

**East Isles Residents' Association (EIRA)**  
**Minutes from the EIRA BOARD OF DIRECTORS (BOD) Meeting**  
**Tuesday, October 15, 2019 Grace Trinity Community Church**

Board members present: Ellen van Iwaarden (President), Mackenzie Nelson (Vice President), Andrew Degerstrom (Treasurer), Debbie Gold (Secretary) Mike Erlandson, John Morrow, John Grochala, Emma Erdahl, Steve Havig, and Julia Curran

Board Members not present: Kate Svitavsky Alternates not present: John Erlandson

Guests: Council Member, Lisa Goodman and Danielle Elkins, City of Minneapolis

**Welcome & Call to Order:** Ellen van Iwaarden, EIRA President 7:00 p.m.

**Guest Speaker**, Council Member Lisa Goodman, City of Minneapolis. Lisa notified residents about leaf removal/street sweeping beginning on October 21st. She encouraged residents to check the city website <http://www.minneapolismn.gov/publicworks/streetsweeping/> for dates and times when parking restrictions might be enforced on their block. City crews will post "No Parking" signs at least 24 hours before sweeping any streets. Parking will be banned from 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on the day a street is swept. Vehicles not removed will be towed to the [Minneapolis Impound Lot](#).

The last Lunch with Lisa will be held on October 30, 2019.

**Guest Speaker**, Danielle Elkins, City of Minneapolis came to inform the neighborhood about Mobility Hubs. A mobility hub is a place where people can connect to multiple modes of transportation, to make their trip as safe, convenient and reliable as possible. The City of Minneapolis has launched a mobility hub pilot program to increase access to convenient, low or no carbon transportation options, including transit, shared scooters and Nice Ride bicycles.

The three-month pilot program will inform a long-term plan to implement a larger mobility hub network in Minneapolis. The City of Minneapolis is collaborating with Metro Transit, Hennepin County, mobility service providers and neighborhood organizations on the pilot.

More information can be found on the city the website at:

<http://www.minneapolismn.gov/publicworks/trans/mobilityhubs>

**President's Report**

EIRA is looking for a new administrative assistant. The EIRA board voted to form a search committee. Mackenzie will chair the search with board members, Ellen, Andrew and Emma agreeing to serve on the committee.

Ellen reported that the EIRA officer's insurance has been paid, the registration with the Secretary of State has been filed and that she is working with EIRA's contract bookkeeper to complete the Attorney General's report.

Ellen will work with Board Secretary, Debbie Gold, on updating some of EIRA's outdated policy documents, including those given to new board members and EIRA's grievance policy.

They will reach out to the City for advice on any proposed revisions. Revisions will be presented to the board for discussion and a vote in a Secretary's Report at future BOD meetings.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Treasurer, Andrew Degerstrom, reported net income from the Super Sale was \$989.68. After expenses to EIRA of \$675.82, this year's Super Sale netted \$313.86. The board expressed thanks to the chair of this event, Shelly Itman.

Andrew explained that EIRA's new accountant will prepare a monthly financial report for the EIRA board. As of 9/30/2019, EIRA has a positive balance of \$50,068.41.

It was explained that now that QuickBooks is set up to keep track of both restricted and unrestricted funds for EIRA, a separate bank account for each is no longer necessary.

A motion was made and passed to combine the previous two EIRA checking accounts for restricted and unrestricted accounts into a single account. Two members of the executive committee will meet with Wells Fargo in the coming weeks to execute.

### **Committee Reports**

#### **NRP**

Chair, Mike Erlandson, reported on the following:

#### Levin Triangle Park Shade Structure

EIRA support for an appropriate shade structure includes \$40,000 from park dedication fees as proposed by the Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board (MPRB) and initially \$25,000 from EIRA's NRP funds. The MPRB Request For Qualifications for the structure will be issued on Oct. 21<sup>st</sup>. In addition to MPB staff, EIRA community members Amy Sanborn, Sarah Bronson, Harvey Ettinger and Mike Erlandson will serve on the initial review panel.

EIRA and the NRP Committee both approved resolutions to support the Park Board's allocation of \$40,000 in Park Dedication Fees and for EIRA to allocate up to \$40,000 in NRP Funds from public space improvements toward a shade structure in Levin Triangle Park. The resolutions were passed both by the NRP committee and the EIRA.

#### Public Safety Cameras

EIRA and NRP have been working with the Minneapolis Police Department (MPD) Precinct 5 (P5) to support public safety. EIRA and the NRP Committee had initially been seeking to provide funding for a mobile trailer camera. After working more with P5's Inspector Huffman it was determined permanent cameras placed along Hennepin and Lagoon would provide better public safety coverage than a mobile camera unit. Each camera costs about \$7,000 to place and camera life is about seven years.

