

Date: December 5, 2023

Location: Kenwood Community Center

Time Meeting Called to Order after Quorum: 7:05PM by President Thomas Regnier.

Board Members Present: Thomas Regnier (President); Sue Westerman (Treasurer); William Goodnow (Secretary); David Bjork; Jackie Brown-Baylor; Fran Davis; Wil Stancil; Sarah Grundhoefer; Jennifer Breitinger; Chas Scheiderer; Anne Nelson.

Other Attendees: Barb Davis, Patty Schmitz [CIDNA Treasurer; <patty.schmitz@cidna.org>; (612) 203-8586].

Minneapolis City Council Update

Ward 7 Council Member Lisa Goodman was not present as she was attending the NRP budget hearing. Lisa sent her well wishes due to her pending retirement. Her retirement party "Last Call With Lisa" will be held at The Armory on December 14 from 4pm to 7pm.

Minneapolis Police Department Update

A representative of the Minneapolis Police Department was not in attendance.

Crime & Safety Update

Treasurer Sue Westerman provided an update. In November, we had 23 crime incidents which is high. We had 5 robberies after 11 months with almost zero violent crimes. We had a robbery on November 28th when a victim was unloading a vehicle. There were four burglaries which is up from 1 or 2 a month. Of the cameras awaiting install, three are up and the fourth at Lincoln and Colfax is delayed because Xcel will not allow us to use their utility poles for the cameras for safety reasons. We are working on an alternate location. Walking club will meet on 12/16 and 1/20 and we need a volunteer to lead it. On 1/20 Chas will lead and buy coffee for anyone who attends. Next walking club is Saturday morning 12/16 10am-11:30am, and the following walk will be on January 20th 10am-11:30am.

The Neighborhood Safety Meeting will be held on January 26th from 6pm-8pm. Objective is to have officials come to talk with the community about what they are doing to improve safety. Chief O'Hara is going to attend, perhaps the Mayor. Katie Cashman will be there.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Sue Westerman provided an update. We have a \$24,000 surplus that will roll into 2024 without consequence. It cannot be used for food and beverages. We budgeted \$5000 for donations in 2023 and we ended up with \$3781. This year we plan to send out a giving email. Thomas is planning to write a Letter from the President

requesting donations. We will request donations before year end and a mailer prior to the annual meeting.

Events Update

Events Chair Jackie Brown-Baylor provided an update. The Skate Party will be held on 1/28 from 1-3pm. The Fishing Event will be held on August 17th starting at 1pm. There was a request to settle on a date for the annual meeting (per review of June 20, 2023 minutes we previously discussed a date on or around Tuesday June 4, 2024).

The Uptown Farmer's Market will be held on The Mall in the summer of 2024. The committee organizing the market asked us to make the following motion:

Motion to Support the Uptown Farmer's Market: Be it resolved that the Lowry Hill Neighborhood Association endorses the concept of a joint neighborhood collaborative and community partner Farmers Market in the Uptown area of Minneapolis. The association will engage with the newly formed Farmers Market steering committee to develop a plan to make the market a self-sustaining entity via community volunteer time, stakeholder sponsorships, and related. The association will actively engage board members and community members for the purposes of seeing the Farmers Market, previously run by East Isles Neighborhood Association, return in the summer of 2024. Board members may engage with the support of the association for the purposes of activities including but not limited to fundraising, grant writing, volunteer recruitment, stakeholder engagement, and strategic planning/counsel. Motioned by Jennifer Breitinger and seconded by Chas Scheiderer. In discussion, Jennifer indicated this motion does not mean that she wishes to personally take the lead on organizing the farmer's market. We also established that any financial support for the farmer's market be discussed at a future meeting and is subject to a separate vote. Motion passed unanimously.

Communications Update

Communications Chair Sarah Grundhoefer provided an update. No updates at the moment apart from what was discussed under events and the hiring of a board admin. Things are going well with communications generally and our social media presence is growing.

