

ECCO Annual Meeting Minutes  
October 5, 2017  
St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church

### **Attendance**

Approximately 60 residents attended the Annual Meeting including 2016-17 Board members: President Ralph Knox, Vice President Luke Schaan, Treasurer Klaus Obergfell, Nathan Campeau, Alex Cleberg, Gary Farland, Bobbie Keller, Rhoda Reighard, Mary Sabatke, and Jenny/Jonas Walter.

The event began with pizza and a social hour.

ECCO Board President Ralph Knox called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

### **Council Member Lisa Bender, Ward 10**

- Housing: renters make up 80% of Ward 10 residents. Minneapolis has the lowest vacancy rate in the country. Lower income renters are stressed.
- Complete Streets Policy: the City is adding high-visibility crosswalks.
- Parks and streets: investment in parks and streets supports livability.
- Public safety: police relations and concerns with crime in Uptown around bar closing time.
- Budget: the City is in the budget process. Two public hearings will be held before the budget is adopted in December.
- Community Listening Session, Tuesday, October 24, 6:30 - 8 p.m., Calvary Baptist Church, 2608 Blaisdell Ave. S. Meet Police Chief Arradondo and representative from the Department of Civil Rights.
- The City has been planning for the 26<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> Street bike lanes for three years. Staff is making adjustments to pinch-points.

### **Representative Paul Thissen, District 61B**

- Thissen has served in the legislature for 15 years and served on the ECCO Board in the 1990s.
- The legislature is currently not in session. Big issues for Thissen are long-term fiscal security and health care.
- The mediation for the lawsuit between the governor and the legislature continues.

### **Commissioner at Large Meg Forney, Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board**

- A seven-member committee is reviewing applications for a business to take over the Calhoun Refectory (the current owners of Tin Fish are not renewing their lease). A decision has not yet been announced.
- Hennepin County is holding a public hearing on renaming Lake Calhoun on Tuesday, October 17, 6:00 p.m. at Hennepin County Government Center. The Park Board passed a resolution to change the name to Bde Maka Ska. The federal government has final decision on any name change.
- Lake Calhoun trail improvements and ADA accessibility improvements are underway and should be completed in the next few weeks.
- Forney is working with Hennepin County to try to calm traffic on Lake Street.

## **Livability Committee**

Thanks to Susie Goldstein, Livability Committee Chair.

The committee works on zoning issues, traffic, safety and public event matters relevant to the neighborhood.

The work in the past year included:

- East Calhoun Parkway condominium development
- Xcel Energy grid capacity expansion
- Solhem 71-unit apartment building on Holmes Ave
- Hennepin Avenue Reconstruction Project
- Lake Calhoun Trail Improvement Project

The next meeting is Monday, October 16, 7:00 p.m. at St. Mary's. The agenda includes the Sons of Norway project.

### **Tony Barranco, Ryan Companies, Sons of Norway project**

Ryan Companies is proposing a mixed-use redevelopment (326 market-rate rental units, 15,000 sq ft office, 7,000 sq ft retail) of the Sons of Norway property (between Lake St and 31<sup>st</sup> St; Humboldt and Holmes Aves).

Ryan Companies first met with ECCO at the August Livability Committee meeting.

The project team met with the Planning Commission Committee of the Whole on October 5 and will be making some adjustments to the plans. Ryan expects to submit formal plans to the City in November.

The project includes large building forms with six designed masses and a publically accessible green space with 4-season programming.

Parking: the site will be excavated to accommodate one-level of underground parking for 300 parking spaces. Ground level parking will also be available.

Architecture will feature brick/stone and mansard roofs.

Zoning requests:

Zoning on Lake Street is C3A, which allows for the planned building height on Lake/Humboldt of 105'.

- Rezone a section of the property (Holmes/31<sup>st</sup> St) from R4 (56' height limit) to R6 to accommodate 68' height.
- Conditional Use Permit will be needed for Planned Unit Development (to allow more than one structure to be placed on one platted lot and increase height).
- Vacation of portion of alley for green space.

A trip generation report projects 147 vehicle trips generated in the AM peak hours and 108 trips in PM peak hours and a 5% increase to traffic on 31<sup>st</sup> St. A more complete traffic study will be conducted.

Construction is expected to take 20 months.

Next steps:

- Attend the next Livability Committee meeting, October 16.
- Open House at Sons of Norway (TBD).
- Land Use Submittal, November 2017.
- Planning Commission public hearing, January 2018.

**Upcoming events:**

- ECCO sponsors a monthly Happy Hour at Lake & Irving Restaurant, 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month, 5:00-6:30 p.m. The next event is Monday, October 9.
- Ward 10 Candidate Forum, Tuesday, October 17, 6:00-8:00 p.m. at Calvary Church, 2608 Blaisdell.
- Public Hearing to Rename Lake Calhoun, Tuesday, October 17, 6:00 p.m. at Hennepin County Government Center.
- Wine Tasting Fundraiser, Thursday, October 27, 6:00-9:00 p.m. at St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church. Tickets are \$25/advance and \$35/door. ECCO keeps 100% of proceeds from tickets we sell. Thanks to the sponsors: Ackerberg, Hennepin Lake Liquor, Lake & Irving Restaurant, Peterssen/Keller Architecture.
- Holiday Caroling, Tuesday, December 12.

**ECCO programs for residents**

- Home Security Grants of up to \$100 per household for allowable security upgrades.
- Rain Barrel, Compost Bin, and Raingarden Grants of up to \$100 per property.
- Radon program – testing and mitigation grants.
- Lead in drinking water testing program coming soon.

Details for these programs can be found at [eastcalhoun.org/programs](http://eastcalhoun.org/programs).

**Treasurer's Report, Klaus Obergfell**

ECCO has \$38K in the bank and has annual spending of about \$25K. We receive funding from the City and raise money from the Wine Tasting event to pay for food/entertainment that is not an allowed expense under City funding.

**Thanks to the following who fulfilled full or partial terms in 2016/17:**

Nathan Campeau, Alex Cleberg and Ericka Palmer.

And thanks to the family and friends of board members who volunteer for various ECCO events.

**Board members continuing their term in 2017/18:**

Bobbie Keller, Ralph Knox, Marya Morstad, Klaus Obergfell, Mary Sabatke, Luke Schaan and Caroline Vaaler.

**Board Elections**

The following individuals were elected to the ECCO Board: Gary Farland, Tim Haas, Rhoda Reighard, Amy Rutherford, Judy Shields, and Jenny/Jonas Walter. Lee Todd was elected as ECCO Board Alternate.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Next meeting is Thursday, November 2, 7 p.m. at St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church.