



MEETING MINUTES

Windom Park Citizens in Action (WPCIA)

Board Meeting – August 23, 2022

Windom Park Rec Center (2251 Hayes St NE)

Attendees

WPCIA: Robert Lodge, Tara Schmoll, Doug Borys, Joe Dufficy, Celia Connoy, Thomas Ebert.

Guests: David Alderson, Jon Sharret and Nancy Przymus

Call to Order

Meeting was called to order by Board President Robert Lodge at 7:08pm

Agenda

1. Review & approve June 2022 Board of Directors meeting minutes
2. Calendar of upcoming meetings, deadlines - distribute and review
3. Johnson Street neighbors
4. Speed bump update
5. FY 2023 budget - Review 2022 budget and discuss outlook
6. Equitable Engagement activities & outlook
7. Pool update & latest news from MPRB Manager

Minutes

1. Board approves June 2022 Board Meeting Minutes
2. Discussion of Meeting Schedule document:
 - a. Purpose – to provide long-range planning capacity for meeting dates and the affiliated tasks. For example, creating/submitting meeting postcards to printing/mail house, sharing agenda with Board, recording/posting minutes, etc
 - b. This is to include a Board Retreat meeting every-other-month in the absence of the monthly Neighborhood Meeting.

- c. Board to consider if November Board Meeting is too close to Thanksgiving and/or if December Board Meeting is too close to Xmas.
3. 2318 Johnson St NE Development
- a. Three guests – David Alderson, Nancy Przymus and Jon Sharrot
 - b. David, Nancy and Jon offered a passionate plea for WPCIA to consider signing their petition and offering a signal of support against the requests for variance (4).
 - c. All guests shared their personal history with the properties they own.
 - d. David shared his dismay for the proposed design
 - e. Nancy shared her frustration and anger over the high rent prices and the trees she helped volunteers plant on the developer's property.
 - f. David: “We are okay with 3 units” but feels that 4 diminishes the livability of the block/area.
 - g. Tara: Have you contacted the developer yet? David: “No, but I will tomorrow”
 - h. Joe: Have you seen/considered the recent development at 18th & McKinley for a reference?
 - i. Guests left with a request that the Board join them at City Planning Commission’s public hearing on 9/6 and that they consider providing a statement of support.
 - j. Robert asked the group for feedback
 - i. Joe offered that he’s not excited about the general look of many new developments, but wasn’t as concerned about appearance as David/Nancy/Jon.
 - ii. Tara expressed hope that the guests will speak to the developer and their concerns will be addressed through conversation.
 - iii. Celia inquired if we are supposed to remain neutral. Robert answered that we are to be neutral in general.
 - iv. Doug expressed that he wished the guests had been involved earlier, so that their concerns could’ve been addressed by the developer during our May Neighborhood Meeting.
 - v. Robert motioned that the board not sign the guests’ petition nor become involved at the City Planning Commission’s (CPC) public hearing on September 6. The board agreed.
 - vi. Robert indicated he will be attending the public hearing on 9/6, solely to observe the discussion around this development (2318 Johnson St NE) and another (1717 Central Ave) that WPCIA received notification of.
4. Speed Bump Project
- a. Thomas provided an update that the project is moving forward having received confirmation from Bob Cooper at Neighborhood and Community Relations (NCR) that the WPCIA Board’s language amendment for the applicable NRP funding strategy had received approval by NCR.
 - b. Ryan Olsen and Dan Ferralez have received a letter from the Traffic & Parking Service division at the City and asked if that would suffice as an “invoice”.
 - c. Thomas received confirmation from Bob Cooper at NCR that they could make that Traffic division communication suffice.
 - d. Mother Earth Gardens has sent a check to Ryan for \$500
 - e. Thomas shared a draft Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that WPCIA will have Ryan and other neighbors sign. Tara offered to lend a hand to the MOU effort.
5. 2022-2023 Fiscal Budget
- a. Robert reviewed the 2021-2022 budget to spur the board’s thoughts on the current budget, to be drafted/confirmed at the September Board Meeting.

- b. Side discussion about the possibility of combining with Holland NA and/or others. City allocates funds for such consolidations. At the same time, WPCIA could expect work load to increase substantially.
 - c. Thomas questioned if we might be prepared to have office rent increase as it's been \$400 for a very long time (and they recently lost Edison Electric as a tenant).
 - d. This should be reviewed/discussed with Tim Dornfeld, Thomas to contact Tim to set up a meeting.
6. Equitable Engagement Plan
- a. Robert & Thomas met with NCR liaison, Aryca Meyers, to discuss WPCIA's activity with the EE plan.
 - b. We noted that we have not made as much progress on the plan's activities as desired, but explained that the following places us in a strong position to execute the plan: replacing staff with increased hours, adjusting the board's meeting commitments, and a commitment to (4) Minneapolis 2040 Plan goals.
 - c. We may need additional apartment outreach partners as many canvassing/door-knocking services will be occupied with election activities.
 - d. Tara: "Side Issue – Could we pursue training for Narcan injections for victims of opioid overdose?"
 - e. Doug: "As a retired toxicologist, we should definitely pursue Narcan training, but we should expand the effort to other abuses too. The Windom Park (MPRB) would be a great forum for Narcan shots and the training needed.
 - f. Celia: Are we offering funds/programs to apartments like we do for single-family homes? Robert answered that we are not currently, but that could be in the near future as rental community residents provide feedback on needs/wants.
 - g. Celia: "We need more parties!" She noted that we could have a Fall gathering to celebrate the harvest bounty.
 - h. Doug: "I like the idea of more parties....In Thiensville, WI, we always had the Turkey Trot 5K on Thanksgiving Day" It is a fundraiser for various orgs in Ozaukee County.
 - i. Thomas: "Maybe a 5K that flows right into a Fall Festival?"
 - j. Robert brought forward the idea of a pop-up meeting around the several apartment buildings on 18th Ave NE. The board agreed that this would be a good way to begin fulfilling our EE Plan. Thomas & Robert will contact the board with more details.
7. Review of Park Walk-Through
- a. In late-June, Robert and Thomas met with Chris DesRoches, Operations Manager for Minneapolis Park & Rec Board (MPRB). Several deferred maintenance projects were reviewed, in addition to possible new construction projects. Below the overview of the project is inserted into these meeting minutes.
8. Adjournment - Meeting adjourned at 855pm.