Zoning

Zoning Chair Fran Davis provided an update. There is no zoning business pending.

Donation Committee Update

Donations Committee Chair Nate Morris was not in attendance.

Governance

Approval of the November 2023 Minutes: the November 2023 minutes were not completed so approval was deferred to an email vote following the December meeting.

Facade Improvement Grant Program & Business District Grant Program: Will Stancil submitted an application and we were granted \$23,000 as part of the Facade Improvement Grant Program. We will need to contact businesses in the area for applications. Will is also make a submission for the Business District Improvement Grant program. Our submission requested ~\$25,000 to revitalize the Franklyn/Hennepin intersection. The proposal involves hiring a consultant to assess the area for viability of operating a business in that area. The Business district Grant program will provide matching of funds (business spends \$600 we spend \$1200). The Business District Grant Program application is a bit of an experiment as Lowry Hill has never applied for these grants before.

Discussion of Hiring a Paid Administrator: Fran and Sarah are meeting with Cuyler this coming Saturday. The main questions will surround how he is compensated, how many hours he has available, a list of things we are looking for (e.g. renter and neighbor engagement, placement of sandwich boards for events, grant management, annual mailings), and generally parse out what his role is elsewhere and determine how he can fit in. We are comfortable spending \$500/month or more depending on the workload (\$30/hour, 15 hours/month). We will need a contract.

Vice-President Needed: the board remains in need of a Vice-President.

CIDNA Treasurer Patty Schmitz: Patty Schmitz, the CIDNA treasurer, visited from CIDNA to invite us to an inter-neighborhood event. The event is a Neighborhood Trivia Night on Thursday January 25th at Taberna. CIDNA's flagship event is their fall festival. They had about 250 people there this year. Chas mentioned that the City prioritizes interaction between the neighborhood associations and this sometimes makes it easier to get funding. CIDNA is open to interaction with LHNA.

January meeting to be held on Zoom: we discussed the format of the upcoming January 2, 2024 meeting and resolved to hold it via Zoom due to the proximity to New Year's Eve and weather.

PERIS Hill Update

Carla Godwin was not in attendance however we discussed PERIS Hill at length. Carla sent out an update via email. They had a Thanksgiving meal for their residents and apparently multiple residents commented that they would not have had anywhere to go for Thanksgiving without the event. The PERIS units are almost fully occupied. The open house at PERIS was impressive to those who attended.

Motion to contribute approximately \$15,000 of our remaining NRP funds to PERIS Hill in support of affordable housing in Lowry Hill: Jennifer Breitinger brought the motion and David Bjork seconded. In discussion, Jennifer pointed out that our remaining NRP funds may be revoked in short time with the incoming City Council administration. The original NRP grant was \$70,000 of which \$42,000 remains after the camera and track team equipment purchases. Some board members floated the idea of providing smaller

amounts to PERIS over several years but Chas recommended that we allocate a larger amount due to the way the city approves the use of this grant money and because the funding may be pulled eventually. David suggested considering a number higher than \$15,000 and potentially giving all \$42,000 to PERIS due to the valuable community service PERIS provides in Lowry Hill. The NRP grant money can be used for investments in capital equipment but it cannot be used for operations. The rationale behind the grant will likely be along the lines of supporting affordable housing in our neighborhood. We voted on the motion and it was approved by unanimous vote. The plan is to form a small committee to meet with Carla Goodwin.

Definitions

LHNA: Lowry Hill Neighborhood Association

MPD: Minneapolis Police Department

HLP: Hill & Lake Press

NNF: Neighborhood Network Fund

EEF: Equitable Engagement Fund

As there was no further business,

Meeting adjourned by President Thomas Regnier at 9:00 PM by motion carried.

The next LHNA Board Meeting will be held on Zoom on January 2, 2023 at 7PM.

Minutes by William Goodnow

Secretary, LHNA Board