

ECCO Board Meeting Minutes for Thursday, March 5, 2020 at St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church

Minutes recorded and submitted by Monica Smith.

Board members present: President Dane Stimart, Vice President Nick Muellerleile, Secretary Bobbie Keller, Jane Connelly, Deb Jessen, Marya Morstad, Mary Sabatke, David Tompkins, Jonas Walter and Joe Wehri.

Board members absent: Treasurer Judy Shields, Ralph Knox and Lee Todd.

Guests: Lisa Bender, City Council President/Ward 10 City Council Member and Arlene Fried, Bryn Mawr resident.

Dane Stimart called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

**Announcement**

The City of Minneapolis has announced the 2020 Learning Labs. For more information, go to [minneapolismn.gov/ncr/learninglabs](http://minneapolismn.gov/ncr/learninglabs).

**Lisa Bender, City Council President and Ward 10 City Council Member**

Neighborhoods 2020

The City recently published the draft funding guidelines for Neighborhoods 2020. The public comment period is open through April 17, 2020.

The guidelines were developed from the City Council-approved Neighborhoods 2020 Framework and outline four funding strategies for \$4 million in annual funding (for a three-year period, 2021 to 2023).

1. Citywide Neighborhood Network Fund
2. Equitable Engagement Fund
3. Partnership Engagement Fund
4. Collaboration and Shared Resources Fund

There are two public comment meetings scheduled:

- Monday, March 9, 6:00-8:00 p.m. at UROC, 2001 Plymouth Ave N
- Thursday, April 2, 6:00-8:00 p.m. at Northeast Park and Recreation Center, 1530 Johnson St NE

Council President Bender made the following comments:

- There will be an opportunity to revisit the funding levels after the three-year period to evaluate how the city enterprise is doing as a whole.
- The City is currently studying how it does community engagement across the enterprise. There are inconsistencies in how departments communicate and engage.
- Some neighborhood organizations may combine since the funding will be cut. (Insert note: ECCO's base funding will be cut from the current \$25,900 per year to \$20,000 in

2021, \$15,000 in 2022 and \$10,000 in 2023. There is the possibility of applying for additional funds through the Equitable Engagement Fund, Partnership Engagement Fund and Collaboration and Shared Resources Fund).

- Policy makers need to define the role of neighborhood organizations as it relates to engaging in city decisions.

#### Minneapolis Public Schools Comprehensive District Design (CDD)

President Bender reported that the MPS is accepting feedback on the proposed CDD and that 100% of Ward 10 students would be assigned to a different high school than their current assignments under the proposed CDD.

#### Crime

The Ward 10 office meets regularly with Inspector Huffman, 5<sup>th</sup> Precinct. Auto thefts have increased, and the majority involve cars that are left running. A small group of young people are committing repeat crimes. The City is moving away from incarceration and working on strategies to intervene with the youth to change the behavior. Issues at bar closing time continue to be an issue for Uptown.

#### **Coordinator's Report, Monica Smith**

- The following board members volunteered to help draft ECCO's response to the Neighborhoods 2020 draft guidelines: Deb Jessen, Mary Sabatke, Judy Shields and Joe Wehri.
- Community Participation Program (CPP) annual report: The ECCO Board reviewed a draft of the annual report, made some revisions and approved the report for submission.
- Southwest Minneapolis Parks: The master plans for the Southwest area neighborhood parks were published and the public comment period ends on April 5. The only ECCO park included in the master plan is the Loon Lake Trolley Path. For more information and to comment, go to [minneapolisparcs.org/sw](http://minneapolisparcs.org/sw).

#### **Committee Reports**

##### **Livability Committee, David Tompkins**

The January Livability Committee meeting included a presentation about an Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) being proposed for 1445 W 35<sup>th</sup> St. The ADU would be built over a new garage. To accommodate the required set-backs from the property line, the homeowner is seeking a variance for the required distance of the garage/ADU to the house to be reduced from 20 feet to just over nine (9) feet. The ECCO Board approved the Livability Committee's recommendation to send a letter of support for the request. A public hearing will be held on Thursday, March 19, 4:30 p.m. at City Hall, 350 S 5<sup>th</sup> St, Room 317.

The February Livability Committee meeting featured Minneapolis School Board Director Bob Walser, District 4, to listen to ECCO residents' questions and concerns regarding the CDD. Director Walser recommended reaching out to diverse neighborhoods to partner on shared concerns about the plan.

The next meeting will be Monday, March 16, 7:00 p.m. at St. Mary's and will include a guest speaker to discuss Vision Zero, the City's plan to eliminate traffic deaths.

### **ECCO Name Change Implementation, Dane Stimart**

The board approved a motion to accept the ECCO Name Change Implementation Committee's recommendation to adopt the new neighborhood name of ECCO based on the recent community engagement process. A letter and report of the process will be sent to the City to ask for formal recognition of the name ECCO.

There is also the issue of the legal name of the neighborhood board (currently East Calhoun Community Organization). The ECCO Board did not approve a motion to change the legal name to ECCO Community Organization. The board asked the committee to consider other name options to bring to a future board meeting.

### **Social & Communication Committee**

The Social and Communications committees will be combined into one committee: Social & Communications Committee.

The next ECCO Happy Hour is Monday, March 9, 5:00-6:30 p.m. at Lake & Irving Restaurant, 1513 W Lake St.

### **Green Team, Dane Stimart**

The Green Team met on February 18. A detailed report will be presented next month.

### **Renter Committee**

The Renter Committee will be expanded and renamed the Culture, Diversity and Inclusion Committee.

### **NRP**

No report.

### **President's Report, Dane Stimart**

The next board meeting is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, April 2. Dane Stimart will check with board members to ensure that there is a quorum or if the meeting will need to be rescheduled.

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, April 2, 2020, 7:00 p.m. at St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church.