

FRNNG Meeting Minutes

3/20/2024

Monthly board meeting for Field Regina Northrop Neighborhood Association
McRae Park, 906 E 47th St. Minneapolis MN

Call to order – 6:30pm

Board members in attendance:

Nate Lansing, Patty Miller, Theresa Taylor, Dan Rauchman, Colleen Stockmann, Rachel Sporer, Rosalinda Miguel, Jen Kalaidis-Meslow, Tod Foley

Absent:

Charlie Anhut, Cathy Anhut, Steve Gallo, Bill Kinney

Staff:

Lauren Anderson

Guests:

- Councilmember Andrea Jenkins
- 3 neighbors: Suzanne Chatters, V. Paul, Judy Hannigan
- Duck race sponsorship updates (Dan Rauchman)
 - \$300 so far (Steve's Day Camp, Holy Cross Church)
- 3 food trucks
- Tables (PTA for field, girl scouts)
- Field kids might do a 1K duck race
- Each board member has signs and should put them in strategic locations (remember to record where you put your sign)
- Operations – permits, toilets, garbage all confirmed
 - Need a louder speaker system – either rent (\$350) plus renting a generator, or we could buy a new one (\$500).
 - Lauren could ask other neighborhood association

Meeting starts at 6:41 pm

- Introductions – 3 neighbors (names?)
- Motion to Feb minutes by Colleen, seconded by Patty. Minutes are approved.
- Motion to approve financials - Collen motioned, Dan seconded. Motion passed

CM Jenkins speaks - 6:45pm

- Minneapolis updates
 - Uber/Lyft departure - vetoed by mayor, council overturned veto, but CM Jenkins will bring a motion tomorrow to reconsider (initial vote came before a report from the state/city – will revote once report comes in with a new ordinance).

- Need to consider tourism/economic impact – tourists expect to have Uber/Lyft
- Only 14 regular taxis remain in MPLS so Uber/Lyft is crucial for transit
- Some drivers support the legislation, some don't
 - Most of those who oppose the MPLS decision use Uber as gig work and likely have FT jobs with benefits
- CM Jenkins says city is working with other rideshare apps and the city wants to bring back taxi stands
- New community safety center - 26th and Minnehaha – determining its future
 - March 28th community discussion about George Floyd Square at St Anthony Community Center at 6 pm.
- Dan asked about updates on encampments
 - CM Jenkins said colleagues are bringing up ordinances that will impact encampments
 - City is investing resources to build up homeless response teams to provide more counselors to help people find more stable housing

Suzanne Chatters - talking about Variance application for her fence (47th and 17th Ave) – asking for a letter of support

- Application for board of adjustment because of a citation for fence/swings, etc.
 - A neighbor contacted the city and that resulted in the citation (complained about the trampoline/noise)
 - They've made some of the necessary adjustments, but others are cost prohibitive or will negatively impact the space
- Her request: leave the deck and some pergolas where they are (built on a hill, otherwise space is unusable). She argues that by moving the deck how the city recommends, they'd jeopardize two mature trees and could open up the yard to burglars because of a hole
- Suzanne said that the contactors did warn them that some renovations were against code, but said that it often isn't enforced
- Application variance is due by next week – FRNNG needs to give its decision if it's supporting before then
 - The board discussed the issue, noting that it brought up an important aspect of unequal city enforcement that can be weaponized with neighbor conflict.
 - Colleen called a motion to decide if the board should take action or not on this matter
 - Jen, Colleen said yes
 - Rosalinda, Patty, Tod, Theresa, Dan, Nate are nay
 - The board decided not to support the letter because this is outside of the board's duties and it doesn't want to set a precedent of getting involved in neighbor conflict.
 - The board would like to revisit the issue more broadly to see if work should be done to revisit codes

Duck Race

- Duck race sponsorship updates (Dan Rauchman)
 - \$300 so far (Steve's Day Camp, Holy Cross Church)
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- Field kids might do a 1K duck race
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- Operations – permits, toilets, garbage all confirmed
- Dan says the race is still looking for volunteers
- The event needs a new speaker system
 - Renting is cheaper, but if we buy one it would pay itself off after about 2 years (~\$250-550 range).
 - Motion (sorry, didn't catch who!) not to exceed \$600 if the board buys a new speaker - motion passed (all ayes)
 - Lauren is also checking with other neighborhood associations to see if we can borrow something

Board Re-election

- Patty, Rachel, Dan, Nate, Charlie, Colleen, Cathy are all up for election
 - Colleen: how do we encourage people to run? Or should board members stay on for consistency?
 - The current recruitment strategy is the Close to Home newsletter, and the homepage/social media
 - The plan is also to push this out at Arbor Day and Duck Race

V. Paul (Victor Paul), local neighbor and Cub Master for Pack 38

- V. introduced himself and discussed how he's trying to build connections with the community to drive engagement with the program

Annual Meeting - food

- Discussion about food – sheet cake, sodas, la croix
- Rachel makes a motion to approve a \$500 budget (not to exceed) at the annual meeting/board election. Patty seconds.
 - Patty - food should not be self serve because of germs – all food should be individually wrapped/packaged
 - Jen volunteers to be in charge of food (options should include gluten free, vegetarian, vegan)

T-shirts for volunteers at events

- Discussion about t-shirts as way to increase FRNNG visibility
- Board volunteers to design?

- Tod volunteers
 - Former president Freya has a design
- 40 shirts - for board members and volunteers (\$11/shirt)
 - Dan motion to approve \$600 for shirts. Rachel seconds. Everyone aye, motion passed

McCrae is closing for updates/accessibility this summer (asbestos)

- Board will meet at Holy Cross in June/July/August
- The Board will need a place to store its stuff.
 - Dan volunteered his office - thank you, Dan!

Rosalinda motions to adjourn, seconded by Rachel

Meeting ends at 8:06 pm

Annual Meeting in May – May 15th