

**East Bde Maka Ska Neighborhood Association  
Board of Directors Meeting**

Thursday, February 3, 2022, 7:00 p.m.  
Online via Zoom

**MINUTES**

**Board members present:**

Paul Lussenhop (President), Adam Olson (Treasurer), Kari Krautbauer (Secretary), Sarah Buchlaw, Josh Christianson, Anja Curiskis, Caren Dewar, Thang Holt, Bobbie Keller, Jon Silverman, Lee Todd, Dane Van Slooten, Luke Varien

**Staff present:**

Andrew Degerstrom, Coordinator

**Guests present:**

Elizabeth Shaffer, Park Board Commissioner District 4  
Other East Bde Maka Ska neighbors

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**1) Welcome & Introductions**

President Paul Lussenhop called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

**2) Aisha Chughtai, Minneapolis City Council, Ward 10**

Council Member Chughtai had to cancel at the last minute as she, along with other Council Members, were attempting to get answers regarding the shooting death of Amir Locke.

**3) Elizabeth Shaffer, Minneapolis Park Board, District 4**

Commissioner Shaffer gave updates on the following projects relevant to East Bde Maka Ska:

- Bde Maka Ska Refectory: construction bids will go out in March, construction will begin in May or June, planned opening in July 2023.
- Bde Maka Ska Pop-up Skate Park: the pop-up skate park, to be located at the east end of the north parking lot, will open in the Spring with the goal to be used for the season. The Park Board will be seeking design input in February.
- An additional art project will be installed on the west side of Bde Maka Ska sometime in quarter 3 of 2022.

- Cedar-Isles Master Plan: Park Board is looking for feedback on the two proposed design concepts. Staff will present a final recommended design to the Board of Commissioners in March.

In 2021, the East Bde Maka Ska Board sent a letter to the Park Board expressing their desire that a portion of East Bde Maka Ska's Park Dedication Fees be reserved for the Loon Lake Trolley Path and not all used for the Refectory. However, all of the Park Dedication Fees were allocated to the Refectory as part of the Park Board's budget process at the end of last year. Addressing the issue, Commissioner Shaffer said she will investigate the timing of the Loon Lake Trolley Path project in the Southwest Service Area Master Plan.

Commissioner Shaffer expressed interest in attending East Bde Maka Ska Board meetings several times a year, but cannot attend every month as she has 12 neighborhoods in her district.

#### **4) Announcements**

Coordinator Andrew Degerstrom announced that the East Isles Farmers Market Committee is looking for additional members and that members do not need to live in the East Isles neighborhood.

#### **5) Board Vacancies**

The Board of Directors currently has 3 vacancies. A call for applicants from those interested in being appointed to the vacant seats has been included in the e-newsletter for a couple of months. Four applications were received, but one candidate withdrew their application. The remaining three applicants were in attendance and introduced themselves to the Board.

The following action was taken regarding agenda item 5:

**Motion to adopt Resolution 2022R-05:** Resolved that the following people are appointed to the East Bde Maka Ska Board of Directors:

- Joshua Christianson for a term expiring in October 2022
- Jon Silverman for a term expiring in October 2022
- Thang Holt for a term expiring in October 2023

*Motion by Lussenhop, seconded by Todd. Motion carried with 10 ayes and 0 nays.*

#### **6) President's Report**

President Paul Lussenhop gave the following report:

- The logo vote is now open. There was an article about the logo vote featured in both Southwest Voices and Southwest Connector.

- With the appointment of three new Board members, Lussenhop hopes to expand East Bde Maka Ska's committee rosters.
- Included in the newsletter was a call asking for neighbors to submit interesting photos of the neighborhood for inclusion in future newsletters.

## 7) Staff Report

Coordinator Andrew Degerstrom gave the following staff report:

- With the appointment of three new Board members, Degerstrom reminded everyone that East Bde Maka Ska's Bylaws prohibits abstentions on votes.
- Board Members should be receiving emails directly from NCR inviting them to their monthly citywide neighborhood meetings.
- Degerstrom presented the minutes from the January Board Meeting for approval.

The following action was taken regarding agenda item 7:

**Motion to approve** the minutes from the January 2022 Board of Directors meeting.  
*Motion by Lussenhop, seconded by Olson. Motion carried with 13 ayes and 0 nays.*

## 8) Finance Report

Coordinator Andrew Degerstrom presented the February 2022 Finance Report, attached as Exhibit A.

## 9) Committee Reports

### a. Culture, Diversity & Inclusion Committee

The Culture, Diversity & Inclusion Committee will have monthly rotating Chairs until someone volunteers to be Chair on a permanent basis. Luke Varien has volunteered to be Chair for the first month. The Committee is responsible for the implementation of East Bde Maka Ska's Equitable Engagement Plan.

