

EIRA Board of Directors Meeting

Tuesday, October 13, 2020, 7 pm
Online via Zoom

MINUTES

Board Members Present:

Emma Erdahl (President), Erik Anderson (Vice President), Andrew Degerstrom (Treasurer), Eric Barstad (Secretary), Becky Accettura, Laney Barhaugh, Natasha Dockter, John Erlandson, Abbie Ernst, Rod Lauture, Amelia Steinkraus

Staff Present:

Jenna Egan, Coordinator

Guests Present:

Lisa Goodman, Minneapolis City Council, Ward 7
Chad Davison, Metropolitan Council Environmental Services
Ellen van Iwaarden, Green Team Co-Chair
Debbie Gold, Farmers Market Committee Co-Chair

1) Welcome

President Emma Erdahl called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm.

2) Council Member Goodman

Council Member Goodman gave the following announcements:

- Monthly Lunch with Lisa events will move to Zoom in October. First one will be on October 28 at 12 pm. Robert Lilligren, President and CEO of the Native American Community Development Institute (NACDI) will present.
- Unable to do the physical tour of the new Dayton's Project. There will be a virtual tour in November. To learn more and sign up for Lisa's newsletter, contact Judy Sherin at judy.sherin@minneapolismn.gov.
- Street sweeping starts October 20. It takes four weeks to do over 1,000 miles of streets in the city. Learn more at <https://tinyurl.com/yahegdy8>.
- Polling place for East Isles is at Temple Israel. City has added 12 locations where voters can drop off their ballot. Most convenient location for East Isles is at the

Convention Center. Learn more at <https://vote.minneapolismn.gov/voters/ballot-drop-off/>.

- Mayor Frey's proposed 2021 budget calls for a 5.75% levy increase. With a 12% increase in the overall tax base growth, three quarters of Minneapolis residential property owners will see a decrease in their property tax bills with the median-valued household set to experience a \$59 decrease.
- The City is piloting a new initiative to decrease violence with "violence interrupters" on the streets in neighborhoods now. Outreach workers for the Minneapolis Strategic Outreach Initiative deescalate situations before they become violent, support behavior change for people at the highest risk for violence and help communities heal. By identifying and interrupting conflicts and working to promote community healing, the initiative is intended to break the "contagious" aspects of violence such as retaliation. Learn more at <https://tinyurl.com/y2c5tr67>.
- National Night Out is September 15. Some events are happening and have COVID guidelines. Learn more at <http://www2.minneapolismn.gov/nno/>.
- The State of Minnesota was awarded money from the Volkswagen settlement of \$6.7 million. The money will be used for electric vehicle charging hubs and several of them will be in the greater Uptown area.

3) East Isles Sewer Improvements Project

Chad Davison from Metropolitan Council Environmental Services presented the following information on the East Isles Sewer Improvements Project:

- 80% of the design has been completed.
- Summary of East Isles Sewer Improvements Plan:
 - Construction begins in 2021.
 - 24" dual sanitary sewer pipe installation on The Mall and Humboldt Avenue.
 - 48" storm sewer pipe replacement along the Humboldt Avenue to reduce flooding.
 - Water main replacement on Humboldt Avenue from The Mall to mid-block north of the Midtown Greenway, Humboldt Ave at 27th Street.
 - Abandonment of the sanitary sewer pipe on Irving Avenue and 27th Street.
- Project impacts on The Mall:
 - 6" water main crossing along James Avenue.
 - 12" storm sewer crossing along James Avenue.
 - Temporary sanitary sewer conveyance piping.
 - Final restoration per the MPRB Southwest Master Plan approval.
 - 6" and 24" water main crossings at Irving Avenue.
 - 12" and 24" storm sewer crossing at Irving Avenue.
 - Storm sewer replacement and connection at The Mall (eastbound).
 - Replace roadway.
- Project impacts along Humboldt Avenue:
 - Sanitary service crossings (east side of Humboldt Avenue).

- Gas main relocation (CenterPoint Energy).
- Remove and replace concrete curb and asphalt pavement.
- Tree removal and replacement (west side).
- Temporary water service.
- Remove and replace east curb.
- Replace pavement.
- Storm lateral removal and replacement.
- Remove and replace curb.
- Impacts – temporary conveyance:
 - Temporary wastewater conveyance of existing sanitary flow around the Humboldt Avenue and 27th Street intersection.
 - Aboveground temporary wastewater conveyance pipes installed on 27th Street.
- Proposed project schedule:
 - Remainder of 2020 – planning
 - Spring 2021-December 2021 – Construction
 - Spring 2022: Restoration
- Next steps:
 - Propose and approve vehicle, bicycle, and pedestrian detour routes.
 - Follow City of Minneapolis guidelines.
 - Feedback from local agencies, organizations, and advocacy groups.
 - Community event coordination.
 - Final design and bidding process completed Spring 2021.
 - Second public meeting (prior to construction).
 - Construction anticipated to begin Spring 2021.
- For more information, visit <https://metro council.org/Wastewater-Water/Projects/Sewer-Planning-Construction-Updates/Projects/East-Isles-804125.aspx>.

4) Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes for the Board of Directors Meeting on September 8, 2020. *Motion by Degerstrom, seconded by Anderson. Motion carried with 11 ayes and 0 nays.*

Motion to approve the minutes for the Board of Directors Meeting on July 14, 2020. *Motion by Degerstrom, seconded by Erdahl. Motion carried with 11 ayes and 0 nays.*

5) Farmers Market Report:

Farmers Market Committee Co-Chair Debbie Gold presented the following end of season report:

- Total attendance for 2020 was 6,239 (down from 2019 due to COVID).

- Average attendance per market was 446. Highest attendance was 615. Lowest attendance was 204 (market closed early due to rain).
- There were 229 vendor spots for the season. Average was 17 vendors per market (slight increase from 2019).
- Budget as of October 1:
 - Total revenue of \$40,193, which includes a \$17,078 carryover from 2019.
 - Total expenses of \$17,550.
 - Net profit of \$22,643.
- Due to impacts from the East Isles Sewer Improvements Project, the Farmers Market Committee has decided to move the market one block east (The Mall between Hennepin Avenue and Humboldt Avenue) for 2021. There is uncertainty whether the permitted encampment currently located along that block (on northside) will still be there.

6) President's Report

President Emma Erdahl gave the following report:

- EIRA purchased a virtual table for the YWCA "It's Time to Talk About Race" event. Unfortunately, no residents entered the drawing for the 10 free tickets. Emma will consult with the Executive Committee on next steps.
- Community Collaborator applications for the Cedar-Isles Master Plan are due Thursday, October 15. Those interested may contact Emma.
- Working on expectations for Committee Chairs, more details coming soon.

7) Staff Report

Coordinator Jenna Egan gave the following report on what she has been working on:

- Board Minutes for July and September meetings
- Attending committee meetings
- Updated website with all of the events for the rest of the year
- Created Zoom links for meetings
- Attended citywide neighborhood meetings hosted by NCR
- Worked on social media updates
- Creating and distributing the monthly newsletter

8) Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Andrew Degerstrom gave the following report:

a. October 2020 Finance Report

Highlights of the September 2020 Finance Report include:

- \$8,787.25 in expenses and \$1,044.42 in income for the month of September.
- \$24,502.15 of funds remaining in NRP Funding Agreement no. 28340 (Phase II Implementation) as of September 30.

- \$4,382.25 of funds remaining in NRP Funding Agreement no. 35039 (Home Security Grants) as of September 30.
- \$18,496.06 of funds remaining in NRP Funding Agreement no. 35167 (Sustainable Practices) as of September 30.
- \$52,609.44 of funds remaining in NRP Funding Agreement no. 28340 (Community Participation Program) as of September 30.

The following action was taken regarding item 8a:

Motion to approve the October 2020 Finance Report. *Motion by Degerstrom, seconded by Anderson. Motion carried with 10 ayes and 0 nays.*

b. Neighborhoods 2020

- 2020 is the last year of the Community Participation Program. Starting in 2021, neighborhoods will transition to the Neighborhood Network Fund and Equitable Engagement Fund, part of Neighborhoods 2020, for their City funding.
- There will be a three-year transition period to help neighborhoods adjust from higher funding levels under the Community Participation Program to the lower funding levels under Neighborhoods 2020. During the transition period, EIRA will receive \$22,356 in 2021, \$17,517 in 2022, and \$12,732 in annually starting in 2023.
- EIRA will have to do a number of things in order to meet the neighborhood organization eligibility requirements in order to receive funds under Neighborhoods 2020:
 - Amend EIRA Bylaws to expand membership to East Isles business owners.
 - Develop Personnel Policies and Procedures.
 - Develop an Operations Manual.
 - Develop a Language Access Policy.
 - Develop an Equitable Engagement Plan.
 - Develop a Board Development Plan.
 - Develop a Strategic Plan for funding.
- EIRA will most likely have until mid-2021 to complete these tasks.

c. EIRA 2021 Budget

It is time to start the 2021 budget planning process. Andrew will reach out to Committee Chairs to request proposed committee budgets for 2021. Unspent CPP funds will be able to rollover into 2021. Budget Committee will meet once funding details from the City is finalized.

9) Outreach & Nominations Committee

Outreach & Nominations Committee Chair Eric Barstad provided the following report:

- First meeting was September 29.
- The Committee discussed planning a series of listening sessions (see item 15).

