

SECIA Board Meeting – Minutes

Tuesday, October 6th, 2020, 6:30 – 8:30 pm

Board Members: Present - Karl Smith, Ben Brummel, Jessica Focht-Perlberg (Executive Director), Steve Petersen, Kathy Knudson, Phil Roban, Andrew Norton, Bill Dane, Quinn Oteman, Lynn Andersen, Greg Thompson, Jim Nyberg, Wendy Menken,

Absent - Aaron Tilleson, Excused – Cody Hoerning

Other Participants: Nick Juarez (Crime Prevention Specialist, 2nd Precinct), Larry Crawford (Resident 14th ave), Sergeant Dubuc (2nd Precinct), Stacy Sorenson (MPLS Home Improvement Loans), Laura Schlotterback (Intern), Thomas Weist (SE Seniors), Cam Gordon, Lila Smith (Environmental Committee), Katie Fourier (Housing and Liveability)

Motions:

1. **Extend the time of performance for SECIA's loan programs. Add 2 years of administrative costs to the loan program budget. Reduce the interest rate of loans - the amount to be determined by the SECIA Executive Committee.**
 - a. **Mover: Steve, Second: Wendy, Unanimous approval**
2. **Approve September 1st SECIA Board Meeting Minutes**
 - a. **Mover: Ben, Second: Karl, Unanimous approval**
3. **Reschedule the December 2020 SECIA Board meeting to Tuesday, December 8th**
 - a. **Mover: Ben, Second: Steve, Unanimous approval**
4. **Approve changes to SECIA's board election process for 2020 as detailed in the 'Resolution of the Board of Directors of SECIA to Change Annual Meeting Procedure and Event'.**
 - a. **Mover: Wendy, Second: Steve, Unanimous approval**

Meeting Called to order at: 6:32 PM

1. Introductions (5 min)
2. Community Updates (25 min)
 - a. SD60 Senator Kari Dziedzic, 60A Representative Sydney Jordan, 60B Representative Mohamud Noor (not present)
 - b. MPD Second Precinct Representative and/or UMPD Community Engagement Team (CET) Representative - [SE Como Oct 2020 Report](#)
 - i. Nick Juarez (CPS)
 1. Crime report linked above
 2. Working on getting messaging out to the community
 - a. Have used many different formats in the past
 3. Looking to mitigate or eliminate crime happening in the neighborhood
 4. 497 police reports this year to date (2020)
 - a. 478 reports last year to date (2019)
 5. Make sure doors are locked
 - a. Often find no signs of forced entry at burglary scenes
 - i. Indicates unlocked doors and windows
 6. Only 2 bikes stolen in September

7. 4 Catalytic converters
 - a. Toyota prius are the main target
 - b. Ask your local dealership or mechanic how to safeguard your catalytic converters if you own a Prius or SUV
8. One sexual assault involving possible use of a date rape drug
9. Provide as much info as possible when filing a 311 report
 - a. Details about the scene
10. Call in suspicious vehicles
 - a. Some have been reported near Van Cleve park
- c. Van Cleve Park – Mike Fox (not present)
- d. Park Commissioner – Chris Meyer (quarterly in-person updates) (not present)
- e. City Council Members – Kevin Reich, Ward 1; [Cam Gordon, Ward 2: Oct 2020 Report](#)
 - i. Cam Gordon - Ward 2
 1. Interested in block club-type gatherings in some areas
 2. Lots of conversations are ongoing about community safety in the City
 3. Cam has had many good conversations at block meetings
 4. Had good conversations about relocating staff of the 3rd precinct
 5. Cam is willing to come to a meeting room in our neighborhood to have a socially-distant conversation
 6. Sitting down neighbor-to-neighbor brings out things that we have in common
 7. Como Congregational Church nomination as a historic landmark is going forward to Historic Preservation Commission
 - a. 10/27 Virtual Meeting
 - b. People will have an opportunity to provide testimony, both written and verbal
 - c. Interim protections will be in place for a year during a study period
 - d. One developer has an idea to preserve and restore the church
 - i. Cam intends to meet with this developer and encourages him to meet with the neighborhood
 8. Jessica - Thanks for the block-by-block community safety talks
 - a. Thanks for the invitation to speak with our neighborhood
 9. Wendy - rezoning the city will take neighborhoods and residents out of the equation for development
 - a. Encourages city council to pushback on this because of its impact on the neighborhood's long-term future
 - b. Engage with the community rather than trying to approve changes while people are at home during Covid
 - c. 3 zoom meetings is not adequate for participation
 - i. Go out and have small group discussions
 10. Cam - there will be more discussions
 - a. Cam is interested in an overlay district in the university area to respond to the uniqueness of the area
 11. Cam is happy to have a block-level discussion on the topic of zoning
 12. Larry - Rezoning took a year in the past where the city took resident comments and discussions