EIRA passed a resolution (6-3 with 1 abstention) in support of the allocation of \$40,000 in EIRA NRP funds toward six cameras to be placed in East Isles.

EIRA's resolution of support is subject to posting a plan modification as necessary to reallocate funds from other un-allocated NRP accounts to public safety. Most of the funding will come from program income generated by previous EIRA NRP affordable housing loans. EIRA NRP Committee Chair Mike Erlandson will reach out to neighboring neighborhoods and local businesses and the business association to seek additional funds. NRP Chair Erlandson and EIRA

Treasurer Andrew Degerstrom will work with City NRP staff to properly balance EIRA NRP accounts to accommodate the plan modification necessary to allocate these funds to the neighborhood crime prevention account and fund the cameras.

### Seven Pools

EIRA's NRP Committee received a request for \$500 in funding to support the efforts to replace the Seven Pools in Thomas Lowry Park.

EIRA passed a resolution (9-1) to provide the requested \$500 for the rehabilitation effort.

**Built Environment and Transportation (BET)** Chair, Andrew Degerstrom, reported on the following agenda items from the October 1 meeting: 1) new two-family condo building at 2208 Irving Ave S, and 2) safety improvements of the Midtown Greenway intersections at Humboldt Avenue, Irving Avenue, and James Avenue.

Based on Committee and Chair recommendations, EIRA voted on the following items:\*

New two-family condo building at 2208 Irving Ave S

1. Approval for a variance to increase the maximum height of a two-family dwelling in the SH Shoreland Overlay District from 2.5 stories/28 feet to 3 stories/36 feet. (Motion passed 10-0)
2. Recommend approval for a variance to permit curb cut access to the street for a property with an alley that serves a two-family dwelling. Add language requesting that if the variance were to be approved to reduce the width of the curb cut. (Motion passed 9-1)
3. Approval for a variance to increase the maximum floor area for an attached accessory structure designed or intended to be used for parking of vehicles from 690 square feet to 876 square feet. Add language requesting that if the variance were to be approved to design the accessory structures in a way that they could easily be converted to livable space in the future considering the City's climate and transportation goals of reducing VMT. (Motion passed 9-1)

Safety Improvements of the Midtown Greenway intersections at Humboldt Avenue, Irving Avenue, and James Avenue

4. Write letter of support for the designs as presented to the BET committee with a request that additional design features be considered at the Irving Avenue intersection to further deter drivers coming south out of the alley from making an illegal left turn onto Irving. (Motion passed 10-0)

\*Specific measurements stated in motions, such as height and square footage, are based on information presented to the committee by the applicant, and are subject to change based on final determination by City staff. Approval of any of these motions includes the ability to correct any measurements as necessary.

## **East Isles Farmers Market**

Debbie Gold, Director, presented highlights from the 2019 market season. She will be meeting with the MPRB next week to present a de-brief of the season and to discuss next steps for the market, at the completion of its two-year pilot. Gold notified the BOD that she has decided to resign as Market Director, effective at the end of this year. In her statement she said she hopes EIRA will find a way to continue the momentum of the East Isles Farmers Market.

**12 markets** were held out of 14 dates.

**22 vendors (+50%) were minority business owners.**

The markets featured **42 rotating local food vendors**/small business owners with an average of 15 vendors attending each market.

**A total of 178 vendors** attended all markets, including food trucks.

**12 rotating food trucks**, all Minnesota owned.

**\$17,078 Net Profit to EIRA after expenses.**

**Total Attendance = 8,550+** East Isles friends and neighbors

**90%+ attendees arrived by bike or on foot.**

Average attendance per market = 713

**10 Neighborhood business sponsors**

**An increase of +3,156 attendees for 2019** from previous year

7 Special Events hosted

**11 Community Organizations + Educators** Represented

President, Ellen van Iwaarden recommended a discussion of the future of the East Isles Farmers Market at next month's board meeting.

## **Outreach and Nominations**

Chair, Emma Erdahl, held a meeting of the committee in early October. The Committee will begin advertising that EIRA has an open alternate position. She is considering the possibility of using Google voice to accept inquiries as well as posting more information about the opening and committees and opportunities in a newsletter.

There were no items in Open Forum.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

The next EIRA meeting will be at 7 pm on Tuesday, November 12, 2019 @ Grace Trinity Community Church, 1430 W 28th St. The EIRA invites and encourages participation by all residents to every program, service and event organized by EIRA. Should you require an accommodation to fully participate, or if you require this document in a different format, please let us know by contacting us at [info@eastisles.org](mailto:info@eastisles.org) at least five (5) days before an EIRA sponsored event.

Submitted by: Debbie Gold, Secretary, EIRA Board of Directors

