

Date: September 3, 2024

Location: Kenwood Community Center

Time Meeting Called to Order After Quorum: 7:02PM by Anne Nelson

Board Members Present: Anne Nelson (President); Sarah Grundhoefer (Vice President); Sue Westerman (Treasurer); Jonathan Suk (Secretary); Jackie Brown-Baylor; Holly Ebener; Matt Ludt; Bob Kaufman; Betsy Beck; Will Stancil; Greta Chizek; Ned Hancock; and John Mizera

Other Attendees: Katie Cashman; John Lillehei; Paul Kaminski; and Rich Bonin.

Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes

Anne Nelson presented the draft meeting minutes from the June 11, 2024 LHNA board meeting, which were previously distributed to the board by email. After discussion, the draft meeting minutes were approved.

Minneapolis City Council Update

Ward 7 Council Member Katie Cashman provided an update on a variety of topics, including neighborhood safety, street light repairs, the budgeted but unimplemented Uptown ambassador program, new city budget initiatives in the Uptown area, Promise Act funding availability for Hennepin Avenue businesses, an upcoming city budget workshop and a sound permit for the Walker's upcoming Avant Garden event, and answered questions from the board and community members about the same.

Treasurer's Report

Sue Westerman provided an update on expected 2025 funding availability, and responded to questions from the board about the same.

Meeting Facilitation

Anne Nelson provided an overview of changes to the board's meeting structure, with a particular focus on committee presentations, which are expected to include 5-minute updates for each committee per meeting, with one committee per meeting receiving 15 minutes for a more fulsome report. After discussion, Anne also provided a refresher on the current committee assignments, with Holly Ebener and Greta Chizek agreeing to serve as the newly designated "Sandwich Board Coordinators." (Note: After the meeting, Ned Hancock agreed to join Matt Ludt and Sue Westerman on the Zoning Committee and John Mizera agreed to join Jackie Brown-Baylor and Henry Hallaway on the Events Committee.)

Events

Jackie Brown-Baylor led the board in a discussion about recent LHNA sponsored events, including the rain-shortened ice cream social in July, the fishing outing at Cedar Lake in

August and the farmers' market pop-up in collaboration with Kenwood, and also provided an update on the upcoming September 7 Super Sale event. The board then discussed possible LHNA coordination and support for National Night Out in the future, including outreach to neighborhood block captains.

Neighborhood Priorities

Betsy Beck led the board in a discussion about the newly formed Neighborhood Priorities Committee, which is expected to foster greater engagement with the neighborhood through a community survey, with the goal of identifying opportunities for additional events or other actionable activities/services that would benefit the neighborhood, and responded to questions from the board about the same.

Crime & Safety Update

Sue Westerman provided an update on the plan for upcoming neighborhood safety walks, which going forward will continue to take place on the third Saturday of every month (starting at Sabastian Joe's), and also asked for board members to volunteer to lead future walks. Sue then provided a brief overview of recent crime trends in the neighborhood.

Zoning

Matt Ludt provided the board with an update about zoning matters, highlighting that there have been no changes to the status of the Baylor family redevelopment project, while also highlighting that local business fees will be increasing.

Communications

Holly Ebener and Greta Chizek provided an update about the Communications Committee, including a plan to work with Sarah Grundhoefer to transition workstreams and an expectation that Culyer Dinegan will continue to assist with managing the board's email inbox, and responded to questions from the board about the same.

Green Team

Holly Ebener and Greta Chizek then led the board in a discussion about the newly formed Green Team Committee, which included an update on the Adopt a Storm Drain project and ways to improve outreach related to that program, as well as ideas for additional ways for the committee to support and engage with the community, including through collaboration with the Minneapolis Parks Department, and responded to questions from the board about the same.

Fundraising

Anne Nelson led the board in a discussion about LHNA fundraising and way to improve fundraising efforts, including the possibility of a board member serving as the fundraising lead, and responded to questions from the board about the same.

Adjacent Neighborhood Association Coordination and Communication

Anne Nelson then led the board in a discussion about ongoing efforts to better coordinate between adjacent neighborhood associations, including a recent meeting with neighboring board presidents, and responded to questions from the board about the same.

Grant Programs

Will Stencil provided an update on the façade improvement grants, again raising the possibility of the LHNA providing matching grants to further incentivize participation in the program (if permitted), and answered questions from the board about the same. After discussion, Will agreed to join the Neighborhood Priorities Committee, with the façade improvement grant project now falling under that committee.

As there was no further business,

Meeting adjourned by Anne Nelson at 8:25PM by motion carried.

Definitions

LHNA: Lowry Hill Neighborhood Association

The next LHNA Board Meeting will be held in-person at the Kenwood Community Center on Tuesday, October 1, 2024 at 7PM.

Minutes by Jonathan Suk
Secretary, LHNA Board