

ECCO Board Meeting Minutes for Thursday, December 5, 2019 at St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church

Minutes recorded and submitted by Monica Smith.

Board members present: Vice President Nick Muellerleile, Treasurer Judy Shields, Secretary Bobbie Keller, Jane Connelly, Deb Jessen, Mary Sabatke, Lee Todd, David Tompkins and Joe Wehri.

Board members absent: President Dane Stimart, Ralph Knox, Marya Morstad and Jenny/Jonas Walter.

Resident guest: Anne McLaughlin.

Guest: David Rubedor, Director of Neighborhood and Community Relations (NCR), Casey Carl, Minneapolis City Clerk and Arlene Fried, Bryn Mawr resident.

Nick Muellerleile called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

### **2020 Census, David Rubedor, Director of Neighborhood and Community Relations (NCR)**

- The City is seeking help to make sure that everyone is counted in the 2020 Census to protect federal funding and congressional seats.
- The Census Bureau is projecting that Minneapolis is at risk of being undercounted by 95,000 people, which equates to losing over \$2 billion in federal funds in a 10-year period.
- Census questionnaires will be available in mid-March. Census day is April 1, 2020. This is the first time the census will be available online.
- Information at [2020Census.gov](https://2020census.gov).

### **2020 Elections, Casey Carl, Minneapolis City Clerk**

- Minnesota will hold a Presidential Primary on March 3, 2020.
- You will be able to vote beginning January 17 by mail or at the Early Vote Center or in person at your polling place on March 3.
- When you vote in the primary, you must choose which major party's ballot you want. Which party you choose will not be public information, but it will be available to each major party.
- The MN state primary is August 11 and general election day is November 3.

### **Announcements**

- Metro Transit is planning the Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) B Line, which will run on the Lake St corridor. Metro Transit has developed preliminary recommendations for the corridor. See the proposed route and provide feedback via a survey (through January 31) at [metrotransit.org/b-line-project](https://metrotransit.org/b-line-project).
- Parks for All is the Park Board's comprehensive planning process, which will set the organization's priorities and policy directions for the next decade. The Park Board is holding the first community advisory committee (CAC) meeting for Parks for All on Thursday, December 12, 6:00-8:00 p.m. at the Park Board headquarters, 2117 W River Rd.

- The Park Board announced the commencement of the Cedar Lake-Lake of the Isles Master Plan, which will be developed over the next two years. Applications are being accepted through January 31 to serve on the community advisory committee (CAC). For more information, go to [minneapolisparks.org/cedar-isles](http://minneapolisparks.org/cedar-isles).

### **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. The final dollars have been collected and ECCO raised \$4,728.06 from the event. The date for next year has been set for Thursday, October 8, 2020. The ECCO Board approved a motion to participate in next year's event.
- ECCO's 2020 budget: The ECCO Board approved the proposed 2020 budget with the following amendments: Add a goal of raising \$3,750 from the 2020 Wine Tasting and increasing the donation budget from \$1,000 to \$1,500.
- Neighborhoods 2020: Judy Shields, Mary Sabatke and Monica Smith attended the November 21 meeting led by Center for Urban and Regional Affairs (CURA). The two final meetings are planned for December 12 and January 9.
- East Isles Farmers Market: East Isles is looking for partners to help sponsor the market next year and going forward. We are expecting a written proposal from East Isles, and the ECCO Board will invite a representative to an upcoming meeting.
- The ECCO Board approved a motion to move its bank accounts to Bridgewater Bank.

### **New Business**

Park Board sent Monica Smith an email on December 5 regarding interim site improvements at the site of the former refectory area at Bde Maka Ska. A drinking fountain will be installed in the spring. The cost for installation is \$169,900 and the Park Board would like to use Park Dedication Fees for the installation. The ECCO Board had many questions about the cost and the scope of the project. The board requested that Dane Stimart contact the Park Board for more information and to invite a representative to the January board meeting.

### **Committee Reports**

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

Highlights from the November Livability Committee meeting:

East Bde Maka Ska Pkwy development (3017, 3021, and 3025 East Bde Maka Ska Pkwy): The architect is submitting a variance application to allow balconies in the rear yard. The balconies were in the original plans but were not noticed for the public hearing. As a result, the architect needs to apply for the variance. The Park Board has agreed to invite an ECCO representative to an onsite meeting with the developer to discuss the road closure permit.

Pedestrian Safety: The committee is putting together a priority list for pedestrian safety and traffic issues.

A developer is proposing a new building on the east side of the 3500 block of Hennepin (in South Uptown).

**Neighborhood Name Review Committee (NNRC)**

The voting period for the final name ends on December 7. Ballots will be counted by a three-person panel (Dane Stimart, Ralph Knox and Monica Smith). The results will be shared with the ECCO Board at the January board meeting. The committee recommends communicating the results via e-blast, mailer and flyer. The ECCO Board approved a motion to approve \$950 for the mailer/flyer. The committee is working on a final report.

**Social Committee**

The next ECCO Happy Hour is Monday, December 9, 5:00-6:30 p.m. at Lake & Irving Restaurant, 1513 W Lake St.

Holiday Caroling will be held on Thursday, December 12; gather at St. Mary's at 6:30 p.m.

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

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

**Green Team**

No report.

**Midtown Greenway Coalition, Jane Connelly**

The Midtown Greenway Coalition has sent a letter to Hennepin County with concerns about the homeless population on the Greenway.

**Renter Committee, Nick Muellerleile**

A meeting will be scheduled in January.

**NRP**

No report.

**Communications**

No report.

**President's Report**

The ECCO Board confirmed that there will be a quorum to hold the January meeting on Thursday, January 2.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

The next meeting is Thursday, January 2, 2020, 7:00 p.m. at St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church.