

LINDEN HILLS NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
Minutes of the regular monthly meeting, January 2, 2018

LHiNC Board Members Present: Ed Bell, Steve Birch (Chair), Chad Christensen, Leah Fish, Jim Miller, Patricia Miller, Mark Nolan (Vice Chair), Walt Pitt, Wendy Ponte (Secretary)

LHiNC Board Members Absent: Laura Ginsburg, Tom Harlan, Lauren Linderman, Jeff Stites, Glenn Swenson

Coordinator: Becky Allen

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. The January Agenda and the December meeting minutes were approved.

Park Update---Scott Erazmus

A \$2100 quote on AC unit installation was received by Scott. He is concerned that electrical hasn't actually been checked to make sure it can actually be installed. Steve spoke to Larry Umphrey from park. We will look at having this done in the spring.

Winterfest is Friday, January 26th, medallions, clues, face painting, games. It is Friday before Superbowl. Expects about 300 people.

Park Superintendent has resigned.

General skating is open a week earlier than usual, hockey rink open tomorrow. He has had numerous comments that it has opened later than usual, but that is not the case.

Steve: we've invited Meg Forney and Brad Bourne to come to the next council meeting to speak about funding. We don't yet know if they will come.

Ward 13 Update

No one present

Art Shanty Project

Ed Bell. Things seem to be under control. The LHiNC Shanty is painted. Thanks to all who helped paint. It is currently disassembled. On Saturday the 13th, it will be loaded on a truck and assembled at the lake. Meet at 11:30 at the warehouse if you can help. It will be located near the bandshell.

Friday, January 19th is the first night of the Art Shanty Projects; this is a preview only open to sponsors. Then it will be up every weekend through February 11th.

Steve reports ice is very good on lake. Thinks its about 1 foot deep.

We've spent less than \$1000 so far on the Shanty project. Steve proposed to have an informal gathering at Lake Harriet this weekend to complete the shoveling of an ice skating path around the lake. He also proposed throwing \$200 towards this event for coffee, tea and snacks for all attendees. This motion passed for Sunday, January 7, 2018.

Ed Bell brought up the issue of where to store the art shanty after it comes off the ice. Steve is going to look in to this issue.

Steve: Kite Festival is January 27, 2018 noon until 4 pm. There will be a request for volunteers to man the zero waste stations closer to the event.

Treasurers Report-

Treasurer was not present. Steve: Any checks paid were mostly grants given by the council. Steve mentioned our bookkeeper will put in our CPP request when he is back on his feet (currently ill).

Safety update.

Walt Pitt: Safety updates have been requested on 47th and Xerxes. The total cost is estimated to be \$250,000 to be covered by a safe school committee funded by the city. Students are dropped off at this intersection heading to the high school. Bikers also have an extremely hard time at this intersection. Steve mentioned 50th and Xerxes is also a problematic intersection.

Steve mentioned there was also a crime prevention meeting in early December addressing the increase in neighborhood theft. Wendy attended the meeting. Wendy: Everyone should report all incidents to 911 (if you need a police report) or 311. They badly want these stats. Precinct will come out and perform a safety check for you at your home for free. 3" Deadbolts are recommended! Little police presence in Linden Hills was noted. Wendy might put a blurb about this in the next newsletter.

Committees

By-Laws committee will meet on the 9th. Have copies of Fulton and Cedar Lakes By-Laws for comparison purposes. Mark is going to talk to Bob Cooper from the city. He helped ECCO update their by-laws, and Mark is going to reach out to him. Committee is Mark, Wendy, Walt, Jim, and Tom

Communications and Outreach

Trying to lock down a regular meeting time. Tuesday not ideal. 4th Wednesday of the month. Wednesday Jan. 24th at 7:00 at Turtle Bread.

Walt pointed out that our meeting was not posted on the website calendar this month.

Environmental

Jeff not present

Zoning

Duplex ADU 4324 Lake Harriet Pkwy. They want to have 2 garages below. They would have to change the lot zoning in order to do this. Upzone to an R4 from an R2. Getting approval for this could put other lots in danger for a precedent to build a larger, taller building in the future. People who live next door and in area are against this. This will go to city on the 22nd of this month.

Update on trolley path. They've done a map. Walt passed around a small version of the map and will bring the large map to the next meeting—and will email it to all of us in the meantime. It seemed that Linea says we won't get much say to the west side of the Hammerhead, but that we can influence east side. Things are going well. He emailed Brad Bourne and got a response, though no date was yet set for a meeting. Proposing to meet in early January. He may come to our next meeting. We'd like to get funds for a new park to fund the Path—Park Dedication Fees used for parks only. They take a piece of every new unit in a community and put it towards this fund—so there is some money there. Walt thinks there is about \$70,000 in that fund. We want to find out what we can do from Linea and Brad. Zoning used \$600 from heritage fund for the map. Now want to take the map and break it into smaller pieces to show an idea of what is really possible to those who could support us.

Although Linea said there would be room to walk around the Hammerhead, there is actually very little space. Walt thinks not enough to walk past.

Sarah Sutherland will need additional funds for Heritage fund for these smaller drawings. \$600. Zoning will vote on this expense at their next meeting on the 15th so that the drawings could be ready to show Brad at the next meeting. Walt proposed we vote today to approve the \$600, so that the drawings could be done ahead of time and to avoid an electronic vote to approve funds after the Zoning Committee votes.

Mark and Steve also propose that the drawings be done before showing them to Brad or anyone else, so that the Council can approve them. Wendy wanted to know if roughs could be done first for our approval, but Walt says that Sarah can't really do them any rougher. If we don't like something, it can be changed.

We talked about allocating \$1200 for more detailed drawings of block by block in addition to simple conceptual ideas of the future.

Walt wants to discuss funding with Brad. Rest of the board thinks a proposal should be put together first and then seek funding after that.

Mark motions that we approve up to \$1200 to committee for as-is and future drawings to present to the council. Approved by all but Ed.

Events:

Steve plans on the 4th Tuesday of the month for events meetings. Festival is May 20th this year. 1st meeting will be a short lessons-learned review. We are likely to make some changes from last year. With the Bocce court going in do we need to re-orient?

New Business:

Ed Bell and Lake Calhoun/Bde Mka Ska name change. Folks who are against name change of Lake Calhoun want our opinion on this. Ed would like to get boards approval to use both names. The name change has already been approved by the county board. Park board approved. Jim doesn't think the public effort to include input was effective and should have been a ballot vote. People have asked Ed to have the board speak out on the matter.

Steve will get in touch with DNR to see where it stands now, timeline, and whether enough public input was sought. We will discuss again at next meeting.

Meeting ended at 9:00 PM