### b. Public Safety Committee

Public Safety Committee Chair Paul Lussenhop is focusing on getting good crime statistics for the neighborhood. Fifth Precinct Crime Prevention Specialist Jennifer Waisanen can provide crime reports. Jon Silverman also offered to help explore and find out what type of statistics can be retrieved from the City's online data portal.

The plan for the Uptown Theater's expansion into a 2,500 seat entertainment venue was discussed. There are concerns over both the size (can Uptown accommodate that large of a venue?), and the impact on the neighborhood after bar close. There were still unanswered questions regarding how far along in the approval process the project is, and there was a desire to get more information.

### c. Livability Committee

The snow shoveling survey is now live. The survey asks for neighborhood residents to nominate intersections or properties in the neighborhood that need a little more TLC when it comes to snow shoveling, as well as asking for volunteers.

The Livability Committee is recommending that the East Bde Maka Ska Board send a letter in opposition to the Hennepin Avenue Reconstruction Project. The Committee discussed the project at its January meeting and whether the neighborhood association should take a position on it. Discussion on the recommendation revolved around two competing arguments. First is that the neighborhood association should not be taking a position on the project as it is contentious and opinions on the project vary widely among neighborhood residents. The second argument was that the Board should exercise leadership by taking a position and that the neighborhood's experience with the Hennepin Avenue reconstruction from Lake to 36th Street several years ago gives the neighborhood association greater interest in taking a position.

The following action was taken regarding agenda item 9c:

**Motion to adopt Resolution 2022R-06:** Resolved that the East Bde Maka Ska Neighborhood Association send a letter in opposition to the Hennepin Avenue Reconstruction project, attached as Exhibit B, to project staff, the City Council, and the Mayor. *Motion by Todd, seconded by Lussenhop. Motion failed with 6 ayes and 7 nays.*

### 10) Adjournment

President Paul Lussenhop adjourned the meeting at 8:57 p.m.

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*Minutes submitted by Andrew Degerstrom*

## Statement of Financial Position as of January 31, 2022

## Cash on Hand

<hr/>	
Bridgewater Checking	
<hr/>	
City Fund	\$ 8,015.65
General Fund	\$ 27,538.18
Reserve Fund	\$ -
Bridgewater Checking Total	\$ 35,553.83
Undeposited Funds	\$ -
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Total Cash on Hand	\$ 35,553.83

**Total Assets** **\$ 35,553.83**

## Liabilities

<hr/>	
Bridgewater Visa Balance	\$ -
C-27829 Advance	\$ 4,500.00
C-27964 Advance	\$ 5,100.00
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Total Liabilities	\$ 9,600.00

**Net Assets** **\$ 25,953.83**

January 2022 Transactions Report

Date	Payee/Remitter	Detail	Expense	Deposit	Budget Line Item	Fund #	Reimbursable (Y/N)
1/4/2022	City of Minneapolis	C-41895 reimbursement 10/1/2021-12/31/2021	\$ -	\$ 6,568.42	n/a	n/a	n/a
1/4/2022	City of Minneapolis	C-41895 repayment of advance	\$ 4,992.96	\$ -	n/a	n/a	n/a
1/5/2022	Andrew Degerstrom	Coordinator December 2021	\$ 1,221.00	\$ -	101 - Staff	1101	Y
1/5/2022	Andrew Degerstrom	Increase in liability insurance premium to satisfy City requirements	\$ 27.00	\$ -	122 - Administrative > General Liability Insurance	1304	Y
1/5/2022	Andrew Degerstrom	QuickBooks Online	\$ 25.00	\$ -	104 - Communications/Outreach > QuickBooks Online	1304	Y
1/12/2022	Intuit	Voucher checks for QuickBooks online	\$ 74.95	\$ -	112 - Office Supplies	1304	Y
Total			\$ 6,340.91	\$ 6,568.42			

**East Bde Maka Ska  
2022 Budget**

**INCOME**

Neighborhood Network Fund	\$ 20,000.00
Equitable Engagement Fund	\$ 4,358.00
Wine Tasting	TBD
NRP	\$ 17,660.48
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$42,018.48</b>