- a. This time around we got a letter and 3 zoom meetings - this doesn't seem acceptable
- f. Meeting/Event Reports
 - i. Neighborhood Network Meetings - Sep 30, 2020 city budget/neighborhood funding updates (Karl, Jessica)
 - 1. NCR meeting provided budget updates
 - 2. Under Mayor Fry's budget, the funding would remain the same
 - 3. The current proposal is for Neighborhoods 2020 to go into effect in July 2021 after a 6 month transition period
 - 4. Discussion about adding additional funding into the Neighborhoods 2020 structure
 - 5. Held two meetings because attendance was so high
 - 6. Main ask was to extend transition period
 - 7. Will eventually go before the city council
 - a. Cam - there is some interest in increasing the amount of funding from the Mayor's proposal
 - b. If the increase in funding is tied to a current issue, there may be more interest from the city council
 - c. Might be able to increase the base level of neighborhood funding
 - ii. Fairshare Farms - [Mushroom Inoculation Workshop Event Report](#) (GNF Grant project) - September 24, 2020
 - 1. Nice day, socially distanced event
 - 2. Jeremy McAdams gave an educational workshop
 - 3. 15-16 people attended
 - 4. Hands-on, people learned how to inoculate Shitake mushroom logs
 - iii. Como Clean Sweep - Saturday, October 3, 2020 (Please see [Cody Hoerning's written Litter Be Gone event report](#), in his absence)
 - 1. Collected lots of garbage
- g. Upcoming Meetings/Events
 - i. SECIA Community Project/Joint Committee Meeting Night – Next meeting -- Tuesday, October 20, 2020, 6:30 – 8:30 pm, Zoom video conference and breakout small group meetings; implementing suggestions for improvement
 - 1. Plan to shorten the first portion of the meeting
 - a. Fewer updates
 - b. More project work
 - c. Zoom Breakout rooms will be used for each project
 - d. Interns have been encouraged to attend and collaborate
 - i. Discussion about additional project work session
 - ii. Other Developments
 - 1. Interested in hosting a “Gophers Protect” Social Distancing Yard Sign? Please fill out this [form](#) to request a sign.
 - a. Kendra for the office of Off-Campus Living is encouraging hosting these yard signs
 - 2. Conservation MN is hosting a TCE discussion tomorrow night focused on the grassroots effort and process that influenced change to lower TCE emissions

in Minnesota. To join their discussion tomorrow night at 7:00PM via zoom.

Link: eventbrite.com/e/neighborhood-to-nation-leading-one-communitys-path-to-landmark-legislation-tickets-121446129643

a. Tomorrow Night, 10/7/2020

3. Board and Organization Business (60 min) – Final Agenda set by Executive Committee 9/30/20

a. Board Business

i. Overview of SECIA Home Loan Programs, past and future - Stacy Sorenson, City of Minneapolis; Jim Hasnik, Center for Energy & Environment (20 min)

1. Review, potential approve changes of home loan program rates and consider future program options

a. [SECIA Home Improvement Program Guidelines \(9th Am.\)](#)

b. [SECIA Aug 2020 NRP/CEE Monthly Report](#)

c. [NRP Home Improvement & Home Buyer Programs](#)

2. Contract began in 2000

a. Over \$100,000 remains out of \$2.2M

b. 200+ total loans completed so far

i. Most loans from SECIA have been deferred loans

ii. Generated \$600K in program income from interest

1. This money has been used to fund SECIA and the community

2. \$33K are still outstanding in loan payments

c. Contract expires this year

3. Jim Hasnik (CEE)

a. Currently SECIA has 4 loan programs

b. Hasn't been much activity this year

c. Programs should be promoted more in our publications

d. CEE administers many other programs

i. Minnesota housing - interest between 2-3%

ii. Could use their money instead of SECIA's

iii. Solar Programs

iv. Centerpoint Energy loan

e. What does SECIA want to do with their loan programs?

i. Need to put more money towards administration if we want to keep these programs alive past the end of the year

f. Wendy - recommends extending the programs for now and dropping the interest rates

i. Jim - other neighborhoods are going down to 0-2%

g. Motion: Extend the time of performance for SECIA's loan programs. Add 2 years of administrative costs to the loan program budget. Reduce the interest rate of loans - the amount to be determined by the SECIA Executive Committee.

i. Mover: Steve, Second: Wendy, Unanimous approval

ii. Review and approve [September 1st Board Minutes](#) (Ben)

1. Motion: Approve September 1st SECIA Board Meeting Minutes

a. Mover: Ben, Second: Karl, Unanimous approval

- iii. Review and approve [DRAFT Resolution of the Board of Directors of SECIA to Change Annual Meeting Procedure and Event](#) (Jessica)
 1. [SECIA 2020 Remote Elections Proposal](#)
 - a. Has been worked on and reviewed by the executive committee
 - b. Preserves as much of the original structure as possible
 - i. Voting to occur both by mail and online
 - ii. People can register and receive a link to the online ballot or a mail-in ballot
 1. Registration will be done via online form or by mail
 - iii. We will either need to start newly-elected members in January, or push out the December board meeting to accommodate the timeline
 2. Submit proposals for virtual and live Annual Meeting content, speakers to jessica@secomo.org
 - a. Interest in coordinating participation in Nov 19th “Give to the Max Day” SECIA donation campaign?
 - b. SECIA resolution in recognition of Joan Menken’s service
 - i. Steve will draft this, Wendy to edit
 - c. Lila - past meetings have included boards where people can interact and post items (dots or notes)
 3. **Motion: Reschedule the December 2020 SECIA Board meeting to Tuesday, December 8th**
 - a. **Mover: Ben, Second: Steve, Unanimous approval**
 4. **Motion: Approve changes to SECIA’s board election process for 2020 as detailed in the ‘Resolution of the Board of Directors of SECIA to Change Annual Meeting Procedure and Event’.**
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- iv. Nominations Committee / special Election Task Group formation - modified duties for remote annual meeting/elections, in collaboration with board, staff (Karl, Jessica)
 1. Task force’s primary duty is to enact the election plan outlined in the above resolution
 2. It will be the responsibility of the board as a whole to act as the nominating committee
 3. Task force members: Wendy, Ben, Jessica, Luis (Communications Intern), Karl (Zoom guidance), Quinn, Jim any other volunteers are welcome
- v. Review and approve formation of special committee: “Reimagining SECIA” and Equitable Engagement working group (Jessica, Cody, Karl)
 1. [Reimagining SECIA Work Group Plan](#)
 2. Document synthesizes the discussions so far about this large initiative
 3. Designate a working group
 4. Discuss and wrap our brains around this idea
 - a. Where is this organization going and what are its priorities?
 5. Key Points
 - a. Outreach
 - b. Reimagine public safety

