

EINA Board of Directors Annual Meeting
Tuesday, April 11, 2023, 6:30 PM
Grace-Trinity Community Church and via Zoom
1430 W 28th Street
MINUTES

Board members present: Julia Edelman, Quinton Courts (Secretary), Shanti Mittra (Vice President), Mike Erlandson (President), Mark Greene, Brian Milavitz (Treasurer), Henry LaBounta, Cuyler Dinegan (Coordinator), Deb Altschuler

Board members absent: Sandy Nelson

Guests present: Lisa Goodman (City Councilmember), Jennifer Weisanen (Crime Prevention Specialist), Inspector Blackwell (MPD)

1. Call to order at 7:01 PM.
2. Lisa Goodman (City Council) remarks
 - a. Yard waste pickup starts next week.
 - b. Asphalt plant is up and operating. Call 311 if you see potholes.
 - c. Sign up for Lisa's email list.
 - d. City signed an agreement with a bike share vendor.
 - e. The new Uptown Theater should not pose significant issues for parking.
3. Jacob Frey (Mayor) remarks
 - a. Change in government structure:
 - i. Establishment of the Office of Community Safety.
 1. Numbers are improving with crime (overall).
 2. Minneapolis will not raise taxes to cover the potholes (like St. Paul) because the city planned on this 7 years ago.
 3. City is providing at least 6 times more deeply affordable housing than we used to.
 4. Downtown won't be back up to 100% capacity. Global pandemic sped up remote/work-from-home culture shift. We may see 60-65%.
 - a. Some buildings may turn into co-op workspaces or residences.
 - b. Uptown is coming back a lot longer than North Loop, but it is on the verge.
4. Meg Forney (Park Board) remarks
 - a. Park Board lacks funding for needs not covered by the storm water fees. MPRB will vote on adding a unit line of \$2 for protecting our lakes, river, and waterways.
 - i. Our walkways and paths need significant improvement.
 - b. MPRB has celebrated 140 years.

5. Elizabeth Shaffer (Park Board) remarks:
 - a. Project Updates
 - i. There will be a public hearing on the Cedar Isles Master Plan. Amendments will be voted on separately and the plan will be voted on as a whole.
 - ii. Mall Park renovation will now have Met. Council updates in 2024 (not 2023)
 - iii. Bde Mks Ska pavilion will see pedestrian and bike paths merge next week and hopefully a mid-July opening.
 - iv. MPRB will have a meeting about Henry LaBounta's initiative with pipe flow cleaning into Lake of the Isles.
 - v. Minneapolis Tree Commission will expand the number of representatives.
 - vi. Pending legalization of marijuana will most likely be a topic MPRB will have to address (in conjunction with stances on alcohol and tobacco).
6. Laura Hoffman-Boyer (Aide to Marion Greene, Hennepin County Commissioner)
 - a. Board is more unified than in past years. Mrs. Greene has been spending more time at the state legislature advocating on behalf of Hennepin County.
 - b. Big focus right now is permanent investments in transit and transportation. Currently, Hennepin County and our region are behind on this.
 - c. County has been investing in housing initiatives such as single-room occupancy. County has purchased closed hotels and has turned them into transitional housing.
 - d. Increasing funding in shelters and foreclosure assistance.
7. Public Safety Update with Inspector Katie Blackwell (MPD) and Jennifer Waisanen (Crime Prevention Specialist)
 - a. 890 officers in 2020. 514 currently.
 - i. There seems to be a recent increase in lateral transfers to MPD and they have been doing more police academies than in the past few years.
 - b. Violent crime and robberies are down 46% and carjackings down 61% than in 2022.
 - c. Uptick in auto thefts — over half are 53% are Hyundais and Kias. Please consider purchasing a club for those vehicles.
 - d. Behavioral Crisis responders have been a huge help. We will soon see a dedicated social worker in each precinct to help follow-up after crime events.
 - e. Jennifer aids with organizing block clubs and commends East Isles with organizing our Safety Walking Club.
 - f. When you see something that happens that looks suspicious, call 911, not 311.
8. President's Report with Mike Erlandson
 - a. EINA will be adding 6 more cameras in and around East Isles to assist law enforcement with solving crimes that occur in the neighborhood.
 - b. Cuyler Dinegan and Amy Sandborn have joined staff as Coordinator and Bookkeeper.
 - c. EINA honors Steve Havig for our Neighbor of the Year for 2023.
9. Brian Milavitz (Treasurer) remarks

- a. 2022 was extraordinary for funding. While the City is cutting future funding, there was a one time boost in city funding due to the rollover of unspent funds from previous years.
 - b. For 2023, we received a little over \$20,000 from the City, significantly less than 2022. We have \$60,000 left in the bank and \$120,000 in NRP funds.
10. Committee Reports:
- a. Mark Green (Built Environment and Transportation Committee) remarks:
 - i. Work with preventing pollution in Lake of the Isles via comments in the Cedar Isles Plan.
 - 1. Finding for a community awareness grant through Mississippi water management.
 - 2. Researching and advocating for changes to salt use in winter months and exploring liability exemptions for choosing not to use salt.
 - ii. Hennepin Avenue redesign:
 - 1. Opportunities to change some of the plan that is in place.
 - 2. Working with Uptown Association to think about parking
 - iii. Researching EV charging installations.
 - b. Shanti Mittra (Community Safety Committee) remarks:
 - i. Paula Chesley worked with Aileen Johnson to start a Safety Walking Club twice a month. Please come join the walks and get to know your community.
 - ii. We are expanding our current list of block captains and we need volunteers to build community on your block and connect people with information.
 - c. Ellen Van Iwaarden (Green Team) remarks:
 - i. Adding a regularly scheduled monthly lake cleanup every second Saturday of each month.
 - ii. April 22 (Saturday) is Earth Day cleanup at the bottom of the stairs at the end of 28th Street.
 - iii. Super Sale in the fall will add East Bde Mka Ska.
 - iv. Committee meets normally around planning.
 - d. Julia Edelman (Outreach and Engagement Committee) remarks:
 - i. We got approval for half-page ads in the Hill and Lake Press.
 - ii. Onboarded Cuyler Dinegan who works on messaging and visual displays in ad space and website communications.
 - iii. Ice Cream Social is now the Summer Social and will be moved into June.
 - iv. Old neighborhood event Palio was (almost) brought back with Lowry Hill and Kenwood but the weather just did not cooperate. We look forward to another opportunity to host this again.
 - e. Mike Erlandson (NRP) remarks:
 - i. We used funds to support purchasing cameras for public safety.
11. Board nominations:

- a. We have 7 openings and 7 nominees, Julia Edelman was nominated by Mike Erlandson.
 - b. Motion to accept the nominations of the 7 individuals for 7 spots. Motion approved unanimously.
 - c. Nominees took 2 minutes to introduce themselves.
12. Katie Cashman, City Council candidate for Ward 7, introduced herself.

Meeting adjourned at 8:35PM.