

## ECCO Board Meeting Minutes for Thursday, November 7, 2019 at St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church

Minutes recorded and submitted by Monica Smith.

Board members present: Jane Connelly, Deb Jessen, Bobbie Keller, Ralph Knox, Nick Muellerleile, Mary Sabatke, Judy Shields, Dane Stimart, Lee Todd and David Tompkins.

Board members absent: Marya Morstad, Jenny/Jonas Walter and Joe Wehri.

Guest: Arlene Fried (Bryn Mawr resident).

Judy Shields called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

### **Board member responsibilities**

Judy Shields welcomed the 2019-20 ECCO Board and reminded all of board member responsibilities as an elected member of the board.

### **Announcements**

- Metro Transit is planning the Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) E Line, which will run between NE Minneapolis, through downtown and Uptown on Hennepin Ave to Southdale. Upcoming open house meetings:
  - Wednesday, November 20, 4:30-6:30 p.m. at Marcy Open School, 415 4<sup>th</sup> Ave SE
  - Thursday, November 21, 4:00-6:00 p.m. at Pershing Recreation Center, 3523 W 48<sup>th</sup> ST
  - Visit the project website at [metrotransit.org/e-line-project](http://metrotransit.org/e-line-project)
- The Community Connections Conference date has been set for Saturday, February 1, 2020. The City has issued a call for breakout session presenters and exhibitors.
- Representatives from the City will attend ECCO's December board meeting to share information about the 2020 census and elections.

### **Coordinator's Report, Monica Smith**

- Wine Tasting Recap: Thanks to all of the volunteers who helped make the event a great success. Thanks also to all board members who sold tickets. ECCO raised \$4,342.28 from the event (this amount will be confirmed when we receive the final funds). The date for next year has been set for Thursday, October 8, 2020. In the next few months, the ECCO Board will be asked to make a commitment to participate.
- The ECCO Board approved a motion to approve a donation request from Minneapolis Pops Orchestra for \$500.
- The ECCO Board approved a motion to extend the time of performance for the NRP Phase II Implementation contract to be used for communications and administration.
- The Southwest Service Area Master Plan Community Advisory Committee (CAC) process has closed. The master plan is being drafted and will be published for a 45-day comment period. For more information and to sign up for email updates, go to [minneapolisparks.org/sw](http://minneapolisparks.org/sw).
- Center for Urban and Regional Affairs (CURA) had been selected as the consultant to help finalize the Neighborhoods 2020 program. Neighborhood representatives are invited to three meetings "to help co-create" Neighborhoods 2020: November 21,

December 12 and January 9. Meeting times for all will be 6:00-8:00 p.m.; the locations will be announced. ECCO will send representatives to these meetings.

- The January board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 2. The board discussed meeting quorum. The January meeting date will be confirmed next month.
- St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church provided a written agreement outlining the meeting space offered to ECCO for 2020. The church will provide ECCO with space for two (2) complimentary meetings each month beginning in 2020, plus six (6) additional complementary meetings throughout the year. Monica Smith will be the liaison with the church regarding meeting space. The Labor Day Celebration and the ECCO Annual Meeting are not part of this provision.

## **Committee Reports**

### **Livability Committee, Lee Todd**

Highlights from the October Livability Committee meeting:

East Calhoun Pkwy development (3017, 3021, and 3025 East Calhoun Pkwy): Kyle Brassler from Reuter Walton presented the construction plans. The construction is expected to take 10 months (the start date is TBD). There will be a two-week period in which the northbound lane of the Parkway will be closed during working hours. There will also be some brief (1-2 hours) road closures during a 10-week period. Reuter Walton is in the process of reviewing the Parkway closure with the Park Board to obtain a permit.

The Park Board has agreed to invite an ECCO representative to an onsite meeting with the developer to discuss the road closure permit.

Basir Tareen has 50% ownership in the Parkway project.

Pedestrian Safety: Pedestrian safety and traffic issues regarding the Sons of Norway project were discussed.

A property on 3400 block of Holmes, which a neighbor was concerned is abandoned, was discussed with no action taken.

In mid-September, the ECCO Board electronically approved a letter to be sent to the City stating that the ECCO Board stands in support of the request for an extension of the RFP timeline for the Garfield Ave development at Lyndale and Lake.

The City of Minneapolis approved Minneapolis 2040 (comprehensive plan) in October. The City has begun holding public hearings to make amendments to the zoning code to align with the comprehensive plan. Recent public hearings were held to eliminate single-family zoning to allow duplexes and triplexes and to modify the occupancy regulations. An upcoming public hearing will be held on Monday, November 18, 4:30 p.m. at City Hall to update regulations related to inclusionary zoning.

### **Neighborhood Name Review Committee (NNRC), Ralph Knox**

In early October, the ECCO Board electronically approved the following motion: The ECCO Board approves the Neighborhood Name Review Committee's recommendation that the same three-person panel (ECCO President, Chair of NNRC and ECCO Coordinator) from the first vote be used for tabulating votes for the remaining two votes.

The voting asking residents to pick their top three choices, from the list of 10 potential names, closed on October 15.

A three-person panel (Judy Shields, Ralph Knox and Monica Smith) met on October 20 to validate ballots and count the vote – 399 valid ballots were counted. A weighted scoring method was used in which the first choice received three points, the second choice received two points, and the third choice received one point. The points for each potential name were tallied and the two names with the most points were ECCO (382 points) and East Bde Maka Ska (344 points). Those two names will go forward for the final vote via mail, online and in person.

### **NRP**

No report.

### **Social Committee**

The ECCO Happy Hour for November has been cancelled because Lake & Irving Restaurant will be closed on our usual happy hour date.

The committee will schedule a date for Caroling.

### **Friends of the Walker Library, Mary Sabatke**

The library is accepting donations of used books for the book cart (fundraiser).

### **Green Team, Dane Stimart**

The Green Team will reconnect with the Loppet Foundation regarding greening the Luminary Loppet event.

### **Midtown Greenway Coalition, Jane Connelly**

The Midtown Greenway Coalition Board has changed their board membership affiliation – board members are no longer appointed by neighborhood organizations – now all board members are at-large members. There are open seats on the board.

### **Renter Committee, Nick Muellerleile**

No report.

### **Communications**

No report.

### **Officer Elections**

The following ECCO Board officers were elected: Dane Stimart, President; Nick Muellerleile, Vice President; Judy Shields, Treasurer and Bobbie Keller, Secretary.

## **Committee Assignments**

Board members are required to serve on at least one committee.

Committee chairs are as follows:

Livability – Lee Todd

Neighborhood Name – Ralph Knox

NRP – Judy Shields

Social - TBD

Renter - Nick Muellerleile

Communications – Judy Shields

Advocacy: Jane Connelly will continue to serve on the Midtown Greenway Coalition and Mary Sabatke will continue to serve on the Friends of Walker Library.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

The next meeting is Thursday, December 5, 7:00 p.m. at St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church.