

LINDEN HILLS NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Minutes of the regular meeting, May 1, 2007

Present: Ben Kolkman, David Jones, Deb Pierce, Debbie Evans, Jennifer Yates Borger, John Reinan, Jon Skibbe, Kathy Urberg, Larry LaVercombe, Linea Palmisano, Mike Lucas, Tom Bicanich

Absent: Bill Idzorek, Randy Smith, Janeen Rosas,

Also attending: Marc Holtey, Rae Ann Vandeputte, Betsy Hodges, David Laverny-Rafter, Tom Braun, Felicity Britton, LaTisha Birkeland and Jennifer Hattervig

Meeting called to order by co-chair Palmisano.

Approval of agenda and April 2007 minutes. Approved unanimously.

City Council report. Hodges reported that work is ongoing regarding the infill housing proposed zoning code changes. The Planning Commission will discuss the changes at their meeting on May 7, 4:30pm. There are some issues with pollution of Lake Calhoun which will be discussed at a community meeting on May 10.

Creating Sustainable Community (CSC) Committee Public Meeting Report. Pierce stated public meetings were held in March and April, facilitated by MSU students, to discuss LHiNC's new Global Warming Statement and generate ideas on moving the statement forward. Birkeland and Hattervig, MSU students, informed the group that five (5) main ideas were generated from the meetings to bring the statement to life: 1) education, 2) increased use of compact fluorescent lighting, 3) promote alternate transportation options, 4) encourage home and community center energy audits and 5) promote green building programs. The next step of the CSC Committee will be to review the final report and discuss next steps.

Linden Hills Power & Light. Braun updated the group; they have been busy educating the public and have applied for a grant with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MN PCA) to support the cost of an anaerobic digester. There is also a bi-partisan legislative bill authored by Hornstein and Earhardt that would give funding to the project.

NRP Current Strategies. Vandeputte updated the group on NRP's Phase II projects and status of each strategy. See attached. She stressed it was important for board members to talk with each appropriate Committee Chair if there are concerns with implementation of a strategy before the Scope of Service is presented to the board.

Update on NRP Funding. Palmisano and Yates-Borger met with Bob Miller, Director of NRP to discuss the letter he sent out regarding a possible decrease in NRP funding from 70% of the Phase II to possibly 40-50% of the plan. The decision point will be January of 2008. NRP is working to address the issue by looking for other public funding options and talking to Council members regarding the situation. Miller suggested LHiNC review the current Phase II priorities and consider cutting back on costs but pointed out it is important to keep LHiNC's commitment to neighbors by continuing to work with the

funds that exist. Yates-Borger and Palmisano will schedule a meeting with Committee Chairs to discuss a plan for presentation to the board. A *motion* was made by Evans, seconded by Urberg, “*Put a hold on the \$75,000 Scope of Service that was approved previously for the Affordable Housing Trust Fund (AHTF) until we meet as a board and review the Phase II plan and ramifications the strategy would have on LHiNC.*” The motion approved unanimously.

Festival. Yates-Borger updated the group on progress along with arrival dates for each member.

E&E Motion. A *motion* was made by Urberg, “*I move that the Environment Committee be approved to spend up to \$3,000 of Hendry Foundation Match funds on rebates to Linden Hills residents to assist them in treating their boulevard elms and removing buckthorn.*” The motion was approved unanimously.

New Business. Palmisano informed the group that Mike Lucas and Bill Idzorek would be resigning from the board, effective immediately.

Adjournment.

Submitted by LHiNC Coordinator Rae Ann Vandeputte, May 13, 2007.

Board secretary

Date

Board co-chair

Date