



LCC Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, January 16th, 2024 at 6:00PM

Board members in attendance: Deb Reiersen; Christine Marlo-Triemstra; Ken Koense; Dana Koponen; Jackie Hartwig, Lisa Boyd; Annie Wang; Kath Lenk, Bev Conerton; Kaelin Winkelman; Tobin Shelton, Selam Tilahun; Mike Berger, Dana Kiponen

Guests: Katie Simon, Cooper resident; Anna Zillinger, East Lake Library

Staff: Rachel Boeke (Executive Director)

Welcome and introductions

Annie led a brief icebreaker

Consent items

1. January agenda: approved by consensus
2. [November 2023 minutes](#): approved by consensus

Guest Speakers

Friends of the Mississippi (St. Paul-based non-profit)

- *Natalie Warren and Carrie Pomeroy*: Gave overview (with slides including photos from the events) on programming for the Gorge (removing invasive plants, planting native plants/trees, cleanups)
 - Specific efforts with LCC funds of \$5000 in 2023: Staff time, supplies and promotional materials for tree planting events (over 70 volunteer hours); held a public event and a BIPOC event;
 - Plans for 2024: Earth Day clean up; 3 BIPOC River Stewards events in metro area; riverbank clean up from canoes; Stewardship team continues

Discussion Items/Updates

1. Housekeeping
 - Members were encouraged to track their hours: [Volunteer hour tracking](#)
 - Members should take this poll: [Poll of who is planning to run for a Board position in April](#)
 - Cooper: Kath has completed 6 years of service! Christine has 4 more years of eligibility
 - Hiawatha: Jackie is mid-term. Mike has 2 more years of eligibility. Dana has 5 more years of eligibility.

- Howe: Kaelin is mid-term. Lisa has 2 more years of eligibility. Tobin has 5 more years of eligibility.
- Longfellow: Selam is mid-term. Annie has 4 more years of eligibility.
- Community seats: Deb has completed 6 years of service! Bev has 1 more year of eligibility.
- Business seat: Ken has 3 more years of eligibility.
- Took poll of who will participate in a Recruitment Team: Deb, Christine and Kath volunteered
- Reminder of [Group Norms document](#) (will review together in February)

2. Committee updates

- [EDC minutes](#): Renaming Edmund Blvd: those who live on the street want to change it to represent a different Edmund; a larger community meeting is planned to get input beyond those who live on the street.
- ERG minutes (did not meet in January)
- [Executive Committee minutes](#)

3. Financial Update

- [FY23 Budget vs Actuals](#): Finance committee meetings changed to Wednesday mornings at 9am; Key things from finances: extra grant funds in income which led to increase in spending of program funds; New Money market account is doing well (gained \$1081 dollars in first month). Plans for next year: long-term funding for staffing etc, given decreased funding from City. May also be starting a fundraising committee.

4. Executive Director and organizational updates

- [NRP Policy Board](#): Bev gave a brief history—established in 1993 and has reps from many city and state offices, plus four neighborhood representatives. LCC is within District 5. We can vote for the District 5 and At-large seats. Bev and Rachel explained the timeline and process below. Rachel explained that some neighborhood associations are not participating.
- January 16: LCC determine our Elector
- January 20: Application deadline (voter guide will be release “immediately”)
- January 26: Voter guide available (best guess)
- January 29 - February 8: LCC Board members will review voter guide and candidates and submit vote once that is complete
- February 9: LCC Board members must submit their vote by this date (Rachel will send a google form for a ballot)
- February 12: Rachel will meet with the Elector to ensure they understand the rules of voting
- February 13: Elector will submit LCC’s vote (unless they want to go to the Community Connections Conference and submit it in person)
- February 17: Community Connections Conference
- Results will be released within one month of the conference

Action Items

1. Approve LCC Elector for NRP Policy Board voting process: Kath volunteered to be Elector and Kaelin is the alternate

Strategic Planning: Session One

Priority One: Provide Information. We broke into small groups to work on this priority while considering the following ([Used this shared google doc](#)):

- Organizational considerations include:
 - What is our capacity to do this work with current staffing and volunteers
 - What funding are we utilizing to complete the work listed
 - What total resources do we have access to to accomplish this work
 - What challenges could we encounter
- Tactics include:
 - Events, surveys, projects, media/publicity, social media, door knocking, community mailers, etc

Each small group reported back to full group; some common themes were:

- how to get information to historically underrepresented populations in a way that is useful; meeting people where they are
- building partnerships with for- and non-profit organizations
- Consider what are the most important goals/activities and do not try to do too much
- Goals and tactics for Year 2 and Year 3 goals might be better to decide on after Year 1 is evaluated

Next steps: Use the same process for Priority 2 at next month's board meeting, except only do Year 1 goals/tactics.

Open Community Discussion

Next General Membership Meeting, Thursday, April 11th, 2024: at Legacy building at 46th and Hiawatha. Tacos will be provided.

Katie Simon: Will traffic calming efforts be picked up by Aurin Chowdry? Rachel said yes, and Aurin and Jason will be at next month's board meeting. Katie also reported that they had a gunshot in the Cooper neighborhood near her house.

Meeting adjourned at 7:55pm

Attached for review: Staff Reports

1. [Executive Director](#)
2. Community Organizer: [November](#) and [December](#)
3. [Communications Manager](#)

SLRJ Update:

SLRJ is experiencing an increase in requests from organizations seeking support for internal conflicts. In December requests came from a public safety reform organization, a charter school, and a food distribution program. The challenge continues to be how to fund these types of inquiries. The work is being done on a fee basis but it is a challenge for these small nonprofits to fully cover the cost of a time-intensive restorative process.

Individual donors accounted for about 1/3 of the SLRJ budget in 2023. To meet expenses in 2024, SLRJ will likely need to further increase its individual donor base.