



Payne-Phalen

COMMUNITY COUNCIL

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Board of Directors Meeting Draft Minutes

Tuesday, October 24, 2017 – 6:30 p.m.

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

Board Directors Present:

Valentine Awasom	P	Tara Borton	P	Annie Davidson	P
		Richard Finch Jr.	A	Eric Foster	P
Britt Graupner	P	Athena Hollins	P	Joe Kuzelka	E
Chad Medellin	A	Rebecca Nelson	P	Lynette Pineda Tamayo	P
Lorenzo Pullen	P	Eric Saathoff	P	Maychy Vu	P
Marny Xiong	P	Bill Zajicek	P		

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

Community Participants & Guests: MaryAnn Bonniwell, Regina Rippel, Sarah Axtmann, Chris Schweitzer, Adrienne Johnson, Seanne Thomas, Joann Ellis (Commissioner McDonough's office), Krishna Raj Natarajan, Ted Madison, Jeanie Pearson

Staff: Lissa Jones-Lofgren

Call to Order, Welcome, and Introductions – Board President Eric Foster

Reminder to Board to speak loudly or into the microphone

Addition of two items to the Agenda, **public comment** right after Executive Director report and **announcement** from Lynette

Financial Update

Annie D please refer to the Board packet and if there are questions she will be available after the meeting or we can reestablish the Financial Committee.

Bill Z noticed on the Financial Balance sheet that there was a negative balance on cash. Is this the way things work or were there a number of special causes?

Lissa explained that the organization is 100% reimbursement, so we expend our cash first, and are subsequently reimbursed for every single service that is provided. Currently, we are \$7000 ahead on budget, reimbursement requests were delayed this year as we hired and trained a new accountant team, after 10 years with our other accountant.

Bill Z asked if due to timing, we should request an increase in the credit line. Annie D answered that this is not an issue as we are where we should be with City reimbursements, so a larger line of credit isn't needed.

President's Report

Neighborhood Honor Roll - way to honor members of the neighborhood. Will be honored through a ceremony downtown St Paul. Did not do this last year due to issues occurring here. We would like to start this again. Cannot nominate a person more than once (refer to list in packet). Should not nominate ourselves.

Stuart Knappmiller, Tom LaFlecht by Eric S

Roger Allmendinger, Ryan Huseby, Eddie Woo, Charles Dexter by Eric F

Danielle Swift by Lorenzo P

David Syers, Ryan Kapaun, Don Lorr, and Mike Pennig, Anne DeJoy by Bill Z

Annie motioned to put up three tonight and then vote

Eric S asked for clarification on criteria (business, person, volunteers, groups)

Lynette requested to vote online (via email) Passed.

Executive Director transition, Lissa's time is ending and with her help we will find a new Exec. Director. The goal is to have a new director by the first of the year and be fully transitioned into that role/position by April. Asked for volunteers for the search committee.

Board Deliberation Meeting minutes

Approval of amended August minutes and September minutes.

Motion by Eric S to approve the amended minutes, seconded by Annie D. Motion passed.

Executive Director report: Equity Action Planning

Our focus tonight is on the commitment to equity. A presentation on our Equity Investment Rationale and Equity Strategic Action Plan was made, in collaboration with five other district councils, to the City Council at its most recent meeting.

Map of the City of Saint Paul, circa 1935, was presented and talked about. Areas where people live today are eerily similar to the areas the city designated for people to live in, in 1935. As a board, you have the opportunity to change this. The Equity Investment Rationale and Equity Strategic Action Plan are tools to help you make and measure the change, a chance to make this right!

The last time we had a plan for district-wide investment was in 1979, and it was based, in part, on this map. Lissa requested that the board take a formal vote to approve, adopt and publish the Equity Investment Rationale and Equity Strategic Action Plan at its November meeting.

Marny thanked Lissa and said that we should regroup ourselves, our District council is behind even though we have the largest amount of diversity. Today there are not many changes, except for greater

Diversity. Neighbors are coming together to share and talk and this map is important to be able to regroup ourselves.

Annie asked "For passage in November" what are we looking at?

Lissa replied that she, along with Britt, Marny, Athena and Robin worked on the Equity work group along with four other District Councils and would like the Equity Investment Rationale and the Equity Strategic Action Plan to be incorporated into our Plan. She would like to make sure that we have time to look it over and make revisions as needed to be able to vote on it for the November meeting as the December meeting is typically short.

