

ECCO Board Meeting Minutes for Thursday, May 7, 2020 via video conferencing.

Minutes recorded and submitted by Monica Smith.

Board members present: President Dane Stimart, Vice President Nick Muellerleile, Treasurer Judy Shields, Secretary Bobbie Keller, Jane Connelly, Marya Morstad, Mary Sabatke, Lee Todd, David Tompkins, Jonas/Jenny Walter and Joe Wehri.

Board members absent: Deb Jessen and Ralph Knox.

Guests: none

Dane Stimart called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Announcements

- The master plans for the Southwest area neighborhood parks were published and the public comment period has been extended until further notice. The only ECCO park included in the master plan is the Loon Lake Trolley Path. For more information and to comment, go to minneapolisparcs.org/sw.
- Minneapolis Public Schools is scheduled to vote on the Comprehensive District Design (CDD) at their meeting on May 12. For more information, go to cdd.mpls.k12.mn.us.
- Remember to complete your Census 2020 form. ECCO's participation rate is at 65.4% (as of 5/4/20).
- The comment period for the draft Minneapolis Transportation Action Plan has been extended until May 22. Go to go.minneapolismn.gov for more information.
- Take a survey to help guide the City's violence prevention priorities for the next three-five years. Go to surveyMonkey.com/r/M8879YY by May 31.

Coordinator's Report, Monica Smith

- The comment period for the Neighborhoods 2020 draft guidelines ends July 15.
- Neighborhood and Community Relations (NCR) is tracking initiatives that neighborhood organizations are undertaking in response to COVID-19.

COVID-19 Funding Considerations

The City of Minneapolis has implemented the Neighborhood Organizations Respond to COVID-19 Fund, which will allow neighborhoods an opportunity to contribute NRP dollars to a fund administered by the Minneapolis Health Department. The fund will support efforts and expenses that are not covered by current City budgets but are eligible under the NRP law. The first thing that the fund supported was to provide 2,500 face masks to first responders (cost of \$10,000).

The ECCO Board approved a motion to provide \$3,000 (of funds previously reserved for a Neighborhood Priority Plan) to the Neighborhood Organizations Respond to COVID-19 Fund.

Committee Reports

Livability Committee, Lee Todd

The April Livability Committee meeting was held via video conferencing to discuss ideas and actions related to COVID-19.

1. Implement nightly 1-2 minute cheering/pot banging to recognize and thank medical professionals and essential workers. Status – in process every evening at 6:00 p.m.
2. Start a campaign for each person in ECCO to reach out to 2 neighbors to see how they are doing and to encourage them to do the same. Status – working out details.
3. Continue video conferencing for monthly Happy Hour. Status – in process the second Monday of each month until further notice.
4. Provide virtual one-on-one support to help people use technology (such as Zoom) to connect with friends and family. Status – working out details.
5. Develop an online neighborhood directory for connecting those able to offer services to those needing them. Status – David Tompkins to develop a Google form that neighbors who are looking for help/services and those offering to help can complete.
6. Contract with a local provider to make 50 face masks for distribution in the neighborhood. Status - the ECCO Board did not approve the motion. Board members cautioned that most people already have a mask or have access to one and preferred to determine if there is a need in the neighborhood before moving forward with the expenditure.
7. Support the Southwest Journal by advertising in the paper. The board discussed creating an ad that would outline ECCO's efforts regarding COVID-19. Status - the board will vote electronically on the content of the ad and the cost.

East Bde Maka Ska Pkwy development update (3017, 3021, and 3025 East Bde Maka Ska Pkwy): the developer has decided against going forward with the condo project and is exploring other options.

The next meeting will be Monday, May 18, 7:00 p.m. via a video conference call.

ECCO Name Change Implementation, Dane Stimart

The ECCO Board approved the following recommendations from the Name Change Implementation Committee:

- Change the legal name from East Calhoun Community Organization to ECCO Neighborhood Association.
- Secure the web address of ecconeighborhood.org.
- Move forward with the request to the City to recognize the neighborhood name as ECCO.
- Hire the City-provided attorney to move forward with the legal name change and to update the Articles of Incorporation at a cost of \$555.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, May 26, 7:00 p.m. via a video conference call.

Social & Communication Committee, Marya Morstad

The next ECCO Happy Hour will be a video conference event on Monday, May 11, 5:00-6:30 p.m.

The Social Committee will hold a meeting within the month to discuss ideas for the Labor Day

Celebration if social distancing is still in place.

Green Team, Dane Stimart

Nothing new to report.

Culture, Diversity and Inclusion Committee, Joe Wehri

Joe Wehri and Nick Muellerleile met to discuss ideas for the committee and the role that ECCO could play in the future as funding from the City is likely to be reduced.

NRP Committee, Judy Shields

See the COVID-19 Funding Considerations section above.

The meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 4, 2020, 7:00 p.m.