

LINDEN HILLS NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Minutes of the regular meeting, November 10, 2009

Present: Tom Bicanich, Jim Fisher, David Jones, Kelly Keegan, Lesley Lydell, Bruce Manning, Linea Palmisano, Rod Qualle, Patrick Sarver, Keiko Veasey, Patsy Vekich, Adam Wiatrowski

Absent: Christina Cassano, Marilyn Doyle

Also Attending: Kimberly Proffitt, Luke Schell, Linden Hills Co-op; Scott Engel, Coordinator; David Sadler

Palmisano called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Approval of Agenda & Minutes. Motion, Seconded: to approve:

- The proposed agenda and minutes from the October 6 meeting. Approved unanimously.

Appointment of 3 Board Members. Motion, Seconded to:

- Appoint Jim Fisher, Kelly Keegan and Keiko Veasey to fill vacant, one-year Board positions. Approved unanimously.

Linden Hills Co-op, Kimberly Proffitt, Luke Schell

Representatives from the Co-op updated the group about their proposed move to the former Almstead's store at France & Sunnyside Avenues.

- To facilitate the move, the co-op needs to raise \$1.5 million from member loans by January 31, 2010. Additional financing will come from loans and a national co-op organization.
- The new store will allow for nearly double the retail space plus space for the Natural Home Store, Co-op offices and classrooms. Additional room will allow for expanded merchandise selection including meat, seafood and bakery items.
- The store has been gutted and will be extensively remodeled. This may include adding windows and other features to make it more sustainable.
- The Co-op would move in June 2010 and the lease on their current space expires in September. Dave Luger owns the existing building and is responsible for leasing the space.
- The Co-op would sign a 15-year lease with a option to buy the building. They hope to bring the solar panels to the new site.
- LHiNC will help facilitate a public info session at a future date to answer neighbor questions and hear feedback.

Lake Calhoun Planning, Bruce Manning

Manning reported about the November 5 forum sponsored by Minneapolis parks regarding Lake Calhoun. The meeting brought together a variety of lake users and took input from them about how they connect with the lake. There is no funding for a full-scale master planning session or for significant improvements to the lake. However, the feedback will be compiled and utilized at a future date.

The "letter of connection" that is being drafted and its theme is that a 1-page letter cannot summarize Linden Hills' connection to the lake. It will encourage strong engagement with LH residents and LHiNC through the Lake Calhoun master planning process. Manning will revise the letter and send the draft to the LHiNC Board for review.

Coordinator Report, Scott Engel

Engel distributed a list of 2010 LHiNC Board meeting dates including the date for Kite Fest and the LH Festival. He reminded new Board members to complete the LHiNC conflict of interest forms. Engel noted that the existing form could use an update and significant editing to make it more readable and useful. This will be a task for the upcoming year.

Board Officers. Linea Palmisano

Fisher agreed to continue on with the Secretary position and Wiatrowski expressed interest in the Treasurer role. Veasey expressed interest in continuing as Vice Chair, but Palmisano does not want to continue as Chair.

Manning and Lydell proposed working together as co-chairs, as outlined in the by-laws. There was extensive discussion regarding how responsibilities will be divided between co-chairs. It was noted that LHiNC has had experience with the co-chair structure with positive results. Manning and Lydell proposed meeting together prior to the next LHiNC Board meeting to define their co-chair relationship. They will report back at the next meeting. A motion was made by Veasey, seconded, for LHiNC to operate under the co-chairs structure for 2009-2010. Approved 11-1-0.

Motion, seconded to appoint for one year:

- Jim Fisher as Secretary.
- Adam Wiatrowski as Treasurer.
- Bruce Manning & Lesley Lydell as Co-Chairs.

Approved 10-1-1.

Appointment of Lakes District Rep & NRP Policy Board Elector,

- Motion, seconded to appoint Marilyn Doyle as Lakes District Council representative for LHiNC. Approved unanimously.
- Motion, seconded to appoint Bruce Manning as LHiNC’s NRP Policy Board elector. Approved unanimously.

Finance Committee Report, Adam Wiatrowski

Wiatrowski will pull together the Finance committee for a meeting in the next few weeks. Doyle, Palmisano and Qualle expressed interest in participating on the committee. The consideration of adjusting LHiNC Home Loan Program income documentation was forwarded to the committee for discussion.

Kite Fest

- The event is scheduled for Saturday, January 9. The Board reaffirmed LHiNC’s participation as providing hot chocolate and a bonfire. Vekich volunteered to take the LHiNC lead contact role for the event.

New Business:

- LH resident David Sadler noted that many Upton Avenue area residents continue to be concerned about traffic issues. One year ago LHiNC facilitated a discussion between neighbors and City transportation representatives about the issue. Traffic studies were conducted by Public Works, but results have not yet been seen. The Board requested that Council Member Hodges bring an update on the subject for the January meeting.

Adjourned at 8:55 pm. The next session is December 1, 2009.

Submitted by Scott Engel

Board Secretary

Date

Board Co-Chair

Date