

## **ECCO Board Meeting Minutes for Thursday, September 3, 2020 via video conferencing.**

Minutes recorded and submitted by Monica Smith.

Board members present: Vice President Nick Muellerleile, Treasurer Judy Shields, Secretary Bobbie Keller, Jane Connelly, Deb Jessen, Ralph Knox, Marya Morstad, Mary Sabatke, Lee Todd, David Tompkins, Jonas Walter, Joe Wehri.

Board member absent: President Dane Stimart.

ECCO resident guests: Bruce Brunner, Lara Norkus-Crampton.

Vice President Nick Muellerleile called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

### **Announcements:**

- The City is beginning the planning process for the Hennepin South Reconstruction project, which will reconstruct Hennepin Ave between Douglas Ave and Lake St. Two virtual Open House meetings will be held: Tuesday, September 22, 4:30-5:30 p.m. and Wednesday, September 30, 6:30-7:30 p.m. Links to join the virtual meetings and the meeting materials will be posted on the project webpage prior to the meeting: [2.minneapolismn.gov/cip/futureprojects/HennepinSouth](https://2.minneapolismn.gov/cip/futureprojects/HennepinSouth).
- Census 2020: The Census needs to be complete by September 30. Complete your forms now.
- National Night Out is Tuesday, September 15.
- Important election date: September 18 is the day that in-person early voting for the general election begins and that absentee ballots will be sent out for those who have previously requested one.
- Park Board news:
  - All three beaches at Bde Maka Ska are closed due to high bacteria levels.

### **Dane Stimart, ECCO Board President, electronically approved the following since the last board meeting:**

- Upgrade our Zoom account to allow for more than 100 people to attend the virtual Ward 10 Community Gathering that ECCO hosted on August 25 (\$50).

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

- Neighborhoods 2020 draft guidelines: ECCO's sub-committee will review a joint letter drafted by several Minneapolis neighborhoods and forward it to the ECCO Board for electronic approval if appropriate.
- ECCO and South Uptown will plan a virtual Personal Safety Workshop in the next month (the expense is in the 2020 budget).

### **Code of Conduct**

The board reviewed a draft of a Code of Conduct policy. The board requested more time to consider the policy and tabled the proposal.

## **Annual Meeting Planning**

The ECCO Annual Meeting will be held virtually on Thursday, October 1. There are seven open seats (including three current board members who are eligible for election to a second term). A board member nomination form is available at [ecconeighborhood.org/about](http://ecconeighborhood.org/about).

If there are more candidates than open seats, the ECCO Board approved the following motion: In the event of a contested election, ECCO will email a voter guide to our distribution list and conduct online voting for a defined period of time.

The board reviewed a draft of a postcard invitation to be mailed to ECCO residents.

## **Committee Reports**

### **Public Safety**

No report.

### **Livability Committee, Lee Todd**

The committee did not meet in August.

The next meeting is Monday, September 21, 7:00 p.m. via Zoom. The agenda will include plans from the Zen Center, 3343 East Bde Maka Ska Parkway, to renovate their facility. The project will require variances for parking and improvements in the Shoreland Overlay District.

### **ECCO Name Change Implementation, Bobbie Keller**

The committee met on August 31 to review logo options from three volunteer designers. The committee narrowed the designs down to three logos for the board to consider. The board approved a motion to select two logos that will be sent out to the neighborhood for voting.

Logo voting timeline:

- The voting period will be September 14-27 and both online and an in-person option will be available.
- An e-blast will be sent out September 14 to open the voting period.
- A flyer will be delivered by September 24.
- In-person voting is available on Saturday, September 26, 1:00-7:00 p.m. at St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church, 3450 Irving Ave S. A table will be set up outdoors in the north parking lot. Residents will be asked to wear masks and socially distance while voting.

The committee will meet virtually on Monday, September 28, 7:00 p.m. to review the votes with the goal of revealing the final logo at the Annual Meeting.

### **Social & Communication Committee, Marya Morstad**

Social events have been difficult because of COVID-19. There will not be a Happy Hour this month.

**Green Team, Jane Connelly**

The Green Team is working on Litter Be Gone, buckthorn removal, adopt-a-tree, adopt-a-drain and planning for Earth Day 2021.

The next meeting is Tuesday, September 8, 8:00 p.m.

**Culture, Diversity and Inclusion Committee, Joe Wehri**

The committee held a forum on Race in America on July 21.

Committee members previewed an event called “Let’s Get Uncomfortable,” which offers a space to talk about race and being anti-racist. The board is interested in hosting an event at an upcoming board meeting (possibly the November meeting).

The committee conducted a survey of ECCO residents in August to help the committee direct its work. The majority of respondents are interested in neighborhood engagement opportunities such as lectures, presentations and films.

**NRP Committee, Judy Shields**

See above for information on Neighborhoods 2020.

**Contract Renewal for ECCO Coordinator**

The ECCO Board approved a motion to renew Monica Smith’s contract for one year at the same terms with a provision to review the hourly pay rate in December when our 2021 funding from the City is known.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

The next meeting is the ECCO Annual Meeting on Thursday, October 1, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom.