

SECIA Board Meeting – Minutes
Tuesday, May 5th, 2020, 6:30 – 8:30 pm
Zoom Meeting

Board Members: Present - Karl Smith, Ben Brummel, Wendy Menken, Cody Hoerning, Jim Nyberg, Bill Dane, Kathy Knudson, Steve Peterson, Quinn Oteman, Alex Farrell (Executive Director), Lynn Anderson;
Absent - Greg Thompsen, Phil Roban, Sloane MacSwain, Katy Baker, Aaron Tilleson; Excused –

Other Participants: Jensine Beyer (Communications intern), Cam Gordon (City Council Ward 2), Ashlee Lange (UMN PD), Katie Fournier (Liveability Committee), Joan Menken (Zoning Committee), Julia Kobilka (Garden Intern), Luis Mendoza (Communications Intern), Amber Wiebe (Community building Intern), Lt. Eric Dison (MPD 2nd Precinct), Lila Smith (Community Gardens), Mike Fox (Van Cleve Park)

Motions:

- 1. Approve April 7th 2020 SECIA Board Meeting Minutes**
- 2. Approve signing of Pollinator Patch at Van Cleve contract**
- 3. Change mailing distribution for sending newsletters to physical addresses to Every Door Direct Mailing (EDDM) and apply for associated Bulk Mail permit, and Non Profit Permit**
- 4. Approve SECIA sending the drafted letter of support for the historic designation of 1035 14th Ave SE to Cam Gordon**
- 5. Approve the hiring of Luis Mendoza as a Communications Intern, Julia Kobilka as a Garden Intern, and Laura Schlotterback as a Grant Writing Intern**
- 6. Approve Hiring committee for executive director: Chair: Cody Hoerning, Exec committee, one intern, and Quinn Oteman**

Meeting Called to order at: 6:32 PM

Introductions (5 min)

1. Community Updates (20 min)
 - a. MPD Second Precinct Representative and/or UMPD Community Engagement Team (CET) Representative
 - i. Lt. Eric Dison - 2nd precinct
 1. Marcy Holmes - suspect apprehended for several assaults
 - a. Combined effort of multiple departments
 - b. 13-14 cases against the perpetrator
 2. Catalytic converter thefts
 - a. 2 in past 2 weeks
 3. Auto and bike thefts
 - a. 2 autos in past 2 weeks
 4. Misc thefts and a domestic assault also occurred
 5. Wendy - lots of strange people observed wandering - esp. at night
 - a. Screaming and yelling at 1am
 - b. Eric - report suspicious individuals
 - i. b/c of converter thefts, residents urged to report groups at odd hours

- ii. Call 911
 - c. Quinn - might be end-of-semester partying
 - i. Eric - most students have left the area
- ii. Officer Ashlee Lange - UMN PD
 - 1. Campus population has decreased
 - a. Most students have moved out
 - 2. A few theft reports in last few weeks
 - a. Mostly unattended items
 - 3. Huge decrease in crime on campus overall
 - 4. All hospitals and clinics open
 - a. 2 operating Covid clinics - testing is available
 - 5. Steve - Should we call 911 to report people picking through our recycle containers - looking for beer and soft drink cans?
 - a. Same lady always does this
 - b. If it's on your property, you can contact the police
 - 6. 12 hr shifts
 - a. Minimizes number of officers on shift
- b. Van Cleve Park – Mike Fox
 - i. Building is shut down
 - ii. Ambassador Program
 - 1. Patrolling park grounds
 - 2. Reminding people to practice distancing
 - iii. Tennis court nets and basketball hoops to be removed
 - 1. This is the result of non-compliance of social distancing measures
 - iv. Golf courses reopened
 - 1. Park staff mostly working in golf courses
 - v. Wendy - has there been resistance to ambassadors?
 - 1. Mike - not that I specifically know of, but there probably has been resistance
 - 2. This program is taking place at many sites beyond Van Cleve
- c. Park Commissioner – Chris Meyer (quarterly in-person updates)
- d. City Council Members – Kevin Reich, Ward 1; Cam Gordon, Ward 2
 - i. Cam Gordon - Ward 2 (update attached)
 - 1. Mayor gave State of the City address
 - a. Response to pandemic
 - b. How to move forward
 - 2. Most of city workforce still working ~90%
 - a. Most of these working from home
 - b. City council offices still closed
 - 3. Working on budget items
 - a. Wage freeze
 - b. Hiring freeze
 - c. Will be reworking budget this summer
 - 4. As of today or yesterday, there are 700 positive cases of SARS-COV-2 in Minneapolis
 - a. 200 Hospitalizations with Covid-19
 - b. 70 deaths
 - i. Most in specific buildings
 - ii. Median age: 78 yrs
 - iii. Currently leading cause of death in Minneapolis
 - 5. City meetings are abbreviated
 - 6. People can call 311

7. Traffic control agents assigned to parks
 8. Emergency housing package
 - a. \$3M
 - b. 7-8K applicants
 - c. Must be low income
 - d. Expect to distribute to 1.5K applicants
 9. Increase in homelessness
 - a. Governor's order prevents clearing encampments
 - i. Help people stay in place for now
 10. Karl - any potential for neighborhood org funding?
 - a. City is trying to be more flexible, use existing money and redirect to this purpose
 - b. Funding will likely stay at the same level
 - c. Neighborhoods can apply for some grant opportunities
 11. Amber - SECIA is trying to match someone who needs rental assistance
 - a. SECIA offered to help assist people as needed - mostly by connecting them with other assistance
 12. Steve - Can you envision a plan in which persons under 60 could resume visiting bars and restaurants and persons over 60 would be encouraged to stay in their homes?
 - a. City is exploring this and open to it with restrictions
 - i. Right now the city is likely against it
 - b. People are very worried about a large increase in cases when things open up
 13. Cody - 'Pick-up zones' at restaurants have been very nice
 - a. Is there a plan to keep those in place?
 - b. Cam - no talk of taking away 'pick-up zones'
 - c. Take-out will likely be popular for some time
 - d. Could possibly go away when things reopen due to need for parking
 14. Jim - what's the state of preparedness for city hospitals? Are they ready for a rise in illnesses?
 - a. Cam - Bethesda hospital has been identified as an ICU to help prevent others from being overwhelmed
 - b. There has been enough time to get organized
 - c. Hospitals appear well-prepared
 - d. Procedures that have been postponed should be resuming as the hospitals have sufficient resources
- e. Meeting/Event Reports
- i. SECIA Community Project/Joint Committee Meeting Night – Third Tuesday – Tuesday, April 21, 2020, 6:30 – 8:30 pm, Zoom video conference
 1. Reports from environmental committee about TCE
 2. Comm gardens about spacing
 3. Safety about crimes
 4. Worked on 1035 church and Tuttle school
 - a. Will continue working on these at the next meeting
- f. Upcoming Meetings/Events
- i. SECIA Community Project/Joint Committee Meeting Night – Third Tuesday – Next meeting – Tuesday, May 19, 2020, 6:30 – 8:30 pm, Zoom video conference
 - ii. Other Developments
2. Board and Organization Business (20 min) – Final Agenda set by Executive Committee, 4/28/20.
 - a. Board Business

- i. Review and approve April 7, 2020 Board Meeting minutes (attached)
 - 1. **Motion: Approve April 7th 2020 SECIA Board Meeting Minutes**
 - a. **Mover: Steve, Second: Wendy, Unanimous approval**
- ii. Pollinator Patch - Van Cleve Park - Minneapolis Public Schools (MPS)/SECIA Contract review & approval (contract attached). Marshall Field Pollinator Patch Development – background by Lila Smith (attached).
 - 1. Mike connected Lila with someone in the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB) to help move this plan forward
 - 2. Many people including the executive committee and several board members have reviewed the contract
 - 3. Lila has found contractors for the project
 - 4. Bill - commends progress working with public schools and park board
 - 5. **Motion: Approve signing of Pollinator Patch at Van Cleve contract**
 - a. **Mover: Steve, Second: Kathy, Unanimous approval**
- iii. Print newsletters mailing permit - review & approval (attached)
 - 1. Switched methods - previous method missed apartments
 - a. Increase from ~2000 to ~3207 households
 - 2. Need to apply for non-profit permit
 - a. Will lower cost from \$.19/unit = \$610/print
 - b. ~\$240 1-time application fee + \$240 print fee + \$.10/unit
 - i. \$560/print (\$800 for first one with application fee)
 - c. Will save ~\$150/year and reach more households
 - d. Need approval for the process
 - 3. **Motion: Change mailing distribution for sending newsletters to physical addresses to Every Door Direct Mailing (EDDM) and apply for associated Bulk Mail permit, and Non Profit Permit**
 - a. **Mover: Wendy, Second: Quinn, Unanimous approval**
 - 4. Steve - are we asking for email addresses?
 - a. No, but people can choose to fill out our surveys or sign up for our e-commotion newsletter
- iv. 1035 14th Ave Church
 - 1. Letter has been drafted supporting the church as a historic resource
 - 2. Developer pulled out of their purchase agreement
 - 3. **Motion: Approve SECIA sending the drafted letter of support for the historic designation of 1035 14th Ave SE to Cam Gordon**
 - a. **Mover: Steve, Second: Kathy, Unanimous approval**
- v. Interns
 - 1. Recruitment and Hiring
 - a. Retiring Interns: Jensine Beyer (Communications)
 - i. Moving on to an internship at 3M
 - ii. Leaving us in 2 weeks
 - iii. Wendy - we should do an intern party when we can
 - iv. Thank you from everyone for initiatives, branding, transition to E-Comotion
 - b. Continuing Interns: Lauren Heers (Garden), Cedar Thomas (Communications), Amber Wiebe (Community Building), Maribel Morales (Community Building)
 - i. Amber - Surveys for Covid response
 - 1. Looking for needs within the community and where people want to help out with others

2. People want to help with grocery shopping, walking dogs, paying rent
 3. Received only 1 response from people looking for help
 4. Trying to get surveys out or explore other ideas
 - a. Not reaching enough of an audience
 5. Survey is going out in the Comotion
 - a. Wednesday, May 13th
 6. Work is being done on yard signs that can be distributed
 7. More permanent SECIA signs may be built
 - a. Currently only 1 at Fairshare Farm
 8. First Congregational church found some students without enough money for food
 - a. Donation box has been set out
 - i. Corner of 5th st and 7th ave SE
 - b. Could add this to the Comotion
- c. New hires: Luis Mendoza, Julia Kobilka, Laura Schlotterback (brief bios attached)
- i. Luis - Communications intern
 1. Very enthusiastic for the position
 2. UMN student in Marketing
 3. Lots of relevant experience
 - ii. Julia - Garden intern
 1. Starting this week
 2. UMN student in Environmental Science
 3. Passion for gardening
- d. The hiring committees recommend hiring Luis Mendoza as a Communications Intern, Julia Kobilka as a Garden Intern, and Laura Schlotterback as a Grant Writing Intern
- i. Executive Committee recommends approval
 - ii. **Motion: Approve the hiring of Luis Mendoza as a Communications Intern, Julia Kobilka as a Garden Intern, and Laura Schlotterback as a Grant Writing Intern**
 1. **Mover: Wendy, Second: Kathy, Unanimous Approval**
- vi. Executive Director hiring
1. Alex will be leaving us
 - a. Finishing school, actively searching for a new position
 - b. Steve - What is Alex's plan?
 - i. Finishing a masters, looking for positions in government or project management
 2. Hiring committee membership - Exec recommendations and discussion
 - a. Exec recommends Exec, Intern, and another board member (reenter preferred)
 - b. Quinn nominated
 - c. Cody Hoerning as hiring committee chair
 - d. **Motion: Approve Hiring committee for executive director: Chair: Cody Hoerning, Exec committee, one intern, and Quinn Oteman**
 - i. **Mover: Wendy, Second: Steve, Unanimous approval**
 3. Update position description

