

**LINDEN HILLS NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
**Preliminary Minutes of the regular meeting, February 3, 2009**

**Present:** Tom Bicanich , Casey Collins, Jim Fisher, David Jones, Kelly Keegan, Lesley Lydell, Linea Palmisano, Patrick Sarver, Kathy Urberg, Keiko Veasey

**Absent:** Jon Hoffert, Amy Kane, Juan Carlos Ruisenor, Adam Wiatrowski and Sam Will

*Chair Palmisano called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.*

**Approval of Agenda & Minutes.** Motion. Seconded. To approve the proposed agenda and minutes from the January 6 meeting with changes: 1.) a motion was made, seconded and approved to endorse the response letter regarding the grievance- Vote 10-1 (Urberg) 2.) fixed two typos. Approved unanimously.

**Kite Festival Recap/ Joint LH Fulton Safety Meeting.** There was general agreement that the Kite Festival was a great, community building event. It was also agreed that logistics around the hot chocolate can be improved.

Palmisano noted that Ruisenor will attend the Feb 4 Safety Meeting and report back next month.

**Committee Reorientation.** Palmisano noted that she is working on finding a new committee structure to better reflect how the organization operates. The Communications and Environment Committees are functioning well, and other may be reorganized or new committees formed. The Board agreed that Board Officers should lead the effort to revise the Bylaws instead of forming a new committee.

**Environment Committee Update.** Urberg and Veasey passed out and presented three documents: 1.) Mission/Goals for LHiNC Environment Committee 2.) Fundraising Guidelines 3.) Budget Procedures. The documents clarify the responsibilities and roles of the Environment Committee and how that coordinates with the Board, as well as details how to manage fundraising activities. Motion, Seconded. Approved.

**Update on Turtle Bread/ Tosca Restaurant.** Palmisano noted that representatives from Tosca will attend the March 3 LHiNC Board meeting to discuss their proposal for a beer/wine liquor license. Such items have been controversial in the past. However, most of the 8-9 neighbors who attended the City's Licensing Public Hearing on January 27 were supportive of the restaurant and liquor license request.

**Lake Harriet Bandshell Update.** Minneapolis Parks are proposing leasing the bandshell to Sea Salt restaurant. If this were approved there wouldn't be space for popcorn and ice cream sales in the existing structure, so Park staff are proposing a new building nearby. The concept drew concern at a recent Lakes District Coalition meeting due to lack of community input. LHiNC Board members agreed that the community should be involved in any discussions about new construction in the parks. Motion, Seconded to send a letter to the Minneapolis Park Board requesting community participation in the Bankshell project. Approved 9-1 (Sarver).

**Potential New Development.** Palmisano noted that a local developer will soon propose a multi-story, mixed-use development on the northwest corner of 43<sup>rd</sup> & Upton (Famous Dave's & Earl Anderson site). The project would include underground parking, retail on the ground level and office and/or housing on the upper floors. Tenants in the structure might be managed by a

'community trust' to ensure uses were meeting neighborhood needs, but this is all preliminary in scope.

The developer used feedback from the CVS and task force 'design guideline' discussions to create the initial proposal. LHiNC Board members agreed that the CVS process was a good model for obtaining neighborhood feedback about development. Palmisano will follow up with the developer who hopes to start construction in the fall.

**February 21 Meeting Organized by NRP.** The City created a new, 16-member Neighborhood & Community Engagement Commission (NCEC) to oversee community engagement activities and the future neighborhood-funding program. The City Council, Mayor and Park Board appoint 8 of these commission members and 8 will be selected by neighborhoods. However, no process was identified to select the neighborhood reps. So, the Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP) proposed that they organize a meeting on February 21 to develop the NCEC representative selection process. To ensure buy-in by neighborhood organizations NRP requested that organizations pass a resolution supporting the meeting and select one representative to attend the meeting. To date 60% of neighborhood organizations have done so ensuring that the meeting will occur.

The Board discussed whether LHiNC wants to participate in this meeting by sending a representative. Matt Perry, President of EHFNA, was in attendance and said his organization did select a representative, but has concerns about the details of the February 21 meeting. To date, NRP has not explained who will facilitate the meeting, the agenda, how consensus will be determined and other 'deliverables'. LHiNC Board members expressed concerns about the meeting after hearing this. The group selected Palmisano to represent LHiNC, unless she can find someone else to participate in the meeting.

**New Business.**

- Collins volunteered to pick up and drop off LHiNC mail.

*Adjourned at 9:00 pm. The next session is March 3, 2009.*

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Submitted by Scott Engel

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Board Officer

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Date

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Board Chair

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Date