

## **LINDEN HILLS NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**

### **Minutes of the regular monthly meeting, September 4, 2018**

**LHiNC Board Members Present:** Ed Bell, Steve Birch (Chair), Leah Fish, Laura Ginsburg, Jana Griffin, Tom Harlan, Jim Miller, Walt Pitt, Wendy Ponte (Secretary), Jeff Stites, Glenn Swenson

**LHiNC Board Members Absent:** Chad Christensen, Lauren Linderman, Patricia Miller, and Mark Nolan (Vice Chair)

**Coordinator:** Becky Allen

*The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.* The September agenda was amended to include a CAC update from Jana Griffin; August meeting minutes were approved.

### **Park Update**

Linden Hills Park Director Scott Erasmus was unable to attend the meeting; Becky Allen read his report.

The bike racks paid for by LHiNC will be installed within the next couple of weeks. They should be completely installed by September 30. Halloween for Linden Hills will be celebrated on Saturday, October 27<sup>th</sup> from 3-5pm this year. The park will still have treat bags available on Halloween night. And winter Program/Sports Registration will start on November 7 this year for wrestling/hockey/basketball.

### **City Charter Amendment - Matt Perry, Southwest Business Association**

Matt Perry of the Southwest Business Association came to discuss the "Vote Yes on 1" campaign. Ballot question #1 asks residents if they would like to remove the spacing requirements per City Charter that do not allow local neighborhood restaurants to serve cocktails. Right now, establishments must be part of a business node that is at least 7 contiguous acres. Other points from his talk:

- Downtown Linden Hills doesn't have enough acreage, so restaurants have to do something else to serve cocktails. They must go to the state – cumbersome, expensive.
- The state wants to see the charter changed as well; licensing is behind it, as well.
- Playing field is not level; archaic, outdated; had a purpose many years ago, but at this point doesn't make a lot sense.
- Every time someone has gone to the state – state and city council have approved it
- Neighborhood restaurants and residents have gotten together and formed Citizens for Modern Minneapolis
- I have a couple asks –
  - community leaders go out and talk about it; can put up a lawn sign
  - Pass a resolution to vote Yes on 1
  - Funds to support the initiative
- Vote is on November 6<sup>th</sup>

Walt Pitt – Is there any limit on number of restaurants within an area? Matt - No

Walt Pitt – What is the expense to the restaurant? Matt - \$10,000 to hire a lobbyist to guide you through the process

Steve Birch– What does support look like in the rest of the city? Matt – LHiNC is the first neighborhood organization we’ve gone to. We are reaching out to restaurants across the city. Restaurants in the south of the city, where there isn’t density, is where the support is. Some in the Northeast and North.

Ed Bell - What is the your role? Matt - I’m the campaign manager.

Jeff Stites - I make motion to support “Yes on 1”

Walt – Is this a political action committee? Matt – It seems to be a bi-partisan

Walt – Is our support going to go to the city or a sponsorship of this individual and his organization?

Steve – We will write a letter to Linea saying we support Yes on Minneapolis 1 – local control over liquor licenses.

Motion seconded. 2 abstain, 1 nay, 8 in favor. Motion passes.

#### **Tilia, Liquor License – Steven Brown, Tilia Owner**

Steven Brown, owner of Tilia, spoke on behalf of Proposition 1. He said the City should be the decision maker. A long time ago, that got taken out and put into the charter along with acreage requirements. This proposition would level the playing field and put the law where it needs to be. Steven then went on to ask for LHiNC support to pursue the licensure process to allow hard liquor at his restaurant.

Steve – I make a motion that we support Steven and Tilia to pursue a liquor license. Motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

#### **Parent Teacher Student Organization (PTSO), Southwest High School - Nance Kent**

Nance Kent spoke on behalf of the PTSO at SWHS. They feel there has been a lack of communication with the neighborhoods, so she has volunteered to be a liaison between SWHS and Linden Hills/Fulton. She will attend LHiNC meetings and keep lines of communication open with both neighborhood councils. ; really wanted to connect with neighborhoods. The new principal Dr. Michael Favor wants SWHS to be a center of education for the community

#### **Pocket Park Update – Leah Fish**

The Environmental Committee has been working on the Linden Hills Pocket Park Project. At the last EC meeting, the LHBA attended, and the meeting culminated in a park proposal that has grown larger.

