



Payne-Phalen

COMMUNITY COUNCIL

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Board of Directors Meeting Minutes Tuesday, December 11, 2018 – 6:30 p.m. Far East Restaurant, 959 Arcade Street, St. Paul

Board Directors Present:

Valentine Awasom	A	Tara Borton	P	Athena Hollins	E
Stuart Knappmiller	P	Britt Kringle	P	Joe Kuzelka	P
Wintana Melekin	A	Krishna Natarajan	P	Rebecca Nelson	P
Crystal Norcross	P	Lynette Pineda Tamayo	A	Eric Saathoff	A
Chris Schweitzer	P	Danielle Swift	A	Seanne Thomas	P
Maychy Vu	P	Bill Zajcek	P		

P= Present, L= Late, A= Absent, E = Excused Absence,

Staff: Jack Byers and Robin Horkey

Call to Order, Welcome, and Introductions – Britt Kringle, Board Vice-President

Agenda Items

Discussion: Neighborhood Honor Roll for 2018

Staff briefed Board Members on the Neighborhood Honor Roll event coming up in January. Board Members and others attending offered the following names for consideration: Eric Foster, Ann DeJoy, Steve Randall, Timothy Turner, Rebecca Nelson, Lissa Jones-Lofgren, and Jim Erchul.

Action: The Board directed staff to send out information about the program as well as the list of nominations in order to conduct a vote by e-mail.

Discussion: Citywide Trash Collection

Board Members had a wide-ranging discussion about the topic of the City of St. Paul's new citywide trash collection system. The conversation started with a series of observations, concerns, and a couple of accolades:

- Some residents are paying more now than they had been before citywide contract was implemented
- More systematic collection means fewer trucks in the alleys; Some people like not having as many trucks up and down the alley
- Some people have found that a small can picked-up once every two weeks suits their needs
- Bigger cans are less expensive, which is not right. Those who generate less trash (and have smaller containers) should pay less.

- Perhaps there could be an exception allowed for those who don't want or need city trash collection services
- Landlords don't like the idea of being charged for one cart per unit: For apartments, there are too many receptacles in the alley. Sometimes even the smaller receptacle is too much for one unit to fill.
- Mention that here are two lawsuits pending; the suit on cost as related to the size of containers is still in-progress.
- Some people said that since the citywide collection started there has been less random garbage in the alley. That's an upside. For example, there are fewer mattresses and random items of garbage left in the alleys.
- Some acknowledged that there were or had been freeloaders abusing the system before y putting their trash in or beside someone else's receptacle – thus avoiding the cost of trash pick-up for themselves.
- Some said that the pick-up of large items used to be an invisible cost and now that it is being taken care of; it is reflected in the higher prices and regular bills.
- It was mentioned that for some people of color, this is the first time they are hearing of this issue
- Questions and concerns about how this is or isn't affecting small businesses

The conversation also included ideas for how the Board could move forward on this topic:

- PPCC Board should compile some community feedback
- PPCC Board should discuss how to organize further conversation with the City
- Have a representative from the City come to explain how the system was devised and put into effect
- Have Council Members come so that they can hear form residents. One Board member noted that Council Members Bostrom and Prince were the ones on the Council who voted against the agreement with the haulers.
- Have someone explain how the contracts work
- Have a pre-conference with CMs Bostrom and Prince; set this up in a way that demonstrates how PPCC can support them.
- Organize and host or co-host a public meeting convinced in collaboration with other District Councils
- There was conversation that this could be done in at least one of two ways: (a) Either Set it up as a stand-alone meeting (i.e. not a regular Board Meeting) or (b) put an agenda item on a regular Board Meeting.
- Mention was made that the Board already adopted a workplan for 2019; one where the intention was to keep focus on the update to the District Plan

Action Taken:

A motion made to empanel an ad-hoc committee to discuss this further and bring the outcome of that discussion to January's Board Meeting. Amendments were accepted as follows:

- (a) There is not caveat that the Ad Hoc Committee or PPCC Board must convene or host a public meeting; hosting a public meeting is but one idea up for consideration and further discussion.

(b) The committee will also make recommendations for and play a role in getting the word out about whatever meeting and/or other actions I recommends.

The motion to empanel a committee of Board Members (with these two amendments) was approved by voice vote, with one vote against.

- The committee will include Chris Schweitzer, Rebecca Nelson, Crystal Norcross, and Stuart Knapmiller. PPCC staff will support the committee as needed.

Public Comment/Input/Announcements

Consent Agenda

None this evening

Executive Director Report:

Quick overview of work on end of year activities related to grants and funding

President's Report

None this evening

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at about 7:15 p.m. and the annual holiday party commenced.

Minutes submitted by

Jack Byers, Executive Director