

LINDEN HILLS NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Minutes of the regular meeting, January 8, 2008

Present: Debbie Evans, Jim Fisher, Juan Carlos Ruisenor, Kathy Urberg, Keiko Veasey, David Jones Kelly Keegan, Lesley Lydell, Linea Palmisano, Sam Will and Tom Bicanich

Absent: Ben Kolkman, Casey Collins, Nancy Faralysz,

Also attending: Scott Engel, Betsy Hodges, Nelson Evenrud, Matt Perry

Meeting called to order by Chair Palmisano. She also introduced the new LHINC Coordinator, Scott Engel.

Approval of agenda and minutes. Motion, Seconded: To approve the agenda and the November and December 07 minutes. Approved unanimously.

Framework for the Future- NRP: Chair Palmisano presented a summary of the “Framework for the Future” document presented to the City Council on 12-20-07 by the “NRP Working Group”. The City seeks input over the first quarter of 2008, and LHINC will participate. Main themes of the “Framework” include:

- Support for neighborhood organization’s administrative needs
- Strengthen the relationship with the City
- Establish neighborhood Investment Fund
- Build combined funding sources
- Update to NRP’s structure

City Council Member Betsy Hodges report. Hodges, who is on the NRP Working Group; reiterated that the City is seeking input about the Framework for the Future document.

Hodges is leading up a Get Fit Twin Cities team at City Hall, and encouraged everyone to visit: getfittwincities.org to learn about leading a more active lifestyle.

Park director’s report/ Kite Fest Update. Nelson Evenrud reported that planning for Winter Fest and the Kite Festival is well underway. Palmisano notified the group that LHINC budgeted \$150 for the Kite Fest (Jan 12) and \$400 for Winter Fest (Jan 25). Kite Fest has the potential to be a great collaborative, community-building event.

Evenrud noted that Get Fit Twin Cities grants are available. Minneapolis Parks has completed their Comprehensive Plan, and Evenrud encouraged everyone to take a look at it.

Coordinator’s report. Scott Engel reported that he would have office hours on Wednesdays from 9am-1pm and Fridays 9am-5pm. He can be reached at the LHINC phone or scott@linden hills.org.

The Zoning Committee voted unanimously not to oppose the height restriction variance request at 4248 Linden Hills Blvd.

Get committee meeting schedule info to Scott so the LHINC calendar can be updated.

Communications Committee report. Kelly Keegan reported that the group is focusing on coordinating the web site, printed newsletter, and e-newsletter. The next meeting is Friday, January 11.

Motion, Seconded to provide funds to purchase DreamWeaver software for web site maintenance. Approved unanimously.

Keegan requested that Committee Chairs provide text about their activities for the revitalized website. The committee hopes to launch it around April 1.

Budget & Finance Committee. Lesley Lydell reported that she will consult with each committee to facilitate the budgeting project. The LHINC grant deadlines were extended to March 15 and August 15 to give applicants more time to apply. Kathy Urberg reported that LHINC raised \$12,200 by December 15, 2007, which is matched by the Hendry Foundation. More funds have been received after the deadline.

Block Clubs. Casey Collins was unable to attend the meeting, but sought input about how a Linden Hills block club network would interact with LHINC:

- Communicate (email/phone) important info (crime info, LHINC events)
- Facilitate networking or workshops for block leaders and LHINC
- Provide contact info (crime prevention, city services) to leaders and residents

Matt Perry, Chair of the East Harriet Farmstead Neighborhood Association, presented his neighborhood's block club e-list group allowing block leaders throughout the City to communicate about crime prevention and their activities.

Home Loans Program This item was tabled and will be discussed at the February meeting.

Linden Hills Festival. The date has been set for Sunday, May 18th. There was discussion regarding how to organize the Festival and who will lead different aspects of it. Some residents have expressed interest in incorporating a "no-waste" concept.

New business. Chair Palmisano noted she is exploring the potential to promote LHINC on social networking sites like MySpace and FaceBook.

Adjournment. The next meeting is February 12th (not the 5th).

Submitted by LHiNC Coordinator Scott Engel, January 8, 2008.

Board secretary

Date

Board Chair

Date