- Phase 1 – additional seating, dog waste station, curb painting
- Phase 2 and 3 – what LHBA brought to us; garden corners, then planters and benches

The EC plans to pull \$ from general fund for Phase 1; they already have bids and specifics for all the purchases. For phase 2 and 3, the EC plans to pull money from NRP funds. The EC then asked the board if it wanted to support full or partial funding of the project.

Laura Ginsburg – Can LHBA match the funding? Leah Fish – they currently have no money, so they are looking to us.

Tom Harlan – Were the two LHBA ideas reconciled? Jeff – Yes. Leah – It was two different projects, and they didn't know the other was presenting. Now both are onboard for this proposal.

Steve – Fund Phase 1 with general; Wait on phase 2 and 3

Wendy – who is going to open and close the umbrellas? Leah – Linden43 resident Tim Cadotte; manager of Linden43 said we can store furniture/umbrellas in their utility room for winter.

Steve – motion to support \$7550 out of general funds to support Phase 1. Motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

### **NCR Survey – Karen Moe, Deputy Director, NCR**

Karen Moe from Neighborhood Community Resources presented a survey for the board to fill out. The Board Diversity Survey is one metric they use to measure diversity. They take the resulting data and put into a report; share publicly; up to neighborhood as to how you use it

### **Taste of Linden Hills - Becky Allen**

Taste of Linden Hills will take place on October 2 from 7-9pm. There will be a pre-event hosted by Steven Brown of Tilia at Bremer from 5:30-6:45pm. LHiNC has 12 sponsors for the event. We need volunteers. We ask board members to sign up for two shifts. Non-board members can get free admission, if they work one shift.

### **Annual Meeting**

The Annual Meeting/Board Election will be held on Tuesday, October 9 from 6-8pm at the Linden Hills park building. Board members are asked to let Becky and/or Steve know if they will be running by September 16. Also, that night, LHiNC gives out the Linden Hills Treasure Awards; please submit nominations for that by October 1.

### **NRP Spending - Steve Birch**

Steve presented a motion that would reserve \$20,000 in NRP funds from Affordable Housing for a consultant to develop plans for a potential Trolley Path Park and \$20,000 for a Farmer's Market upgrade (providing power); neither project would pull from the income from revolving home loans. Walt offered a friendly amendment to include MPRB and public works. Walt then seconded the motion; the motion passed with 10 in favor and one opposed.

### **Treasurer's Report - Tom Harlan**

LHiNC could raise as much as \$10-11K at the Taste, and the council still has another NRP draw down to apply for. LHiNC's tax forms were emailed to everyone, prior to the meeting. Tom asked if Taste money is included in the total. Steve made a motion to pass the tax form (after the question is addressed). The motion was seconded and pass unanimously.

### **Communications Committee - Wendy Ponte**

The Communications Committee is meeting tomorrow to review three bids for a new website design. We are still in need of a photographer.

### **Environmental Committee**

Nice Neighbors Day will be held on October 6 from 10a-12p. There will be three volunteer activities: Trolley Park Gardening, re-shelving books at the LH Library, and a Buckthorn pull at William Berry Woods.

Also, Ginny Halloran, a community member on the EC, has submitted a grant application for a demonstration project with Renaissance Soils, to develop biodynamic biochar best practices for lawns and gardens. We will find out about the grant in December.

### **Housing & Zoning - Walt Pitt**

The bid to complete signs for the Trolley path park is \$1K, but poles will cost another \$200. The board had approved \$1000, now the Zoning Committee is asking to approve an additional \$200 out of the Heritage fund. Motion made to approve the \$200, seconded, and pass unanimously.