- c. Define roles within SECIA
 - d. Use of resources
 - e. Create an action team
 - f. Develop branding and marketing
 - i. Starting with name for overarching initiative
- vi. [Neighborhoods 2020 Letter of Support](#) for "[N2020 Focus & Funding Letter](#)" to City Council Members Reich, Gordon; Mayor Frey; NCR
 - 1. Letter primarily advocates for additional funding and expanded timeline for the transition period from 6 months to 1 year
- vii. Staffing updates (Jessica)
 - 1. Resignations of Garden interns, Julia Kobilka & Lauren Heers
 - a. Both are staying for some transition time and providing feedback about their experiences and roles
 - 2. Commencing search for second Communications intern
- b. Committee Updates (30 min) – Up to Five (5) minutes per update
 - i. Grant Writing and Interns – (Jessica)
 - 1. Update, next steps: UMN Graduate Civic Leadership Program Equitable Engagement and the continued Reimagining SECIA Project - see above item 2 (vi)
 - ii. Community Building & Communications – Jim
 - 1. Put up some signage for the census
 - 2. Census extended until the end of October
 - iii. Land Use & Development (interim name) – Katie, Quinn
 - 1. Land Use & Development group planning meeting: Oct 7, 5:00pm
 - 2. Mpls 2040 public review of draft build form regulations (Wendy)
 - 3. **NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING:** Submitted by CM Gordon, Landmark nomination application for the property located at 1035 14th Ave SE, known as the Como Avenue Congregational Church.
 - a. **Tuesday, October 27, 2020, at 4:30 p.m.**
 - b. www.minneapolismn.gov/tv/citycounciltv
 - c. **The public may submit comments or participate by phone in the meeting by using the following website:**
www.minneapolismn.gov/meetings/index.htm
- iv. Environmental – Kathy/Peggy
 - 1. Talked about pollution concerns - TCE
 - 2. Cam could do a block meeting at Fairshare Farm
- v. Housing - Wendy
- vi. Livability & Housing Implementation – Katie
 - 1. Suggested at last board meeting for ways to attract more diverse homeowner population
 - a. Spoke with Chris Wilson at PPL about helping their residents transition to home ownership
 - b. Identified a house that might be a possibility
- vii. University District Alliance (UDA) - Katie & Jessica

1. Letters of appointment for 2021 representatives due Friday, November 13th, 2020
 2. New UDA task force seeking membership to explore potential cooperative assistance model for UDA neighborhood organization collaborative (Katie)
 - a. SECIA will be getting a request to nominate representatives for the coming 2-year cycle
 3. Request for advice on how UDA can assist neighborhood associations.
 - a. Task force open to anyone interested in thinking about how neighborhoods can work with the alliance
 - viii. Projects - Gardens, Utility Box Wraps, etc.
 1. Update: Talmage Triangle Rain Garden Project (Lila)
 - a. Met with Paul Chellsen - Peggy, Kathy, Barb, Jim Drake, Emily Quast, Karl, Lila to talk about closed streets
 - i. City to purchase little bit of land
 - ii. There has been changeover in Paul Chellsen's department
 - iii. Writing a letter to ask for an update from the city
 1. The asphalt should have been removed when the city vacated the lot
 - iv. Lawyers from the city haven't completed the project
 - v. Ecological ideas for doing wider pathways at Talmage Garden
 - ix. Safety – Please see [Cody Hoerning's written safety report](#), in his absence
 1. "Safer Together" conversations opportunity, Fridays at noon: ariah.fine@minneapolismn.gov
 2. Street lights are out in parts of the neighbourhood
 - c. New Business
 - i. Steve - let's add some video to the annual meeting
 1. Ben - add Steve to annual meeting task force
4. Adjourn: 8:58 PM (2 hrs 26 mins)

SECIA Minutes October 6th, 2020:

Note taker: Ben Brummel; Exec reviewed: 10/28/2020 ; Board Approved: _____