- b. Committee Updates (30 min) – Up to Five (5) minutes per update
 - vii. Project Night/Joint Committee – Alex
 - 1. April 21st meeting (next meeting: May 19th)
 - viii. Grant Writing Committee – Alex
 - 1. Laura Schlotterbach
 - a. New Intern starting on Monday
 - b. Laura will be helping spearhead new grants
 - i. Tuttle school, church, alternate board funding
 - 2. Good Neighbor Fund - 2020 – \$64,000 available
<https://government-relations.umn.edu/content/good-neighbor-fund>
 - a. Three proposals were submitted by SECIA
 - b. Results expected June
 - 3. Jim - Have the interns been approved by Gusto?
 - a. Yes, they are in the system
 - ix. Community Building & Communications – Jim
 - 1. Request for recommendations for distribution of the COVID-19 Response survey
 - x. Zoning – Joan
 - 1. Multiple houses have been or are being replaced with triplexes in the last 3 months. Change in City policy means they no longer notify SECIA before starting.
 - a. For example, 926 & 930 17th Ave SE. Como Investments owned by GoGopher Rentals.
 - i. No info on these right now
 - b. Consider taking an official position as an organization
 - 2. 1104-1108 25th ave SE
 - a. DJR Architects
 - b. Two 4-unit building, 20 bedrooms/building
 - c. Project is on hold pending on whether the university is open in the fall
 - d. People are commenting on parking
 - 3. Marcy Holmes meeting about a building on 15th and 8th
 - a. [Building info](#)
 - b. Updated to 12 stories, combines 3 lots
 - c. 166 units
 - d. 1-4 bedroom units (average 3-beds)
 - e. 260 units, 761 bedrooms
 - f. Mixed use with retail
 - i. Not leased yet
 - g. Fits in with transit-15 zoning in 2040 plan
 - h. 191 parking spaces - May affect Como parking
 - i. Few variances will be requested
 - j. Will follow affordable requirements for university district
 - k. Garden green space on 3rd story
 - l. Will generate park fees - won't go to Van Cleve despite being 1 block away due to being in Marcy Holmes
 - 4. 1035 14th Ave church property - SECIA's Position
 - a. Review draft of position - letter of support for nomination of historic designation - see board business
 - xi. Environmental – Kathy/Peggy
 - 1. TCE

- a. Looking at bill going through state legislature to ban TCE by 2022
 - i. Might be items about mitigation, related to our neighborhood and General Mills
 - ii. Sense that bill will probably pass
 - 1. Substitutes exist for most TCE applications
 - iii. Consider sending support to reps Jordan and Noor
 - b. No meeting next month unless something comes up
 - c. WCCO story about TCE issues in MN
<https://minnesota.cbslocal.com/2020/05/02/mn-senate-passes-bill-banning-toxic-chemical-tce-house-to-vote-next-week/>
- xii. Housing - Wendy & Alex
 - 1. Two CEE loans in process - 3 total this year
- xiii. Livability & Housing Implementation – Katie
 - 1. Diverter progress - 3 min.
 - a. Contracts have been signed with Mississippi Watershed Management Organization (MWMO) and Metro Blooms
 - b. Work could begin as early as late May
- xiv. University District Alliance (UDA) - Katie & Alex
 - 1. Live Near Your Work (LNYW) update and request for UofM contacts in our community 5 min
 - 2. Housing strategy implementation -
 - a. Technical work beginning on LiveNearYourWork.net website
 - i. Will have a link on every neighborhood website
 - b. Send list of people we know who work at umn to Katie
- xv. Projects - Gardens, Utility Box Wraps, etc.
 - 1. Fairshare Farm - Moving forward
 - a. Accepting membership applications
 - b. Implementing measures to keep people safe
 - c. Opening after stay-at-home is lifted
 - 2. Diverter Project - 14th & Talmage - Progress report
 - 3. Van Cleve MPRB park dedication fees – letter to MPRB attached.
 - a. Letter was received by the park board
 - i. Items will be included in 2021 capital request
 - 1. Sand volleyball courts ...
 - ii. Items will be included in mid-year capital request
 - 1. Lighting and ADA accessibility
- xvi. Safety – Cody Hoerning
 - 1. 2PAC
 - 2. <https://www.mndaily.com/article/2020/05/n-campus-crime-update-spring-crime-trends-in-umn-neighborhoods-over-the-past-5-years>
 - 3. Keep your eyes open
 - a. b/c of 60-70% vacancy, there are opportunities for crime
 - b. Be vigilant and aware

b. New Business

3. Adjourn: 8:29 pm, 1 hr 59 mins

SECIA Minutes May 5, 2020:

Note taker: Ben Brummel; Exec reviewed: 5/27/2020 ; Board Approved: 6/2/2020