

March Board of Directors Meeting

March 15, 2022 6pm

Board members present: Mike Berger, Lisa Boyd, Bev Conerton, Tina Hermsen, Ken Koense, Kath Lenk, Deb Reiersen, Patrick Santelli, Ian Young, Frank Alarcon

Excused absence: Marina Balleria

Staff present: Rachel Boeke, Andrea Tritschler, Bennett Olupo

Guests: Katie Simon (Cooper neighborhood); Anna Zillinger (E. Lake Library); Joel Albers(Howe neighborhood); Annie Wang (Longfellow neighborhood); Vanessa Jason Chavez: City councilmember

All attendees were welcomed by Lisa Boyd and introduced themselves

Agenda (with added time to discuss proposed bylaw changes) and February minutes were approved

Two residents expressed interest in joining the board. Annie Wang (Longfellow seat) and Joel Albers (Howe seat) explained why they wanted to join the board and their interests.
Q: Will seats be temporary until next election and were the position advertised as required by bylaws?
A: Yes, they will be temporary and notice for these open seats has been on the website.
Both were elected by unanimous vote.

Updated Scope of Service for Business Lighting grant funds: increase amount to \$500 and will be disbursed with invoice prior to spending funds.
Q: Why increase the amount and change how funds are provided? What if people do not do what they say?
A: A lot of the funds are left and everyone spent maximum; some said they did not have the money up front.

Q: Why not split so they get half up front and half at completion.
A: Several people expressed support for that but one person was concerned about staff time if funds are dispersed at two time points.

Q: Is there a completion timeline?
A: Would be good to add; is one year a good time line?

C: These are Go Fund Me funds, and should get the money out to the community

Q: Do recipients have to buy supplies in the neighborhood?
A: no

Discussion on the timeline of the projects; several time frames were suggested. Decision was made to make suggested changes and vote on this at April meeting.

MOUs and Cost Sharing Agreements with Seward Neighborhood Group (SNG): briefly discussed plans for further developing these documents and need for LCC representatives to meet separately from SNG

[MOU \(SNG\)](#)

[Cost Sharing Agreement \(SNG\)](#)

[Cost Sharing Agreement \(LBA\)](#)

Joint review committee to meet once during the week of March 28th and April 4th; recommendations will then go to the full Boards in April.

Board Elections and General membership meeting will be May 14; Rachel explained that Longfellow park gym is booked and explained plans to advertise the event; it will be a hybrid online/in-person event. Voting will be online and in-person. Working on incentives for attending the event. Decided on timing being 12 to 1:30. Will discuss mask and vaccine status requirements later. Rachel asked for ideas on speakers; Patrick suggested people who have information in downtown Longfellow and many expressed agreement.

Discussed [Encampment Letter](#) from Phillips neighborhood organization. Bev suggested sending our own letter. Several people thought the letter is somewhat vague in what it is asking. Frank asked Rachel for her opinion. She agrees with the need for a better policy on handling encampments and said a letter tells the City that the neighborhoods are not satisfied with how they are currently handling encampments. Vote was 6 in favor to 5 against to sign on to the letter. LCC will sign on to the letter.

Elected Officials

- Ward 9: Jason Chavez—has scheduled community listening sessions:

https://www.minneapolismn.gov/government/city-council/ward-9/ward-9-events/?utm_content=&utm_medium=email&utm_name=&utm_source=govdelivery&utm_term

Jason also shared information about community redistricting, Hiawatha-Lake Intersection improvements, report on the police collective bargaining contract; civil unrest report. He shared the following links.

https://www.hennepin.us/hi-lake?utm_content=&utm_medium=email&utm_name=&utm_source=govdelivery&utm_term=

<https://lims.minneapolismn.gov/File/2022-00254>

<https://lims.minneapolismn.gov/File/2022-00255>

<https://lims.minneapolismn.gov/Download/RCAV2/26521/Police-Officers-Federation-and-City-of-Minneapolis-Executive-Summary-2020-22.pdf>

Finance Committee Update. Treasurer Mike Berger explained that they are investigating ways for investing some of our funds. There were a few questions about specific line items that were clarified (e.g., sponsorship for Seward Longfellow Restorative Justice; partnership with SNG)

Rachel explained that the potential office location is in the Elite Cleaners building at 3101 Minnehaha Ave. It is about 1500 sq ft of space; will have room for community meetings; will share with Longfellow Business Association (LBA), SNG, and possibly others. \$1500/month total. Lisa had question about whether old LCC sign can be used and Rachel said it will. Coliseum is \$24 per square feet so out of our price range. Ken suggested adding a rider to keep rent at same rate in future years; Rachel will see if she can arrange that. Vote was proposed on this motion: The board approves that the Executive Director will sign a lease for 3101 Minnehaha Avenue that will start as soon as the property is available. Board approved motion unanimously.

Committees updates and Executive Director and staff reports were not discussed due to time constraints

Discussed if we should amend bylaws at May General Membership meetings. A lot of proposed changes have been suggested by Rachel and Bob Cooper with some comments by Patrick. Various ideas were suggested. There was agreement to have a committee discuss the proposed changes, identify key changes that need to be made now, and bring back recommendations to the board.

Adjourned at 7:57.