

FRNNG Meeting minutes

October 25, 2023

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

Call to order – 6:30pm

In attendance Board of Directors:

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

Absent:

Charlie Anhut, Cathy Anhut, Bill Kinney

Staff:

Lauren Anderson

Guests:

Hannah Gullickson, Joanne Garlich, Lane Merritt, Lori Moline, Nancy Meyers

Welcome and Introductions

Nate convened the meeting. Everyone went around and introduced themselves and stated their role and their neighborhood.

Open Forum moved to the start of the meeting so that guests could speak

Joanne Garlich - volunteer with MN 350 asking the Board if we would support a letter to the mayor in support of taking action toward climate change. Mentioned that there are extra funds available for use and is asking FRNNG and other neighborhood groups to sign their letter. MN 350 is an interfaith local organization. Nate mentioned that franchise fees, which are part of their requests to the mayor, have been passed. A decision would need to be made by the middle of November when action will start to take place in the capital.

Motion for FRNNG to sign MN 350 letter made by Dan Rauchman

Second by Steve Gallo

Motion carried with all votes in favor, none opposed, no abstentions

Council Person Update: Andrea Jenkins, Ward 8

Council person Andrea Jenkins was not present.

Approval of September Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve the September 2023 Meeting minutes made by Rachel Sporer

Second by Steve Gallo

Motion carried with all votes in favor, none opposed, no abstentions

Approval of October Financial Report: See financial reports online
Motion to approve the September Financial Report made by Patty Miller
Second by Tod Foley
Motion carried with all votes in favor, none opposed, no abstentions

CenterPoint Energy Construction (Columbus Ave/Town Oaks)

- Hannah Gullickson - Their job is to inform us about gas projects, the construction website, letters, and more. This project will happen over the next two years. If there are gas interruptions, neighbors will be notified in advance, and we can expect noise and road closures. More details about CenterPoint Energy updates affecting our neighborhoods can be found at: <https://www.centerpointenergy.com/en-us/InYourCommunity/Pages/ConstructionZoneProjectSites/Minneapolis-Field-Regina-Northrop-Neighborhoods.aspx?au=res&sa=mn>
 - Any unfinished business (like gravel left over) from fall will be finished in November 2023.
 - By 2027, any houses with indoor meters will be moved outside by appointment

Board Business

- Facade Matching Grant Application & Interested Businesses
 - Lauren has been contacting businesses and there is interest from a few in applying for these grants (a 2:1 match). The max a business could receive per application is \$5,000 (and a business could apply each year). If a business puts in \$10,000, the grant would match \$5,000. The Board needs to determine the amount we want to apply for depending on neighborhood interest (the max is \$50,000). The funds have three years to be used.
 - Application reviews: The Board will also need to determine a scoring rubric for reviewing applications to include language to create a process for following up with businesses that have not used their funds - it's a reimbursement. Colleen suggested that we review applications quarterly instead of rolling to create a more equitable application review process and the Board agreed.
 - Steve Gallo suggested we increase our application from \$30,000 to \$50,000 and the Board agreed.
 - Businesses on Chicago Ave are covered by Bancroft right now, but if we receive the grant, Chicago Ave would then fall back under FRNNG.

Motion to approve the Facade Matching Grant Application for \$50,000 made by Patty Miller
Second by Dan Rauchman

Motion to amend pending changes made by Colleen Stockmann

Motion with amendment carried with all votes in favor, none opposed, no abstentions

- Local Business Holiday Gift Guide
 - Rachel Sporer: A holiday shopping guide that will go on our e-newsletter and website for gifts under \$25.
 - A neighborhood resident was present at the meeting and talked about a group of neighbors who grow produce for the NCBC food shelf and partner with KNOWoodWorks, a fencing company in Northrop, for a garden fundraiser to sell fire starters. Their goal is to raise \$1,500 to grow produce.

- Theresa Taylor suggested that we add other entrepreneurs, like people who create jewelry, but don't have a storefront or official business, to our guide next year.
- Holiday Lights Tour
 - Lauren: we now have a link to the sign up-up form and it will be distributed
- Personal Safety Workshop Request
 - Lori Moline (guest): Here to ask FRNNG to host a self defense workshop, similar to the one held at the Senior Fair at Pearl Park, due to crime and safety concerns in our neighborhoods. Nate asked if someone on the Board wants to help lead this initiative. Rachel brought up that FRNNG is looking at building new committees and we will discuss a Community Safety committee. Patty brought up that our committees are open to neighbors who are not Board members and we are always looking for neighbors who have a passion who would like to start committees or initiatives. Nate suggested we could bring in Jennifer Neale, MPD Crime Prevention Specialist from the 3rd Precinct, to a Board meeting to discuss this topic further.
- Year-end Fundraising
 - We will participate in Give to the Max day, language has been drafted, and it will be shared in the newsletter. We will decide in November about any potential dollar campaign.
- FRNNG Strategic Planning
 - Colleen Stockmann led the strategic planning brainstorm. Colleen will synthesize our ideas to identify patterns and values that will then lead to initiatives. Board members who were not here will be able to participate by completing documents online.
- 2024 Draft Budget
 - We will push this item to our November meeting.

Next meeting and adjournment

Next meeting – November 15, 2023 6:30-8pm McRae

Motion to adjourn made by Steve Gallo

Second by Patty Miller

Motion carried with all votes in favor, none opposed, no abstentions