	FUNDING SOURCE			
	NNF	EEF	General	NRP
	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 4,358.00	TBD	\$ 17,660.48
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 20,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 4,358.00</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 17,660.48</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>				
<b>Staff</b>				
Contract staff	\$ 20,000.00			\$ 3,088.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 20,000.00</b>		<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 3,088.00</b>
<b>Occupancy</b>				
Web and email hosting, domain and Dropbox				\$ 500.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ -</b>		<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 500.00</b>
<b>Communications/Outreach</b>				
DocuSign				\$ 300.00
QuickBooks Online				\$ 600.00
Constant Contact				\$ 350.00
Zoom				\$ 204.00
New boundary signs			\$ 2,350.00	
Create new mailing list				\$ 250.00
Fliers for events (2)				\$ 390.00
Mailings (4)				\$ 4,355.00
General postage and copies				\$ 600.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ -</b>		<b>\$ 2,350.00</b>	<b>\$ 7,049.00</b>
<b>Supplies Material</b>				
Office supplies				\$ 300.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ -</b>		<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 300.00</b>
<b>Meetings/Community Building Events</b>				
Monthly Happy Hour (6 months)			\$ 360.00	
Earth Day			\$ 150.00	
Super Sale				
Crime & Safety events			\$ 100.00	\$ 200.00
Labor Day			\$ 1,125.00	\$ 405.00
Annual Meeting			\$ 400.00	\$ 350.00
Board orientation			\$ 25.00	
Caroling			\$ 100.00	
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ -</b>		<b>\$ 2,260.00</b>	<b>\$ 955.00</b>
<b>Development/fundraising</b>				
				\$ -
<b>Administrative</b>				
Insurance: Gen Liability				\$ 500.00
Insurance D&O				\$ 900.00
Mail box rental				\$ 500.00
Tax forms/AG report				\$ 30.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ -</b>		<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 1,930.00</b>
<b>Equitable Engagement</b>				
Program TBD		\$ 4,358.00		
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 4,358.00</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>
<b>Donations</b>				
Donations to other nonprofits			\$ 1,000.00	
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ -</b>		<b>\$ 1,000.00</b>	<b>\$ -</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 20,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 4,358.00</b>	<b>\$ 5,610.00</b>	<b>\$ 13,822.00</b>
<b>Surplus/(Loss)</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ (5,610.00)</b>	<b>\$ 3,838.48</b>

Expenses YTD	Balance
\$ 1,221.00	\$ 21,867.00
<b>\$ 1,221.00</b>	<b>\$ 21,867.00</b>
\$ -	\$ -
<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>
\$ -	\$ 300.00
\$ 25.00	\$ 575.00
\$ -	\$ 350.00
\$ -	\$ 204.00
\$ -	\$ 2,350.00
\$ -	\$ 250.00
\$ -	\$ 390.00
\$ -	\$ 4,355.00
\$ -	\$ 600.00
<b>\$ 25.00</b>	<b>\$ 9,374.00</b>
\$ 74.95	\$ 225.05
<b>\$ 74.95</b>	<b>\$ 225.05</b>
\$ -	\$ 360.00
\$ -	\$ 150.00
\$ -	\$ -
\$ -	\$ 300.00
\$ -	\$ 1,530.00
\$ -	\$ 750.00
\$ -	\$ 25.00
\$ -	\$ 100.00
<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 3,215.00</b>
\$ -	\$ -
\$ 27.00	\$ 473.00
\$ -	\$ 900.00
\$ -	\$ 500.00
\$ -	\$ 30.00
<b>\$ 27.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,903.00</b>
\$ -	\$ 4,358.00
<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 4,358.00</b>
\$ -	\$ 1,000.00
<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 1,000.00</b>
<b>\$ 1,347.95</b>	<b>\$ 41,942.05</b>

## Funds Remaining by Contract as of January 31, 2022

Contract	Total Funds Contracted	Total Funds Spent through 1/31/2022	Funds Remaining
<b>C-27829 - NRP Phase II Plan Implementation</b>			
Advertising	\$ 2,455.68	\$ 2,455.68	\$ -
Website	\$ 1,530.00	\$ -	\$ 1,530.00
Neighborhood Events	\$ 2,600.00	\$ 671.11	\$ 1,928.89
Admin & Staff Support	\$ 55,225.18	\$ 40,914.14	\$ 14,311.04
Total	\$ 61,810.86	\$ 44,040.93	\$ 17,769.93
<b>C-27964 - NRP Phase II Programs</b>			
CES Energy Visit Rebates	\$ 4,019.09	\$ 4,019.09	\$ -
Neighborhood Signage	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,016.35	\$ 983.65
Home Security Rebates	\$ 7,500.00	\$ 3,129.91	\$ 4,370.09
Rain Barrel/Compost Bin Rebates	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 2,698.65	\$ 1,301.35
Tree Grant Program	\$ 6,980.91	\$ 6,056.99	\$ 923.92
Radon Program	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 5,748.00	\$ 14,252.00
Lead Testing Program	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 3,744.90	\$ 6,255.10
Warming House Refresh	\$ 2,162.00	\$ 2,162.00	\$ -
Traffic Study/Implementation	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 3,500.00
Total	\$ 61,662.00	\$ 30,075.89	\$ 31,586.11
<b>COM0004782 - 2022 NNF/EEF</b>			
<b>Neighborhood Network Fund</b>			
Staff Expenses	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 1,221.00	\$ 13,779.00
Professional Services	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Occupancy	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
General Liability Insurance	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Directors and Officers Insurance	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Supplies and Materials	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Meetings and Community Building Events	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Development	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Fundraising	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Other Services	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<b>Equitable Engagement Fund</b>			
Staffing	\$ 1,452.00	\$ -	\$ 1,452.00
Communications	\$ 2,906.00	\$ -	\$ 2,906.00
Total	\$ 19,358.00	\$ 1,221.00	\$ 18,137.00



