>Liatris spicata</i>		
Zone B & C							Zone B & C
	Rattlesnake Master <i>Eryngium yuccifolium</i>	Sky-blue Aster <i>Symphyotrichum oolentangiense</i>	Sweet Blackeyed Susan <i>Rudbeckia subtomentosa</i>	Pearly Everlasting <i>Anaphalium argentea</i>	Purple Coneflower <i>Echinacea purpurea</i>	Fox Sedge <i>Carex vulpinoidea</i>	
Zone B							Zone B
	Butterfly Milkweed <i>Asclepias tuberosa</i>	Eastern Beebalm <i>Monarda bradburiana</i>	Prairie Dropseed <i>Sporobolus heterolepis</i>	Sedum 'Autumn Joy' <i>Hylotelephium 'Herbstfreude'</i>	Golden Alexander <i>Zizia aurea</i>	Jacob's Ladder <i>Polemonium reptans</i>	
Zone A							Zone A
	Pussy Toes <i>Antennaria neglecta</i>	Prairie Smoke <i>Geum triflorum</i>	Creeping Thyme <i>Thymus serpyllum</i>	Partridge Pea <i>Chamaecrista fasciculata</i>	Wild Ginger <i>Asarum canadense</i>	Wild Strawberry <i>Fragaria vesca</i>	

SE Como Community Gardens



SE Como has four community gardens that you are welcome to join. All use organic practices

- Fair Share Farm
- Como Corner Garden
- Talmage Crossing Prairie Garden
- Accord Native Community Garden

Fair Share Farm

- Grow you own food at Fair Share Farm. Instead of individual plots, everyone puts in \$20, works a little each week and shares the bounty. Extra vegetables are donated to the Food Shelves and elderly neighbors. They have a pizza oven and host educational “Farm On” events.
- Fair Share Farm’s “Tool Library” is very useful. Contact Kathy Knudson (Kathy@secomo.org) if you would like to use tools. The weed wrench is popular.



Fairshare Farm

COMMUNAL GROWING AND GATHERING



Como Corner Garden

- Neighborhood volunteers turned an overgrown patch of railroad property into a peaceful garden park. There is a bench, paths, and a Little Library among the flowers.
- Gardeners continue to add native perennials and fruit-bearing shrubs for the birds while attempting to keep weeds – especially burdock and thistle – under control.
- Suzanne Maeder puts out a “Gardening Tonight” sign about every other Tuesday during the growing season. Walk ins are welcome.
- Suzanne sends a special thank you for an anonymous gift certificate to Mother Earth Gardens.





Talmage Crossing Prairie Garden

- Talmage Crossing Prairie Garden is also on railroad (BNSF) land that was once overgrown with noxious weeds. This native rain garden solved a serious erosion problem by restoring a bit of nature to our urban landscape.
- Walkers, joggers, and bikers enjoy and view, and it provides habitat and substance for bees, butterflies, rabbits, and wild turkeys.



TALMAGE CROSSING GARDEN





Accord Native Garden

This spring we expanded the Accord garden around Norman Anderson's Accord Sculpture in Van Cleve Park. Volunteers removed sod, scooped out plots to retain moisture and planted hearty native perennials. The garden has thrived attracting bees, butterflies, and smiling neighbors. The replacement of the surrounding sidewalk this fall was a surprise, but the contractors have been sympathetic and modified their plans to reduce stress on our garden.



TO CROSS
SAFELY
PLEASE
WAIT FOR
WALK
SIGNAL

Flowers are the Opposite of Graffiti: SECLIA's Utility Box Project

We are working on a project to wrap neighborhood utility boxes with nature photos taken locally by neighbors and printed on 3M anti-graffiti vinyl. Neighbors vote on designs and locations for future utility box wraps. A Good Neighborhood Fund Grant wrapped four boxes in 2017 – 15th and Rollins (Van Cleve Park), 15th and Como (Chin Dian) and 22nd and Como (Sporty's) – but most have been paid for by donations from the community.



