



Payne-Phalen COMMUNITY COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Community Meeting

Tuesday, August 27th, 2019 6:30 p.m.

Arlington Hills Community Center, 1200 Payne Avenue, St. Paul (Payne and Maryland Avenues)

Board Directors: Ikram Ali, Janey Atchison, Patricia Enstad, Lynette Harris, Athena Hollins, Stuart Knappmiller, Britt Kringle, Krishna Natarajan, Rebecca Nelson, Eric Saathoff, Chris Schweitzer, John Thompson, Bill Zajicek, Wintana Melekin (late), Crystal Norcross (late)

Community Participants & Guests: Marina P, Logan A, Terri T, Marney L, Don L, Pam T, Craig F, Dan A, Mischa K, Jimmy G, Ryan H, Jaycee K, Delyla D, Jaclyn S, Joann E, Jasmine C, Andres B, Shannon R, Nicole B, Regina R, MaryJo S, Danette A, Steph K, Anne D (ESNDC), Hunter H, Eric F, Marjorie O (East Side Review), HwaJeong K (Ward 5 Aide), Laurie B, Courtney T, Charles O, Aleatha A-T, Jack K-W (Catalyst Music), Romi S (China Garden), Ying C (China Garden), plus about 10 more residents

Staff: Jack Byers, Robin Horkey

Welcome: Introductions and Review of the Agenda

Planning, Zoning, and License Entitlements:

1. Carnitas Don Tacho, 1193 Payne Ave. Liquor License application for Hector & Abigal Arias, Abigal LLC. Presentation by Luis Caire.
No motion, owner is not here
2. Music Venue (name to be determined), 965 Payne Ave. Application for alcohol-free, all ages music venue operated by Twin Cities Catalyst Music. Presentation by Jack Kolb-Williams, Executive Director

-Mission is to provide equitable opportunities for young people to see, experience and participate in the Twin Cities music scene by providing Performance, Educational & Technological opportunities. Facility holds space for 193. Specifically catered/focused on young people to help with their development and growth in this business area. Catalyst brings job opportunities in production, lighting, and performance to gain career experience in East St Paul. With over 7000 young people in East St Paul, the development opportunities, workshops, afterschool groups, revitalization of Payne Ave., attracts people to ESP.

-East side connection, already at YMCA, Mt Airy Boys & Girls Club (already started this summer); already have held performance at Caydence Coffee & Records.

-Chris has questions regarding: Cabaret Permit, Parking spaces. *The Cabaret license covers live performances, including the capstone event at the end of the year for youth. There are 26 parking spots behind the building, free street parking, and a lot at York & Payne; also, many youths won't be driving.*

-Patricia asks about more partnering with Caydence.

-Krishna asks about noise level for the neighborhood. *The sound is deadened by the basement and the brick building, and they primarily use a sound system to amplify.*

- John asks about costs, (free) and how do you pick the kids in the program. Generally free, but *when concerts happen the most that is charged is \$10. Funds raised are used to continue the program.*
- Danette expresses concern about the post Chris made on Social media.
- Another community member asks about security and how kids getting let out on the street at 10 pm and what chaos they could create.
- Andre (community member) asks about hiring practices and making sure they come from the neighborhood.
- Community member asks about volunteer opportunities.
- Maude Lorr gives vote of confidence for the venue as teen who has experience with Catalyst.
- Alex B embracing the idea that young people of color can gather in one place in a large group and not be violent.
- Courtney Troyer Executive Director of the YMCA has huge amounts of kids and have not had to call cops for help.
- Kassim Busuri supports this as it promotes learning and growing. There are concerns but the dialogue is great. Caydence has events three days a week and not had any issues (or minimal).
- Terri Thao appreciates and understands but would like to maybe have the Youth Advisory board meet with neighbors to help foster good will.

Motion made to support the Cabaret license application by Eric, seconded by Krisha, motion carries with Chris abstaining.

Presentations and Discussion:

3. *St Paul-Changsha China Friendship Garden:* Update on Phase 1 and progress report on planning for Phase 2. Presenters: Romi Slowiak and Ying Chuyangheu

Status – still completing Phase 1. Cost was underestimated due to difficult design, hard to get to. Another \$250,000 is still needed to be raised to finish this first phase.

- No camera's up yet, not sure on numbers of people who use this, weddings have taken place there, there is a line to take pictures sometimes. Currently no reservation policy. There will be space for 200 people to use eventually.
- Romi explains that community input is welcome and needed. Also, it is free and open for the community (public) to use.
- Andrei (comm member) concerned about the cost estimate falling short again. *Legacy Funds from the legislature will be used for planning, to help get a more accurate cost estimate.*
- Crystal expresses interest in making sure that the Dakota Land Originations are acknowledged and honored. That the land garden is built on is originally Dakota Land and should be acknowledged.

Board Deliberation, Votes, and Reports

4. *Approval of Minutes:*
Board Minutes for months of March thru July Meetings Motion by Janey to approve, Britt seconds, motion passes.
5. *Financial Report* Bill is transferring all info to Janey, We have paid off half of our line of credit. Bill says the lines are not correct but should be fixed easily.

6. Update: Arcade St. working group: Eric states they haven't met but they have slowed down as far as getting something out.

7. Community Events and Activities:

National Night out, Aug 6th; Thank you and de-brief National Night out – Chris says it went well, got good reception at all places they went, esp. to Hmong American Partnership. Thanks to Chris, Stuart, Athena for doing this.

Back to school event at Bruce Vento School, August 28th: Board Volunteers needed!

4:30-8:30 Stuart, Janey, John, Lynette. Volunteered to be there.

Harvest Parade and East Side Community Festival September 28th; Board Volunteers needed! Chris, Wintana, Krisha? Athena, Lynette, Ikram, Stuart volunteered.

ADJOURN

8:00 PM

Britt moves to adjourn, Eric seconds, motion passes

➤ **Next meeting:** September 24th, 2019 at the Arlington Hills Community Center, 1200 Payne Avenue