Recommended letter from Livability Committee

East Bde Maka Ska Neighborhood Association  
2801 Hennepin Ave S PMB 813  
Minneapolis, MN 55408

Becca Hughes  
Senior Transportation Planner  
City of Minneapolis – Public Works  
505 4th Avenue S, Room 410  
Minneapolis, MN 55415

February 3, 2022

Dear Ms. Hughes,

The East Bde Maka Ska neighborhood is weighing in on the proposed plans for reconstruction of Hennepin Avenue between Lake Street and Douglas Avenue. While this section of the street does not lie in our neighborhood, it is a main artery for our neighbors to travel north and east, and our residents heavily patronize the business district.

In addition, we have gained some perspective from the reconstruction of Hennepin from Lake Street to 36<sup>th</sup> Street a few years ago, which we believe contributes to our interest in stating a position on the current plan.

In our opinion, the economic impact, pedestrian safety, even the safety of bikers all argue for a different approach from plans currently proposed.

Early in the planning process, it was acknowledged that Hennepin Avenue is simply not wide enough to accommodate street parking, bike lanes, mass transit and a safe pedestrian environment all at once. Removing one element would provide space for those that remain to operate and provide access to small businesses. The decision came down to on-street parking vs. bike lanes, and this plan chose to eliminate any meaningful parking with the unexplored thought (hope) that there might be alternative options for district parking.

While district parking works in a more nodal business community like Hennepin and Lake, it cannot be assumed to work in a linear business district. (In fact, most of the available parking indicated in the plan is in parking facilities south of the Midtown Greenway and not practical for the mile-long stretch north of there.) Since Hennepin from Lake to 36<sup>th</sup> Street was reconstructed, small business owners along that corridor have reported a negative impact from the removal of on-street parking, and some businesses have closed. While it is difficult to separate pandemic effects from reconstruction effects, it is fair to say that even before the pandemic businesses were

Recommended letter from Livability Committee

seeing a negative impact on their business. The number of businesses on the stretch from Lake to Douglas is much greater than from Lake to 36<sup>th</sup>, and the linear configuration of that area presents a different, but more profound set of challenges. Based on our experience, we would reasonably anticipate a much greater impact on that stretch if parking within a reasonable distance would disappear.

In addition, the idea of biking along Hennepin is not embraced by a significant portion and probably a majority of people in our neighborhood who bike. Neighborhood streets and major bike corridors such as the Midtown Greenway, the Grand Rounds and Bryant Avenue South are currently the preferred routes most recreational bikers, in particular, and many commuter bikers use. Even the possibility of shared ride (Uber/Lyft) is not facilitated along most of the east side of Hennepin, where drop-off bays are not conveniently located in the plan and non-existent from Franklin to 27<sup>th</sup> Street.

Alternate opportunities for accommodating bike traffic and parking should be thoroughly considered before making bicycles a priority over parking on Hennepin.

To us the solution is fairly simple: Move the bike routes onto adjacent neighborhood streets. Biking opportunities could be developed on Bryant and Humboldt or Irving with east-west connectors at most of the streets that cross these avenues so that bikes would only have to travel a short distance on Hennepin to access a business.

As evidenced on Bryant Avenue South and other sharrows in the city, mixing bikes and automobile traffic is a traffic-calming tool to consider; if built well, it can better serve the community. However, we believe that choosing bike lanes over parking is a questionable option on Hennepin Avenue and is a topic that needs to be examined broadly as to the effect on surrounding streets. We should explore more of the feasibility of major bike corridors such as the Midtown Greenway, etc. rather than wedging bike lanes onto Hennepin Avenue and in the process negatively impacting the very small businesses that support the surrounding communities, make a corridor commercially successful and provide needed services to our community.

Sincerely,  
Paul Lussenhop  
President, East Bde Maka Ska Neighborhood Association