

FRNNG Meeting minutes

September 20, 2023

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

Some of the board met informally at 6:00pm to discuss proposed Conflict Resolution Draft

Call to order – 6:30pm

In attendance Board of directors:

Nate Lansing, Patty Miller, Charlie Anhut, Cathy Anhut, Theresa Taylor, Rosalinda Miguel, Steve Gallo, Bill Kinney, Tod Foley, Dan Rauchman, Jen Kalaidis-Meslow, Colleen Stockmann

Absent:

Rachel Sporer, Christina Brill, Michael Tomatz

Staff:

Lauren Anderson

Guests:

Emily Koski

Welcome and Introductions

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

CM Koski, Ward 11

- Under litigation is the Minneapolis 2040 plan goals on climate and housing. The Council is appealing that the plan go back to 2030 plan for these goals in particular.
- Mayor nominated Toddrick Barnette as new Public Safety Commissioner
- There has been a lot of discussion on the 3rd Precinct. The administrative side put out opportunities for meetings and surveys for deciding about a location to rebuild and as a result, the Council has now agreed to not use the old 3rd precinct site to rebuild. Instead, a proposal has been made to combine 3rd Precinct with 1st precinct downtown as a co-location in the old Century Center building. CM Koski found out it would be two separate precincts on the site as a 10 year temporary space at quite a cost so more evaluation needs to happen (Hiawatha Space is still on the table) and important for the new space to include other resources than just the police dept.
- CM Koski told us about the new shelter in the North Loop area called Avivo Village. Now the state will match funds and one million has been pledged for another village to be built in South Minneapolis.

Approval of August meeting Minutes

Motion to approve August 2023 Meeting minutes made by Colleen

Second by Steve Gallo

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

Financial Report: See financial reports online

Attorney General Report was also made available online

Dan made the motion to approve the August Financial reports

Second by Patty Miller

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

Dan made a motion to approve the Attorney General report

Second by Steve

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

Board Business:

President update

- **Email question** - is everyone getting them? If you see emails please respond somehow so we know people are reading the emails. Discussion about how to respond happened. Possible to set up an efficient way to see emails in settings. Colleen offered the possibility of an outside meeting to do some training on Google.
- **October Meeting Date** - suggestion to move meeting because of conflict with MEA week
Patty made motion to move October meeting to Oct. 25 to accommodate MEA
Second by Steve
Discussion - Charlie brought up maybe we should change all future October meetings to accommodate this situation permanently. As a result
Charlie made a motion to amend the above motion that all future October FRNNG meetings will be on the 4th Wednesday
Rosalinda seconded the proposed amendment
Amended Motion carried with all votes in favor, none opposed, no abstentions
- **Board Conflict** - a draft of board conflict process was sent online
 - Nate would like to put this process in place and discussion about this process followed
 - One point of the process includes mediation as one of the steps and Nate asked if we might want to set aside some funds for mediation if needed. Nate suggested \$1,000.00 for that purpose
 - First step reach out to the executive committee and Lauren and if the conflict needs mediation that can be arrangedColleen made a motion to approve the Board Conflict process as proposed
Patty second
Motion carried with all votes in favor, none opposed, no abstentions
Patty moved that we add to set aside up to 3,000 for intra board conflict mediation
Tod second
Motion carried with all votes in favor, none opposed, no abstentions

At this point in the meeting we decided to move shorter agenda items forward before other longer discussion topics.

McRae Playground Celebration Recap great success and attendance

- Rosalinda shared highlights
 - Popsicles
 - Speeches
 - Games

Upcoming City Council Candidate Forums

- Lauren reported these forums and Board Members that will be attending to table are:
 - Ward 11 Sept. 27 Steve and Rachel
 - Ward 8 Oct 3 Charlie and RosalindaBoth forums will be livestreamed as well

Marathon Cheer Squad

- Patty Miller reported on meeting she attended at Holy Cross Lutheran Church
 - Church is very excited about partnering with us and looking forward to partnering on other events.
 - Thrivent Insurance has funds for community outreach events and will provide some of the food and supplies
 - FRNNG will provide additional funds for supplies
 - Check the meeting docs for supply list and Charlie volunteered to bring supplies to make DIY noise makers
 - Lauren said there is a sign-up genius for supplies and helpers and we are asked to please take a look at this and consider signing up to help, especially the second shift

