

ECCO Board Meeting Minutes for Thursday, February 4, 2021 via video conferencing.

Minutes recorded and submitted by Monica Smith.

Board members present: President Lee Todd, Vice President Deb Jessen, Secretary David Tompkins, Treasurer Judy Shields, Sarah Buchlaw, Anja Curiskis, Paul Lussenhop, Louis Schulz-Welo, Joe Wehri, Eric Wulfsberg.

Board members absent: Jane Connelly, Amy Rutherford, Jenny/Jonas Walter.

ECCO resident guests: ECCO Board Alternate Ryan Brown, Susie Goldstein, Jay Joyner, Bobbie Keller, Rhoda Reighard, Bill Regan, John Stanek.

President Lee Todd called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Announcements:

- ECCO has free radon test kits for residents. Contact info@ecconeighborhood.org to request a kit.
- Tentative date for the Wine Tasting Fundraiser is Thursday, October 21, 2021.

Coordinator's Report, Monica Smith

- Neighborhoods 2020: Neighborhood and Community Relations (NCR) is working on drafting the new program. Applications are expected to be available in mid-April with the program beginning July 1. NCR will require that neighborhood organizations implement several policies to qualify for funding.
- Minneapolis will coordinate Neighborhood Day to promote the importance of neighborhoods and encourage participation in voting and running in neighborhood organization board elections. A pilot program is expected in 2021 with full implementation in 2022.
- The board unanimously approved the proposed 2021 ECCO budget.

The ECCO Board electronically approved the following since the last board meeting on January 6, 2021:

- Language for an email to our distribution list regarding the new Naming Committee, the Town Hall meeting and online comment form regarding the neighborhood name.

Committee Reports

Public Safety, Paul Lussenhop

The ECCO Board unanimously approved the committee's plan and proposed language for an email to our distribution list encouraging residents to increase communication within each block. Paul Lussenhop will keep a list of active communication chains to help connect residents to others on their block.

The committee is exploring options for creating a walking group.

Rhoda Reighard has connected with the Uptown Association, Uptown Special Service District and 16 businesses in the neighborhood to discuss crime and safety in the Uptown business district.

The next meeting is Wednesday, February 10, 6:00 p.m. via Zoom.

Naming Committee, Sarah Buchlaw and David Tompkins

The committee met two times in January. Sarah Buchlaw and David Tompkins were elected co-chairs.

The committee held a virtual Town Hall about the neighborhood name on January 28 with nearly 50 people attending. The meeting was guided by three questions:

- How do you feel about the neighborhood's current name, "ECCO"?
- What values should our neighborhood name represent?
- The 2019 name change process identified ten alternate potential neighborhood names, and those that got the most votes were, in order: East Bde Maka Ska, Uptown Lakeside, and East Lakeside. How do you feel about these names?

An online comment form was also available for people to respond to the same three questions.

The majority of attendees and respondents spoke against the name ECCO.

The ECCO Board unanimously approved the committee's Engagement Plan that outlines the process to reengage residents regarding the neighborhood name. The plan includes two mailers (the second of which will include a ballot), an electronic voting option and an informational webpage. The Engagement Plan will be sent to NCR for their approval.

The next committee meeting is Monday, February 22, 7:00 p.m. via Zoom.

Livability Committee, Lee Todd

The January meeting included a presentation by the Park Board regarding the rebuilding of the refectory at Bde Maka Ska. Planning is taking place in 2021 with construction expected in 2022 and opening of the building in 2023. For more information, go to minneapolisparcs.org/park_care_improvements/park_projects/current_projects/bde-maka-ska-refectory-rebuild.

The Park Board will likely tap ECCO's Park Dedication Fees to help fund the project.

We expect that Park Board to come back to us with more information in March/April.

Sooki and Mimi, a new restaurant in the former Lucia's location, is now open.

NRP Committee, Judy Shields

The committee invites all to a meeting to brainstorm spending down ECCO's NRP funds.

The meeting is Tuesday, February 16, 5:00 p.m. via Zoom.

Culture, Diversity and Inclusion Committee, Joe Wehri

Let's Get Uncomfortable is scheduled for Thursday, March 11, 7:00 p.m. via Zoom (register at ecconeighborhood.org/events). The event is a facilitated group experience to discuss racism and anti-racism, and to practice what we can do to develop ally-ship skills (facilitated by Danger Boat Productions).

Fifty copies of the book, *A Good Time for the Truth: Race in Minnesota* by Sun Yung Shin, have been purchased and will be placed in Little Free Libraries around the neighborhood. An author facilitated discussion will be planned.

The committee is proposing an email to go out to Lake Street neighborhoods offering support. The draft language will be sent to the board for electronic approval.

The next committee meeting is Tuesday, February 9, 7:00 p.m. via Zoom.

Green Team

No report.

Social & Communications

No report. A committee chair is needed.

Parliamentarian

Judy Shields volunteered to serve as the Parliamentarian for the ECCO Board.

2021 Municipal Elections

NCR has published rules that govern city-funded neighborhood boards and board member activities around elections and Get Out the vote efforts. Details at 2.minneapolis.gov/www/groups/public/@ncr/documents/webcontent/wcms1p-128284.pdf.

Anja Curiskis and Ryan Brown will work on a neighborhood event for City Council Ward 10 candidates.

Evolving Neighborhood Communications

The board will discuss ways to engage with residents in a virtual way when the pandemic ends, and we begin meeting in person again.

The meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

The next meeting is Thursday, March 4, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom.