



# Payne-Phalen COMMUNITY COUNCIL

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## Minutes of the Community Meeting

Tuesday, September 22nd, 2020 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

Online via Zoom Conferencing

### Context:

Many organizations are confronting how to manage the need to host virtual board meetings and elections when current bylaws do not allow for this activity. It has been recommended that District Councils in St. Paul use the language that the City Council is using to justify the need for virtual council meetings. That language is as follows:

*"In-person meetings, or meetings conducted under Minn. Stat. § 13D.02 of the City Council, are not practical or prudent because of the COVID-19 health pandemic emergency declared under Minn. Stat. Chapter 12 by the Minnesota Governor Tim Walz and Saint Paul Mayor Melvin Carter. In light of the COVID-19 health pandemic, members of the City Council will participate in City Council meetings by telephone or other electronic means."*

**Welcome:** Introductions and Review of the Agenda

**Board Members:** Athena Hollins, Rebecca Nelson, Lynette Harris, Bill Zajicek, Janey Atchison, Marci Exsted, Carolyn Keeton, Patricia Enstad, John Thompson

**Staff:** Jack Byers, Executive Director, Robin Horkey, Admin & Outreach

**Community Members:** Brad Griffith, Josh & Karissa Kohn, Joanne Ellis (Legislative Aide to Commissioner McDonough), Marjorie Ames, Hayden Kilkenny (LWV), Tosha Anderson (Eastside Skatepark), Ethan Osten, Mai Lee, Kelsey Canaday, Jake Jurss, Michael Wade (St. Paul PED)

### Business Items:

1. Approval of Minutes from recent meeting: (Rebecca Nelson, Secretary): Postponed to October meeting
2. PPCC Financial Report and Status (Janey Atchison, Treasurer): Have two purchases coming up, two new laptops to replace older slower ones

### Presentations and Community Discussion:

3. Vote 2020 – Information on registration, voting options, requirements, and timelines: Hayden Kilkenny, St Paul Chapter of the League of Women Voters.

You can find out how to register, request absentee ballot, track it and check to find your polling place, who is running etc. at their website. They have flyers to get out to the community in many different languages also. You have options on how to vote also, in person now, by mail, or on election day. Make sure you are registered!

4. Proposal for Eastside Skatepark at Payne & York Avenues, Tosha Anderson, Eastside Skatepark Taskforce.

Looking to make the North East Corner of the parking lot into a “destination” skatepark. Working to get funding from the city and support to do this. Will be larger scale, multi-functional with BBQ pits, community gardens, gazebo, farmer’s market etc. Has easy access with transportation (bus stop right in front). Looking to involve Indigenous Roots for artists and Urban Roots for the Community Gardens. One of the finalists for the 2020-2021 Capital Improvement Project. Motion to write letter in support of/in favor of the Eastside Skatepark passed.

5. Study to update the definition of “Family” in the Zoning Code, Michael Wade, City of St Paul, Planning and Economic Development Dept.

The function of this term is to determine the maximum number of occupants allowed to live in any dwelling unit based on relatedness. Needs to be updated to allow for the many different types of “family” that live together not necessarily blood related. Intent is to figure out a better policy especially for larger families and families of color for whom this is discriminatory against. And to allow for more density. Intent of the change is to make it less discriminatory. Link provided for feedback and updates to city

6. Encampments at Lake Phalen: Updates, information sharing.

There is a definite rise in unsheltered population, many city and county groups are working on this. Bill brings up the fact that there is a new encampment at English and Arlington. Who authorized this? And there is a need to provide for water, sanitation etc. Motion is made to hold a meeting with city, county, stakeholders, and community to find out more about encampments by Athena, seconded by Lynette and motion passed.

**Wrap-up, announcements and other business:**

7. Please make sure you’ve completed the 2020 Census. Everyone counts!

8. Upcoming Activities, Events and Collaborations:

- PPCC Arcade St Working Group (re-starting): Wednesday, Sept 23, 4:30-5:30 pm, sign up by email: [district5@paynephalen.org](mailto:district5@paynephalen.org)
- Solidarity Street Gallery Event: Payne Avenue, Oct 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> Additional Hybrid/Online activities: TBD
- Eastside Skatepark Task Force Meet & Greet, Oct 3<sup>rd</sup>, Caydence Coffee, 900 Payne Ave.
- “Neither Rain, Nor Sleet, Nor Gloom of Pandemic: Safe Voting from Home,” St Paul Chapter of the League of Women Voters, Register for Zoom Meeting
- HourCar Electric Vehicle Mobility Network: Dates and locations to be determined
- PPCC District Planning: Daylighting Phalen Creek (Follow-up to Flower Power at the Creek) Collaboration with Lower Phalen Creek Project October Meeting Date: TBD
- East Side Housing Justice: three events coming up: dates TBD
- Rivoli Revival 2020: Multiple Events – Fall Celebration: Enjoy free special distance events at the corner of Rivoli Street & Minnehaha Ave E.
  - Sunday Sept 27<sup>th</sup>, Family Fun Day 3-5 pm, live DJ, Arts, Activities and food
  - Friday Oct 9 Drive-in Film 6-9 pm Screening “1985” by Kang Vang
  - Saturday Oct 17<sup>th</sup> Rivoli-ween 3-5 pm, pre-halloween event with live DJ, fruit rollups for youth, Halloween photo booth

**Next PPCC Community Meeting: Tuesday October 27<sup>th</sup>, 6:30pm on Zoom**

**ADJOURN**