Windom Park Upgrade Projects

Summary of Windom Park Walk-Through with MPRB Systems Manager

SOUTHEAST

- The fencing (near Rec Center) is rusting and needs painting. Discussed the possibility of a volunteer project
 - Action Steps- MPRB will review possibility of volunteer project and/or re-painting by MPRB staff. Currently reviewing with our paint shop to see if they think this could be a volunteer opportunity.
 - Update:
 - MPRB is good with this being painted by volunteers. We can provide recommendations on paint and/or provide the paint.
- Concrete sidewalk panels are broken/missing on pathway (from 23rd Ave to Hayes St turn-around).
 - Action Steps- MPRB will review replacement and addition of concrete on the N/S pathway
 - Update:
 - MPRB WO has been submitted to repair panels of broken and/or missing concrete. No timeline yet on when the work will happen
- Cars using pathway (from 23rd Ave to Hayes St turn-around).
 - Action Steps- MPRB will review with maintenance and operations staff to determine best intervention to close pathway to cars
 - Update:
 - MPRB is going to move some larger boulders to squeeze down the sidewalk entrance. If this doesn't work, we can review other more robust options (bollards).
- Enclosed area/bushes (near Twin City Gardens assisted living) creating unsafe hiding places
 - Action Steps- MPRB will review ownership of this section of the park. After initial review there is conflicting information on ownership of this small seating area. Need to review further. If MPRB owned, will review for cleaning up the area.
 - Update:
 - Confirmed Park Board ownership
 - MPRB will clean up trees and attempt to open up the area to sightlines
 - MPRB will remove weeds and volunteer trees

SOUTHWEST

- **Drinking Fountain** - Drinking fountain is currently not working on West side of the park. WO has been placed to repair it.
- **Courts Mural**- Discussed the possibility of a mural on the wall around the basketball/tennis courts. This is a possibility/opportunity. Neighborhood to review art/mural materials from MPRB and follow up if they would like to pursue the project.
- **Basketball court light repair/replacement**
- **Basketball rim replacement**

NORTHWEST

- **Pergola Structure**- Discussed the possibility of repainting the structure.
 - Action Steps- MPRB will review the possibility of volunteer project and/or re-painting by MPRB staff. Currently reviewing with out paint shop to see if this could be a volunteer opportunity.
 - Update:
 - MPRB is good with this being painted by volunteers. We can provide recommendations on paint and/or provide the paint.
- **Bushes to the SE of pergola structure**- Large overgrown bushes to the SE of the pergola structure are creating an enclosed space and blocking the view to the rest of the park.
 - Action Steps- MPRB will review removing the bushes with operations staff
 - Update:
 - Parks staff will remove the bushes, clean up the area and seed the area.
 - Don't have an exact timeline on when the work will happen but hopefully in the next month or so.
 - Update #2: This workorder has been completed (~ 8/18)



NORTHEAST

- **Park Building Mural** - Discussed the possibility of mural on this building. This is a possibility/opportunity (also done at Beltrami & NE Park). Neighborhood to review art/mural materials from MPRB and follow up if they would like to pursue the project. We also discussed reviewing the steps and the handrail.

Actions Steps: Neighborhood will respond if they would like to move forward with a mural project. At that point we can review the handrail and steps.

- **Park Building Benches** - Discussed the possibility of adding benches along the North side of the pool maintenance/warming hut building. The cost for these installations would be about **\$2,500 per bench.**

Action Steps - Neighborhood should share if they would like to move forward with adding these and the funding

- **Pool Area** - Discussed the possibility of adding some seating/shade structures around the pool area.
 - Shade structures for pool area - Estimate of **\$6-10k per shade structure installed + \$5k for engineer/design.**
 - Increase seating area outside of pool area (several bench/shade combo) - **Estimate of 10-40k depending on size and shelter/shade design + 25% of construction cost for engineering/design.**

Action Steps: Neighborhood should provide direction if these are items they would like to move forward with. If so, we can work to arrange for design plans to be put together.

PROJECTS ALSO DISCUSSED

- **Trash/Recycling Location Mapping & Tie-Down Posts**
- **BBQ Hot Ash Containers**
- **Stairway railing relocation (switch to building)**

PARK DEDICATION FUNDS

Discussed the use of park dedication dollars for park improvements. Here is where you can find more about Park Dedication: [Park Dedication - Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board \(minneapolisparcs.org\)](http://minneapolisparcs.org)

- It looks like your neighborhood currently has **\$17,582 available.**