

ECCO Board Meeting Minutes for Thursday, August 1, 2019 at St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church

Minutes recorded and submitted by Monica Smith.

Board members present: President Judy Shields, Vice President Dane Stimart, Treasurer Gary Farland, Jane Connelly, Ralph Knox, Nick Muellerleile, Rhoda Reighard, Mary Sabatke, Lee Todd and David Tompkins.

Board members absent: Secretary Bobbie Keller, Marya Morstad and Jenny Walter.

Resident guests: Ryan Brown and Jeff Reed

Other guests: John Bussey and Lindsey Johnson from the Loppet Foundation, John Edwards from the Wedge and Andrew Hazzard from the Southwest Journal.

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

Ward 10 Update

No report.

Board Update

Daré Magnus-Lawson resigned from the board. The board approved a motion to elevate David Tompkins from an alternate to a board member.

Announcements

- The Park Board has started the process to rename roads that include the name Calhoun. Public comments were accepted until July 1. A public hearing will be held on Wednesday, August 7, 6:30 p.m. at Park Board headquarters, 2117 W River Road. The final vote is expected on August 21.
- A Park Board representative will attend the September 5 ECCO Board meeting to give an update on immediate/short-term work at the site of the former pavilion at Bde Maka Ska/Lake Calhoun.
- Bus lanes will be permanently implemented on a portion of Hennepin Ave between Franklin Ave and Lake St during peak weekday periods beginning this fall.
 - The new bus lane hours will be northbound from 7:00-9:00 a.m. and southbound from 4:00-6:30 p.m.
 - Bus lanes will operate weekdays only.
 - Parking will be allowed in the curb lane at all other times.
- The MN Supreme Court agreed to hear the legal challenge over the name of Bde Maka Ska/Lake Calhoun.

John Bussey and Lindsey Johnson, Loppet Foundation

The Loppet Foundation's mission is to get people outdoors and active in Minneapolis. The Loppet offers the following summer activities at Wirth Park: mountain biking, trail running, hiking and disc golf, and winter activities include skiing on groomed trails and the City of Lakes Loppet Ski Festival (featuring the Luminary Loppet).

The Loppet Foundation will host the 2020 Cross Country Ski World Cup at Wirth Park in March 2020.

The ECCO Green Team will stay engaged with the Loppet Foundation regarding volunteer opportunities (particularly around composting and clean-up for the Luminary Loppet).

Coordinator's Report, Monica Smith

- Planning is underway for the Labor Day Celebration. Volunteers are needed to help plan the event and secure bingo prizes.
- The 2019 Wine Tasting Fundraiser is Thursday, October 10. Premier sponsors are Ackerberg, Yellow Tree, Hennepin Lake Liquors and Lake & Irving. Featured sponsor is Bridgewater Bank.
- Southwest Service Area Master Plan: The Community Advisory Committee has upcoming meetings scheduled to continue to discuss park concept designs and provide recommendations to the project team. For more information: minneapolisparcs.org/sw.
- Neighborhoods 2020 update: The city is accepting applications from consultants to complete the process of furthering the framework and developing program guidelines. Once a consultant is selected, the timeline will be revised to ensure enough time for community engagement.

Committee Reports

Livability Committee, Lee Todd

The committee did not meet in June.

Highlights from the July Livability Committee meeting:

Morgan Luzier of the Lyn/Lake Business Association gave a presentation on the development being planned for the half-block bounded by Lake St, Garfield Ave and The Greenway. Morgan is meeting with groups to provide awareness and information and invite ideas. No action was requested at this time.

East Calhoun Pkwy development (3017, 3021, and 3025 East Calhoun Pkwy): The project team expects to break ground in November/December.

Lake & James: The project is on hold. The developer is fixing up the existing housing and will continue to rent the properties until a decision is made.

The Pedestrian Safety subcommittee indicated that the Park Board and City are considering the traffic control options that were submitted for East Calhoun Pkwy.

The committee is reviewing a request to help promote Auxiliary Dwelling Units.

Neighborhood Name Review Committee (NNRC), Ralph Knox

The vote on whether or not to change the name of the neighborhood closed on July 11. The three-person panel (Judy Shields, Ralph Knox and Monica Smith) reviewed the ballots:

- 424 valid votes - 63.68% voted yes to changing the name and 36.32 voted no to changing the name (representing 17.2% of the total population of the neighborhood).

The board approved the committee's recommendation for the next phase of the process, which involves communicating with the neighborhood using postcards, flyers, e-blast and social media to solicit feedback and to conduct voting.

- The first action is to solicit name suggestions from the neighborhood. Neighbors will be asked to consider a list of questions when suggesting names. Name suggestions will be accepted through September 2. The NNRC will meet on September 3 to compile a list of up to 10 potential names to share with the ECCO Board at the September board meeting.
- We will then ask our neighbors to vote for their favorite choices among the list of 10 potential names. The top two (most popular) names will be identified through this process.
- The final step is to ask the neighborhood to vote for one of the top two names.

The board approved a motion to approve \$3,775 (from NRP funds) to fulfill mailings and flyers for these three steps of neighborhood name input.

NRP, Gary Farland

The following actions were electronically approved by the ECCO Board via electronic vote in July:

- Add \$32,258 to the loan to Propel Nonprofits that supports affordable housing in Minneapolis and extend the term of the contract to December 31, 2020. This action requires a plan modification to move \$4,229 from Energy Audit Program and \$10,000 from Trees/Invasive Species Removal for a total of \$14,229 to the Revolving Loan Program.
- Use NRP funds to pay Staff and Administration (currently being paid by Community Participation Program funds).
- Modify plan to reallocate Phase II funds and amend the existing contract to move \$10,144.32 from Advertising in Local Newspaper to Staff and Administrative Support.

Social Committee

The next ECCO Happy Hour is Monday, August 12, 5:00-6:30 p.m. at Lake & Irving Restaurant.

The Labor Day Celebration will be held on September 2.

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 held two meetings in early June. The Green Team is focusing on raising awareness about: watering boulevard trees (brewingabetterforest.com/adopt-a-tree), backyard fire pit smoke and invasive species.

Midtown Greenway Coalition, Jane Connelly

The Greenway Glow Arts Festival was held on July 27 featuring 126 riders.

Renter Committee, Nick Muellerleile

The committee held their first renter social on July 11. The event came in under budget (\$803 expenses – budget was \$1,100).

Communications

No report.

Miscellaneous

- Consider ideas for a fundraiser – South Uptown held a recent fundraiser at LynLake Brewery.
- Gary Farland suggested an ongoing Art Fair along the lake front or on Hennepin Ave.

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

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