

ECCO Board Meeting Minutes for August 1, 2013 at St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church

Board Members Present: Sarah Sponheim, President; Harry Savage, Co-VP; Linda Todd, Co-VP; Glen Christianson, Treasurer; Andrew Bornhoft, Kate Davenport, Susie Goldstein; and Heather Wulfsberg.

Board Members Absent: Emily Balogh, Anja Curiskis, Liz Heyman, Lara Norkus-Crampton, and Jim Smith.

Guests and Residents: Jessica Van Gilder, UNN Editor and Brad Albertson.

ECCO Board President Sarah Sponheim called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Jessica Van Gilder, UNN Editor:

The ECCO Board welcomed Jessica Van Gilder, the new editor of the Uptown Neighborhood News (UNN). Jessica will be using social media to help promote community events. Follow the UNN on Facebook (search for Uptown Neighborhood News) and Twitter: @UptownNewsMpls. Jessica is interested in hearing from residents about what people want from the paper. Contact her at uptownnews@yahoo.com.

Labor Day Celebration

Brad Albertson is one of the organizers of the annual Labor Day Celebration. Brad presented ideas for expanding the celebration by renting inflatable play equipment, etc. and possibly charging for bingo. The ECCO Board will consider the ideas for the 2014 celebration. The Board thanked Brad for his hard work of soliciting the bingo prizes and food donations.

Treasurer's Report

Glen Christianson presented the Treasurer's Report of ECCO unrestricted funds.

Staff Report, Monica Smith

- Financial review of Community Participation Program (CPP) funds for current cycle ending December 31, 2013 and Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP) funds.
- CPP funding for the next three year cycle is expected to be approved by the City Council in mid-August. If approved, ECCO will receive the same allocation as the current three year cycle.
- The home improvement grant program funds have been depleted. The ECCO Board approved moving \$1,866.10 from the Marketing budget into the grant program.
- The City continues to work on construction plans for the 36th St Bikeway featuring a two-way bicycle path on the south side of the road with pedestrian space and stops for eastbound buses.

President's Report, Sarah Sponheim

- Monica Smith's contract is up for renewal in mid-September. The ECCO Board will review the contract at the September meeting.
- The public hearing for gas/electric municipalization was held today. Many of the speakers oppose the ballot initiative to consider municipalization. The City Council will vote on August 16.
- The City continues to work with 1800 Lake to resolve the dewatering issue.

Committee Reports

Livability Committee

June 25th meeting included presentations by City of Lakes Community Lake Trust, Uptown Opportunity Task Force and new retail development for the Suburban World Theater. No action was taken at the meeting. The next meeting is Tuesday, August 27, 7 pm at St Mary's Greek Orthodox Church.

Communications

Work continues on the new website. Committee chairs should send content to Andrew Bornhoft and Monica Smith.

Green Team

Volunteers are needed to staff waste stations at the Uptown Art Fair.

Midtown Corridor Alternatives Analysis

The transit alternatives have been narrowed to three options: 1) Enhanced Bus on Lake Street 2) Streetcar on the Greenway and 3) Dual alternative with both. Next meeting of the Community Advisory Committee is Tuesday, August 20, 7 p.m. at Colin Powell Center, 2924 4th Ave S.

Meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Next meeting is Thursday, September 5, 7 p.m. at St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church.