

LINDEN HILLS NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

Minutes of the regular monthly meeting, February 4, 2020

LHiNC Board Members present: Adam Beck, Steve Birch, Leah Fish, Peter Gilbert, Robert Haider, Tom Harlan, Judy Hornbacher, Barbara Lunde, Elizabeth McDonald, Bjorn Olson, Linda Picone, and Abdi Sahal

LHiNC Board Members absent: Ed Bell, Lauren Linderman and Wendy Ponte

Executive Director: Becky Allen

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. The February agenda and January minutes were approved.

Ward 13 Update - Council Member Linea Palmisano

CM Palmisano reported on a new plan being announced the next day that will lower the speed limit on residential streets to 20 mph and arterial streets (like Xerxes) to 25 mph. It will take effect in both Minneapolis and St. Paul. She then discussed Neighborhood 2020. She is sticking to her recommendation for a stable \$25K base funding for all neighborhoods. Council members who agree with her include Goodman and possibly Cam Gordan. Andrea Jenkins and Schroeder are opposed to the \$25K base.

Annual Report - Becky Allen

The board had been sent the Annual Report and Budget prior to the meeting. The board reviewed and approved both documents, which will be submitted to the city by March 15.

Neighborhood 2020 - Steve Birch

Steve Birch reviewed the 2020 Discussion Points, which he shared with the board prior to the meeting. After discussion, it was decided that Steve will write a letter to NCR and City Council focused on the necessity of \$25K base funding for all neighborhoods. We will continue to think about ways the council can move forward with less money, including getting NRP money contracted, cutting expenses, etc.

Grant Rubric - Linda Picone

The board reviewed a grant rubric created by Linda Picone to help the council organize the way it makes grant decisions. The board decided to use the rubric for the next grant cycle (end of March).

Spring Festival - Steve Birch and Elizabeth McDonald

Becky Allen passed around a sign up sheet for Silent Auction prizes. After it is updated with names from the meeting, she will share it online.

The board discussed the possibility of including a Bike Swap, as a fundraiser, at the festival this year. Linda Picone brought the idea to the council. Linda and Steve Birch are checking on logistics before proceeding.

The first all-hands-on-deck Festival Meeting will be sometime in mid-April.

Treasurers Report - Tom Harlan

Our general fund sits at \$72K. We have requested all 2019 CPP and NRP reimbursements from the city. LHiNC is doing well; this is a historically slow time for money going in and out.

Committee Reports

Community Engagement - Peter Gilbert/Wendy Ponte

At its last meeting, the committee met with Metro Transit about public engagement around the E-line Rapid Transit project; they plan to have a booth festival to collect feedback. The committee has organized Census Help Sessions with the library. LHiNC is providing the volunteers for these 2-hour help sessions; volunteers will commit to one 2-hour shift plus a 30-minute training. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Becky.

Dates/Times are:

- April 9 from 4:30-6:30pm,
- April 18 from 10am-12pm,
- April 23 from 4:30-6:30pm and
- May 2 from 10am-12pm.

The committee discussed timing for the Community Survey and decided to release it in the weeks leading up to and after the festival. Abdi Sahal and Judy Hornbacher are working with the city on an immigration event to support the immigrant and refugee community. LHiNC will offer the city's Office of Immigrant and Refugee Affairs a booth in the civic section of the festival.

Environmental & Sustainability - Leah Fish and Robert Haider

Metroblooms has selected LHiNC as a partner in their rain garden initiative; they will create and help install rain gardens for 5 Linden Hills homeowners. Also, the committee is hosting a talk entitled "Regenerative Yards and Gardens" before its March 17 meeting from 6-7 pm at Bremer.

Zoning & Housing - Tom Harlan and Lauren Linderman

The committee recommended that LHiNC use \$1K in NRP housing funds to support the Environmental Committee's request to partner with the Home Energy Squad and provide 50% discounts for Linden Hills residents who participate in the program. A motion was made to support the recommendation; it was seconded and passed unanimously.

New Business

- Barbara Lunde expressed concern about the changes to the E-line brought on by the Rapid Transit Project, because the neighborhood will be losing bus stops on France between 39th & 44th; and Xerxes stops will be every 20 minutes. She plans to oppose the plan and encouraged anyone that agreed to contact her
- Becky Allen reported that the group raising money for the memorial statue to Jaegar (at Settergren's) have raised the full \$9K, so the council will now contribute the final \$1K to complete the project.
- Steve Birch thanked all the people who went out on the lake to tear down LHiNC' Art Shanty.