Eric F reiterated that December board meeting is typically short and has a social component. Should we have something different? Send your thoughts to Executive Committee members, or Lissa

Public comment (amended agenda)

Ted Madison, resident of East Side for 25 years and is part of a group of concerned East Siders about, and trying to stop the development of the China Friendship Garden in its specific area. Would like to urge those involved to find a different location. In last year and a half have attended meetings designed to gather community input about the Garden Concern of its location and the possible destruction of that 'green' area currently not developed. Are calling the Garden large and intrusive and will change the natural beauty of this space. Developed in part thru the council, they have expressed their concerns thru the city etc. Feel at a loss as to where to go? What to do and who to talk to? Would like to talk to Park Board. What actions have the district council taken in the past to recommend or to encourage the development of this area? Knowing the history now, would the district council be willing to listen to other community members expressing their concerns. Have signatures of 40 people who oppose this location.

Jeanie Pearson lives across the lake, has worked (volunteered) with the park in programs with mostly youth to establish pollinator gardens. Reads from letter of 91-year-old neighbor, expressing fear of destruction of the park, would like it to stay green and natural (Ken Livermore, also a former council member). Jeanie's objection is to a four-story pagoda, orange arch, pink, round bridge. Many rocks and boulders will be in the way. Structures are contrary and offensive spiritually, mentally and physically. It's adjacent to the stone arch bridge which was restored with millions of dollars to be able to have first responders access to the north end of the park. Contrary to the public purpose of the park. The park was designed for all members of the community not just one ethnic group particularly one that is an Authoritarian state.

MaryAnn grew up in the area opposed to the garden also. The trees and oaks will seem like they are violated.

Eric F thanked all for the comments. He expressed uncertainty about how the Pavilion ended up on tonight's agenda when the board voted many months ago? Since the board did vote, they won't entertain putting it back on the full board agenda.

Bill Z In 2011 was put in the master plan for the park and wouldn't have been sought if it hadn't been wanted.

Ted asked about the Master Plan referred to by Bill.

Bill replied that in 2010 the City was overdue for a review (every thirty years). And this was put on the agenda.

Board presentations to serve on the council

Vacancy created by absence of Charles Dexter. He has resigned due to lack of time and ability to make the time commitment. Opened up to the public for two-minute presentations.

Sarah Axtmann lives on Cook. Wants to become more involved and walk the walk and talk the talk. Sees lots of potential and excited when she came to the last meeting. Wants to be one of those that fixes and brings the change.

Seanne Thomas longtime resident real estate broker, has kids who played soccer and involved in school community. Worked with ESNDC for a few years before leaving to start her own brokerage. Knows a lot of business owners in the area and would like to be involved in this.

Chris Schweitzer former member of this board, Knowledge, Experience, Persistence, Energy, Preparation and Commitment. Has been involved in Politics for 25 years, was on the council during the development of the AHCC and the blocking of the movement of the Dorothy Day Center to Grove St.

Adrienne Johnson lived here since birth. Involved with transportation committee, provides a unique voice as a teacher in the community.

Eric F thanked the candidates and will let them know about the election results.

District Plan Updates

Next work group meeting will be on Nov 14th 6:30 at AHCC, let someone know if you are interested in being part of a group.

Athena H on Zoning and Land Use, four things, 1. What can we do to encourage development of vacant land. 2. Changing Zoning on Payne to mixed use to make it more desirable to business owners 3. Ensuring Payne keeps its esthetic along with encouraging historical preservation perhaps 4. How to encourage use of Green space

Tara B on Social development 1. Engagement and participation 2. Cohesion 3. Public Safety 4. Equity and measurable outcomes 5. Access

Eric S Transportation 1. Increase Pedestrian Bicycle safety 2. Make Maryland and Arcade safe for motorists and Pedestrians and bicyclists 3. Make street and facility upgrades when necessary 4. Provide and promote alternative to automobile ownership.

Britt G for Housing Having conversations with housing groups, housing inspectors and other citizens and groups. Making available housing loans for business owners and individuals, and business developments.

Rebecca N on Economic Development, Arcade St, Payne Ave. Our vision "Payne & Arcade as a commercial district that draws the city and serves the neighborhood" 1. Reducing barriers to opening new businesses on Payne & Arcade and create a development corridor 2. Increase access to jobs

and employment resources to residents of Payne Phalen 3. To improve the public image of Payne and Arcade and the Payne Phalen Neighborhood

Announcements

Eric F Election is coming up and we need to get out and vote. Mayoral election is highly contested and we should vote.

Lynette P Director of Moms Food Shelf, working on getting donations for Hurricane Harvey second trip coming up. We need to get out and help. People seem to have lost interest. She is greatly in need of donations, truck will be leaving on the 28th.

Ted If you are interested in supporting the movement to move the location of the China Garden. He will be available to talk after. Sign petition and Like them on Facebook Keep Phalen Natural

? Thinks that getting donations for the victims of Hurricane Harvey is great, he thinks it should go through a nonpartisan group as opposed to a Church.

Executive Session

Vote on new Board member. Seanne Thomas was elected.

Minutes submitted by Secretary Rebecca Nelson