Community Building

- Joint Committee Meeting
 - Prioritize community building and efficiently utilize staff and volunteer time and effort.
 - Meeting on the third Tuesday of each month at Van Cleve Park at 6:30 pm.
- Events and Activities
 - SECIA Flyer
 - “All are welcome here” folders
 - Door-knocking welcome campaign
 - “Get out the vote” outreach event
 - Off-campus living fair



A flyer for the Southeast Como Improvement Association (SECIA). The top section features the "COMO" logo in white on a blue background, with "SOUTHEAST MINNEAPOLIS" and "SOUTHEAST COMO IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION" written below it. A photograph of a community cookout is shown with the caption "Como Cookout". The middle section lists various community activities: "Join us at one of our monthly meetings.", "Volunteer help is essential to making our community a better place.", "Visit our website to view our calendar and learn more - www.secom.org", and "We are working on: Community Gardening, Public Art, Utility Box Wrapping, Community Events, Safety Improvements, Environmental Advocacy, Homeowner and Renter Assistance, Neighborhood Clean-Up...and so much more!". The bottom section describes SECIA as a community group with an Executive Director and an elected board, and lists their goals: "We improve the SE Como neighborhood through projects, community advocacy, events, and programs, often with Van Cleve Park and the University of Minnesota." and "We work for you! We strive to make the neighborhood a more welcoming, vibrant, fun, and safe community." The bottom right corner includes the website "www.org.secom.org" and the phone number "612-285-0712".

Como Cultural and Dance Series – A Good Neighbor Fund Project



Siamsa

October 5, 2018

Back in Africa, Siamsa Matuzungidi recorded hundreds of songs and toured the world with popular soukous artists. Now based in Minneapolis, Siamsa loves sharing the uplifting music of his homeland. He's a masterful guitarist and a spirited singer. He also plays traditional African instruments like mbira and balafon. For this very special concert he'll be joined by an incredible jazz-funk band forming a lush, energetic backdrop for Siamsa's Congolese rumba and soukous dance music. His shows are really fun and engaging for music-lovers of all ages.



Heart and Soul Drum Academy

November 16, 2018

We had a wonderful time! The young Dancers and Drummers were very inspiring. In Q & A it was clear that they were learning cultural history along with developing confidence and skills. Their teachers are excellent and the students are learning to teach, too. We had a chance to join in making music and dance. The interactive experience was invigorating. Thank you!!



SECIA Annual Meeting

1. Community Project/Activities - Updates/Highlights
2. MPD Second Precinct and UMPD Community Engagement Team
 1. **Inspector Todd Loining, MPD Second Precinct**
3. Van Cleve Park Director – **Jordan Nelson**
4. Elected officials (Following were invited, those in **Bold** attended)
 1. City Council Members
 1. Ward 1 – Kevin Reich
 2. Ward 2 – Cam Gordon
 2. Park Board Representative District 1 – **Chris Meyer**
 3. Hennepin County Commissioner – District 4 – Peter McLaughlin/
Angela Conley
 4. MN Representatives
 1. 60A – Diane Loeffler
 2. 60B – Ilhan Omar/ Mohammed Noor
 5. MN Senator 60 – **Kari Dziedzic**



SECIA Annual Meeting

- 7:15 – Meet your neighbors, MPD and UMPD representatives, Van Cleve Park Director, and elected officials – mix & mingle – follow up on what you heard**
- 7:45 – State of SE Como – SECIA Staff and Board Report**
- 1) Introduction of Board Members and Staff
 - 2) Highlights
- 8:15 – Guidelines for Board membership and Board Elections**
- 8:45 – General Q & A and Election Results**



SECIA Annual Meeting

7:45 – State of SE Como – SECIA Staff and Board Report

- 1) Introduction of Board Members and Staff
- 2) Highlights
 1. Office – Alex Farrell
 1. Communications – Suzy Pagel
 2. Website – Salah Bedeiwi
 2. Mural Repainting – Alex Farrell
 3. Neighborhood Signs – Karl Smith
 4. Como Cookout – Karl Smith
 5. Financial – Wendy Menken

8:15 – Guidelines for Board membership and Board Elections

8:45 – General Q & A and Election Results

Board and Officers

You are here: [Home](#) › [Neighborhood](#) › [Southeast Como Improvement Association \(SECIA\)](#) › Board and Officers

Name	Title	Term Ends
Karl Smith	President	November 2020
Stewart Smith	Vice President	November 2018
Wendy Menken	Treasurer	November 2019
Ben Brummel	Secretary	November 2019
Bill Dane		November 2018
Joan Menken		November 2018
Jim Nyberg		November 2019
Phil Roban		November 2019
Ramy Selim		November 2018
Will Roberts		November 2020
Cody Hoerning		November 2020
Katy Baker	MSA Representative	November 2019

The SECIA board meetings are the first Tuesday of every month. To add an item to the agenda, please contact Karl at secomo@secomo.org or call the office at 612-685-0371. Its best to get items to our office at least 2 Fridays before the board meeting.

