

LINDEN HILLS NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

Minutes of the regular monthly meeting – June 5, 2018

LHiNC Board Members Present: Chad Christensen, Leah Fish, Laura Ginsburg, Jana Griffin, Lauren Linderman, Jim Miller, Patricia Miller, Walt Pitt, Jeff Stites, Glenn Swenson

LHiNC Board Members Absent: Ed Bell, Steve Birch (Chair), Tom Harlan (Treasurer), Mark Nolan (Vice Chair), Wendy Ponte (Secretary)

Coordinator: Becky Allen

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. The May Agenda and the April meeting minutes with a modification were approved.

Environment and Sustainability Committee Report

- Streetcar Museum had applied for \$1000 grant. The Environmental Committee moves to allocate \$1500 from the committee's dedicated funds to fund streetcar museum garden. Motion seconded and passed unanimously.
- The committee will be looking at the bike infrastructure. LHiNC has installed racks around the community. Fix it stations to be purchased. Penny's has requested a few bike racks.
- Regarding the Pocket Park, the committee is considering how to approach it, including the concern about liability. LHiNC could possibly do the gardening. We will talk to the property management people. Walt – SSD controls the pocket park.

Park update (Becky)

- The bocce courts are ready, and the park has two sets for the public to checkout. The Bocce League has exclusive use from 4:30-8pm on T, W, & Th. They hope to add the bocce courts into the Active Net software shortly, which will allow them to reserve courts for patrons, if they wish to have exclusive use at \$20/hr. Typically, the courts will be used on a first-come, first-serve basis.
- Summer programming begins next Monday, and the pool has been open since May 27.
- It looks like the new bike racks will be in place in late June, and Linden Hills would like to thank LHiNC for getting these installed for the park.

Walt Pitt and Laura Monn Ginsburg asked that we look into the cost for reserving the courts.

LHBA Update (Becky)

- Wine and Stroll, the new LHBA event, will take place on June 21 from 5-9pm
- The piano is outside of Heartfelt and ready for playing.
- Next meeting of LHBA is June 28th from 2-3pm (last Thursday of the month)

- There was some discussion re:LHBA liaison. No one at the meeting wanted to volunteer. It was suggested that we follow up with Wendy, who had expressed interest.

SW Area Master Plan (Kelly Wilcox - Project Team, SW Area Master Plan, MPRB)

Kelly Wilcox presented the purpose and timeline for the SW Area Master Plan. The process will require a lot of public participation to help decided what we want in our park. MPRB has landscape architects, designers and artists to design the park. Over the next year and a half, they will get input, then design, then get more input and design. Then they will package it all up and send it to MPRB for approval.

MPRB is putting up tables, giving out posters and treats, and asking people what would be a good use of this park – of this space. Kelly asked what events are coming up at Linden Hills. Movies in the Park was suggested, as were the events at the bandshell. Becky said she would get more information from Scott.

Walt Pitt asked, “In regards to fundraising, if we’re going to do some grant writing or fundraising, what would be the best way to interact or intersect with the park board? We have been told that grants would go through the park board. Hennepin County grant cycle is this July.” In response, Kelly said, “If you bring funding as a grant, we will make sure we talk through it, since it’s everybody’s park.” She suggested Walt start with Cliff Swenson, Director of Planning.

Festival Wrap-up

VOLUNTEERS - Chad

Overall, we had enough people, but there were gaps. We could have used about 10 more people. He spent almost the entire time at volunteer check-in, which ended up being an info booth. 8-10 vendors stopped by needing to know where to set their booths up. Walt suggested utilizing runners. Chad asked for a better understanding of overall operation. We could also use more people; . He suggested being creative in recruiting them – reaching out to grant applicants or other groups that interact with LHiNC. Be more proactive in getting people involved. Becky suggested starting a Volunteer appreciation event at Bremer to be held a week later. Glenn suggested we start the festival at 10am, instead, to better align with Farmers Market. It was also suggested we create a vendor map for volunteers, as well as for attendees. Laura suggested getting an app with interactive maps and ability to purchase tickets.