- The Committee discussed whether or not to send out an annual fundraising letter. After speaking with Treasurer Andrew Degerstrom, they view is that EIRA proceed with the fundraising letter, as raising unrestricted funds will be more important with decreased funding from the City.

10) Green Team

Green Team Co-Chair Ellen van Iwaarden provided the following report:

- Super Sale was a success. There were three goals – have it, learn the ropes of how it is operated, get more people involved. Several Board members were involved, along with three members from Lowry Hill Neighborhood Association. Barb Davis donated the truck and staff to pick up unsold items for donation.
- Final Fall lake cleanup – going to run dates by other Committee members, the weekend after the election is what the Committee is currently looking at.

11) Built Environment & Transportation Committee

Built Environment & Transportation Committee Chair Andrew Degerstrom gave the following report:

- The public comment period for the current round of engagement for the Hennepin South Reconstruction Project has been extended to October 23. For more information, visit <http://www2.minneapolismn.gov/cip/futureprojects/HennepinSouth>.
- Next meeting will be October 20, agenda includes a discussion of the proposed design concepts for the Hennepin South Reconstruction Project.
- November meeting will have Becca Hughes from the City of Minneapolis and JoNette Kuhnau from Kimley-Horn to present results from the latest round of engagement, along with next steps, for the Hennepin South Reconstruction Project.

12) Website Redesign

Erik Anderson, who is working on the website redesign, gave the following update:

- Proposal is to move the website to Squarespace. Farmers Market website currently uses Squarespace.
- Erik has mapped out what the new website could look like and received feedback from several Board members.
- Erik will have additional conversations with former EIRA President Brad Ash, whose assistance will be required to transfer the website.
- Anyone who is interested in helping should contact Erik.

13) Slack Tutorial

Board member Laney Barhaugh gave a brief tutorial on how to use Slack. EIRA Board and Committees will begin to use Slack as the primary method of communication.

14) NRP Committee

President Emma Erdahl, on behalf of NRP Committee Chair Mike Erlandson, gave the following report:

- The Committee held a Zoom meeting on September 22. The Committee reviewed significant NRP financial engagements from the past couple of years including, but not limited to:
 - Lake of the Isles Warming House refresh
 - Lake of the Isles cleanup
 - Bridge for Youth
 - Affordable housing loans
 - Security cameras for Hennepin Avenue
 - New benches along The Mall
 - Good Chair Project benches around Lake of the Isles
 - Neighborhood plantings/trees
 - Grace Neighborhood Nursery School garden along the Midtown Greenway
 - Painting EIRA's stormwater drains
- The Committee reviewed two pending projects – shade structure for Levin Triangle Park and chess tables along The Mall. Committee member Erik Anderson and Chair Mike Erlandson will work to engage the Park Board to get the shade structure back on track. Erik and Mike both attended the Park Board's meeting on October 7 to get this started.
- The chess table project along The Mall has been placed on hold.
- The Committee had a conversation about the homeless challenges in the community and additional research is being done on that front. The importance of the County's role in addressing homelessness was called out and a suggestion that the EIRA Board pressure Hennepin County Commissioner Marion Greene was supported.
- The Committee agreed that the annual report should be created for the neighborhood NRP funds as well as posting past projects and their level of financial support on the EIRA website.
- The group will meet again later this Fall.

15) Neighborhood Listening Sessions

Board Members Becky Accettura and Rod Lauture discussed their efforts to plan a series of neighborhood listening sessions, based primarily on high level of concern in the neighborhood regarding public safety and homelessness. Becky and Rod are looking at hosting one session a month for three months. They will present a more detailed proposal at the next Outreach & Nominations Committee.

16) Open Forum

The following was discussed during Open Forum:

- A question was raised about what EIRA's relationship with block captains are. There is currently no relationship.
- Kenwood Food and Beverage is a new virtual food hall operating out of Red Cow's kitchen. It features several restaurant concepts that people can order from for delivery.

In accordance with EIRA Bylaws Article IV, Section 14, the remainder of the meeting was held in closed session for the purpose of discussing a personnel matter.

17) First Amendment to Independent Contractor Agreement no. 2020C-02 with Jenna Egan

Based on the Executive Committee's recommendation, the following action was taken regarding item 17:

Motion to adopt Resolution 2020R-039: Resolved that EIRA approves the First Amendment to Independent Contractor Agreement no. 2020C-02 with Jenna Egan for her ongoing appointment as EIRA Coordinator. *Motion by Degerstrom, seconded by Anderson. Motion carried with 7 ayes and 0 nays.*

18) Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:46 pm.

Minutes submitted by Jenna Egan