MINNESOTA DAILY

7/10/2018, 10:14PM

New executive director arrives in Southeast Como

University alumnus Alex Farrell is taking on executive director role for the neighborhood association while pursuing his master's degree.

By J.D. DUGGAN



EASTON GREEN

University graduate and new executive director of the Southeast Como Improvement Association, Alex Farrell, poses for a photo in Van Cleve Park on Tuesday, July 10.

COMO

SOUTHEAST MINNEAPOLIS

SOUTHEAST COMO IMPROVEMENT
ASSOCIATION



Alex Farrell

Executive Director

alexfarrell@secomo.org

Following slides are
Alex's honeymoon trip
to Viet Nam and Japan











4F
MEN
KIDS
3F
MEN
WOMEN

¥1,990

¥1,990

UNIVERSITY OF
MINNETTA

SECIA Communications



Suzanne Pagel

Communications Intern

suzy@secomo.org



Como Tidbits

Events

Office Hours
By Appointment
Southeast College Park

Office Hours: 9-12:00 (M-F)

Committee Meetings

Community and Committee Meeting Night
Tuesday, November 22
6:30 - 8:30 p.m.
Van Cleave Park

Housing and Livability Committee Meeting
Tuesday, November 22
7 - 8 p.m.
Van Cleave Park

SECIA Resources
See an informational open house [open house](#), [webinars](#), [workshops](#), [presentations](#), [brochures](#), [flyers](#), [posters](#), [signage](#), [social media](#), [press releases](#), and [more](#).
To schedule an presentation in the Minneapolis River Center, visit [www.secomo.org](#).

City Council Updates:

Cam Gordon, City Council Ward 2
[Contact: @camgordon](#)

Kevin Raich, City Council Ward 1
[Contact: @kevinraich](#)

Electoral Day — November 6
If you aren't pre-registered, it's not too late! You may register, or update your registration, on Election Day at your polling place, as long as you are a U.S. citizen and can provide proof of residence. Find your polling place and sample ballot on the Minnesota Secretary of State website.

SECIA Annual Meeting
The **Southeast Como Improvement Association (SECIA) Annual Meeting** will take place on Wednesday, November 14, from 6:30 to 9 p.m. at the Van Cleave Park and Recreation Center, 901 15th Ave SE, Minneapolis, MN 55414. We will come together to celebrate all that SECIA has been able to accomplish in the past year, make plans for the future and choose new community leaders to serve on our Board of Directors. All are welcome!

We currently have six Board seats up for election in 2018. These seats are open to homeowners, renters, students and business owners in the SE Como community. If you are interested in running, or would like to learn more, please email SECIA at secomo@secomo.org.

As a final note, we are still in the process of planning this event. If there are activities you would like to see happen at our annual meeting, or if you want to make sure something is featured, please email SECIA at secomo@secomo.org.

Volunteer with Reading Partners
Currently, in the Twin Cities, only 5,000 out of 12,500 students that need educational support are actually receiving assistance. Reading Partners Twin Cities is a nonprofit dedicated to making meaningful education accessible to all children so that they can achieve their potential. The program provides targeted one-on-one tutoring for K-5th graders who are reading at a level behind their current grade level. To learn more about volunteering with Reading Partners, go [online](#) or call 612-362-0430.

Developers propose Southeast Como development amid resident concerns
A new development in Southeast Como has raised resident concerns about the future of the predominantly single-family home neighborhood.

The proposed residential development, which would replace



Vol 1 Issue 3
Fall 2018

The Como-tion

Stay informed with Como Tidbits (the latest SECIA Publication)



 @secomoorg
 Southeast Como Improvement Association
 secomoorg

Como Cookout 2018
On Saturday, September 15th, Southeast Como Improvement Association (SECIA) hosted another successful Como Cookout. Thanks to all the volunteers and supporters who contributed their time and skills to this event. We couldn't have done it without you.

We'd also like to extend a thank you to all community members who stopped by and took part in the festivities. All of you are what makes this community so great!