TICKETS - Glenn

Glenn could have used 4 more ticket people on all shifts. More volunteers. And we have to have enough tickets. Chad – People working the crowd and taking money worked well. Lauren – lines were really good. Laura – They were very efficient. Glenn – we were selling right up to the very end. Jana – that could all be put on the phone. Jeff – there's got to be a festival suite.

ART FAIR - Jim

The best art fair there ever was - 59 booths. Financials - \$1805. We had maps, but not generally available. Jim – Make sure the board gets tickets. Festival maybe should start at 10am and close at 4pm to match with the Farmers Market. Chad – Tear down earlier would be better for volunteers. Jim – Non-profit fee should be adjusted. \$10 booth space should be for students. \$50 for booth spot. Even sponsors should pay \$20 for a table. Beer drinkers wandering outside gate. Laura – I think we should have hard deadlines for sponsor booths, but I'm not sure about charging sponsors a table fee. If we have to make it up elsewhere, we should make it up elsewhere. I think for the optics of it. Jeff – Wendy should develop a sponsor packet – with dates, deadlines for booth

TENT SET UP - Walt

Walt – We didn't have a map. Very few people tearing things down. If we move up to 4pm, more people will be here.

GARAGE SALES – Let's raise the price from \$10 to \$15. Motion to raise price of garage sale. All in favor

Laura – People confused by the staggered start times.

Walt - 2040 Booth – Large sheet of paper with comments on. Where is that? We need to find that. Might be on Linea Palmisano's cellphone.

LAURA – Family Stage

Worked out; people came; librarian was amazing. Yoga fit person was amazing. Kids were super into it. 2 more after that. I think there is interest; just needs a little tweaking. Needs to be moved. Balloons and bigger signs. Becky – move it onto the ballfield.

Walt – Have someone do the layout for next year.

ZERO WASTE - Jeff

Jeff – My experiment failed. We need to take over the compostable products. We will own and pay for all the plates/utensils. Having the farmers market made it like two

festivals. Didn't realize we were doing FM too. Still put the signs out. We had 10 volunteers. We will work with all the vendors. Laura – sell them to them at discount, or charge them more to sell at the festival. Cool Signs. Can re-use and make them larger. Overall process-wise worked.

FOOD

Jeff – I got a ton of comments from older neighbors that we should bring back the old LHiNC food booth, and bring back the hotdog and corn. Glenn – Vendors might not be happy if we are competing against them. Lauren – People confused by tickets not being able to use at Farmers Market. We need overall better coordination with Farmers Market

Chad – Idea that a lot of people came to volunteer booth for info. Better able to shoot people in different directions.

Laura – Map should include a lost child info point.

Water Station at the info booth ; more than one water station, or more centrally located.

SILENT AUCTION – Becky and Leah

Raised less this year than last year, but that's because people were enjoying the festival outside. Glenn - Sign at the ticket table with featured items. Leah – could have used some volunteers at the end. Get volunteers to call people at the festival to tell them that they won.

Laura – Is it worth continuing the Silent Auction?

Chad - Can we farm that out?

Glenn – I think we are out-tapped.

2040 Review and Response

Board members were asked to submit comments on 2040 by June 15, providing time for Zoning members to review prior to the committee meeting. Jeff Stites commented that parking is a huge issue for the business district. I'm in full agreement with the parking restrictions. Lauren Linderman asked about the process the Zoning committee would use in crafting the LHiNC response. Walt Pitt said zoning could get something down on paper, then as a board, friendly amendments could be added.

Jana Griffin, who staffed the 2040 booth at the festival, was asked about the general reaction by attendees. She said: There was a huge range of opinions. A lot are for it. A lot upset about schooling, parking, houses being torn down and four-plexes. They are asking why we need to accommodate for more people? Others think getting more people into the community is a great idea. There's a lot of fear.

Jeff – Let's conclude that discussion and hand off to Zoning.

Zoning and Housing Committee

The Zoning and Housing Committee is trying to establish a repair program for housing. They will bring to the board, once they have parameters. The committee is also looking into a single family residential on Lake Harriet between 43 and 44th. Owners were going to add an ADU too. Instead it became a duplex ADU, so the city approved 4 buildings on that lot. Now the owners have come back 2 months later requesting a 5-plex. Don't know if the city is going to support it.