In this issue:

- 1 Como Cookout Recap
- 1 SECIA Annual Meeting
- 2 Social Media
- 2 Fair of the River Park Make-a-Plan
- 2 Minneapolis 3140
- 2 Get Out the Vote!
- 2 Volunteer
- 3 SECIA Campaign
- 4 Events

SECIA Annual Meeting
The SECIA Annual Meeting will take place on Wednesday, November 14th, 2018, from 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Van Cleave Park and Recreation Center, 901 15th Ave SE, Minneapolis, MN 55414. The annual meeting is a great way to meet community members of all backgrounds, ages and walks of life. We will come together to celebrate all that SECIA has been able to accomplish in the past year, make plans for the future and choose new community leaders to serve on our Board of Directors. All are welcome!

We currently have six Board seats up for election in 2018. These seats are open to homeowners, renters, students and business owners in the SE Como community. If you are interested in running, or would like to learn more, please email SECIA at secomo@secomo.org.

As a final note, we are still in the process of planning this event. If there are activities you would like to see happen at our annual meeting, or if you want to make sure something is featured, please email SECIA at secomo@secomo.org.

Mark your calendars for November 14, and we'll see you there!



COME HOME TO COMO

Welcome to our Southeast Minneapolis Como Neighborhood, smack in the center of the Twin Cities, close to both downtowns and within walking/biking distance of the University of Minnesota!

In Como Neighborhood, you're very close to good eating at our own neighborhood restaurants, as well as the cafes and eateries in Dinkytown, along University Avenue, and in Old St. Anthony. Entertainment and culture are close by too: the UofM museums, sports, and concert halls, the Guthrie Theater or the West Bank theater district. Van Cleve Park is our community center and has attractions for all ages — and the nearby Mississippi River is a great place to relax, or get a great ride or run in.



<https://secomo.org/>



UMN Off Campus Living and SE Como volunteers repaint the mural on 15th Ave SE





Signs to be posted at neighborhood entry points



SOUTHEAST MINNEAPOLIS

SOUTHEAST COMO IMPROVEMENT
ASSOCIATION

Como Cookout

Thanks to our Partners

- UMN Office of Off Campus Living
- Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board – Van Cleve Park

And our Sponsors and Donors

- 2 Fat Guys and a Grill/Ron Lischeid, Qdoba Mexican Eats, Tap Minneapolis, SE Christian Church, Coca Cola







SECIA Board Election

- Retiring Board Members
 - Ramy Selim
 - Stewart Smith (Vice President)
- Board Members who resigned
 - Ben Brummel (Secretary)
 - Abby Burtis

Thank you for your service!



SECIA Board Election

- Eligibility for Regular Membership. Persons who reside or conduct business in the Community are eligible for regular membership in the Association.
- Duties. The Board shall transact necessary business between Association meetings and such other business as may be referred to it by the Association, create standing committees, approve plans or work of the standing committees, and present reports of its activities at the regular meetings of the Association.



SECIA Board Responsibilities

- Organization infrastructure (communications – newsletter/tidbits/website, office, supplies, etc)
- Budget (organization annual audit, oversight – NPR/NCR/_CPP/grants/committees, fiscal agency, etc)
- Committee authorizer (oversight, approvals where needed)
 - SECIA has traditionally expected the committees to:
 - Implement budgeted plans
 - Seek to increase resident involvement
 - Work somewhat independently of the board (but cannot take official positions for neighborhood, sign contracts, submit grant apps independently, etc.)
 - Draft neighborhood positions statement for board approval
 - Do idea generation
 - Seek additional resources (develop grant/funding ideas)
- Community outreach (encourage full resident participation, meet City/NCR requirements, promote volunteer involvement, assess equity, support events, etc)
- Official representative for neighborhood (City issues, position statements, contract entity, fiscal agent, zoning issues, partners with other agencies, etc)
- Additional resource management (volunteers, partners, staff, grants/fundraising, etc)
 - Volunteers – majority is brought in/managed by staff (RJCA, students, service learning, community gardens, interns etc.)



SECIA Board Election – 6 open seats

- Nominated for Re-Election
 - Bill Dane
 - Joan Menken
- Nominated by Executive Committee
 - Kathy Knudson
- Nominations from the Floor
 - Lynn Anderson
 - Aaron Tilleson
- Motion to elect the slate (Joan Menken) Second (Will Roberts), Unanimous approval.