Colleen motioned to approve up to 110.00 for supplies for the Marathon Cheer Squad

Dan second

No Discussion

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

FRNNG Survey Results Discussion (this pdf is in our meeting resources)

- Lauren called our attention to results on pg. 2 Greening is top of the list (more dates coming up Sept 26 and Oct. 8 with a celebration on Oct. 9?)
- 82 people responded to survey
- Great to see comments and Lauren put them in groupings for us
- Discussion of results followed especially about the popularity of the Greening activity of Buckthorn removal. Colleen reported there were many volunteers showing up because they saw these events in our social media and website posts. Colleen also reported there are ideas out there about doing various events associated with Greening. Nate suggested we should resurrect the committee structure for a Greening committee for instance with neighborhood volunteers, not just Board Members. Members suggested committees should have established monthly meeting days like the Communication Committee.

FRNNG Program Ideas

- Home Improvement Loan Program has been reestablished (see Aug. 31st email about this)
 - interest rate under discussion especially to cover admin fee (1.99 rate right now)
 - home loan amount increase could be a possibility (currently 15,000)
 - There are 2 applications at present in process and we could fund 3 (50,000 was moved into the Home Improvement Loan account to cover these) CEE is handling these loans for us. CEE charges fees of 2,500 per year plus 10% of each loan they give out)

- We could address this issue at a future meeting in detail for approval but Lauren is suggesting we might want to vote on moving some more funds tonight
- We have not widely advertised this program, but there is a mention on the website so we need to have more details and process in place
- Bill brought up that these kinds of requests shows we should have a budget
- Colleen mentioned we should also have a strategic plan
- Lauren reminded us a plan modification takes 3 months to approve so we need to keep that in mind as we talk through our program ideas
- Dan brought up a need for emergency funds
- We were reminded we are now getting to the end of 2023 and our program ideas for a plan would be for 2024. Our fiscal year runs April to March but programming would be on the calendar year
- Lauren asked us to circle back to the Home Improvement Loan funds to decide on having enough funds for requests and then in future meetings discuss a strategic plan, budget and plan modifications.
- Program income from repaid Home Improvement Loans funds are now at 180,000 which does not have to stay in housing but we could move some of these funds to Home Improvement Loan program at this time and keep remaining funds for other programs
- Questions on the table include interest rate increase and moving additional funds into Home Improvement Loan funds

As a result of our discussions:

Steve made a motion to move 50,000 from Program Income from Repaid Home Loans Funds into the Home Improvement Loan Program

Second: Colleen

No more discussion

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

Nate recommended we raise the interest rate at this time before we blast this program out to the neighborhood in our media sources.

Dan made a motion to raise the interest rate from 1.99 % to 3.0%

Second: Steve

Discussion: Rosalinda wanted clarification if these loans are going to households under a certain income. Lauren clarified that there is no income restriction for these types of loans. Other loans do have income restrictions.

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

Holiday Lights Tour

Lauren suggested this is where households sign up for the tour as a fun community event. People who have fun outdoor decorations to show agree to put their address on a google map for neighbors to drive by to enjoy and vote. We could have gift cards as prizes. This is an easy event and Lauren has an example of how Armitage and Kenny neighborhoods handle this.

Discussion:

- Colleen thinks we might want to table this for the future and instead put our energies in on a community street event like Small Business Saturday which happens on the weekend of Thanksgiving. Maybe we should put some effort into this type of event instead?
- Lauren reported that in CTH there will be ideas of places and items from local businesses in FRN for Christmas gifts. Rachel has been working on this list with Lauren. This will be published in

the newsletter and on our social media sites. This will highlight the small businesses both for Small Business Saturday and into the holiday shopping season.

- On a side note Lauren was concerned that 48th and Chicago might not be a part of the Special Services District for special amenities and enhanced services from the businesses and the city. She will reach out to the City Council to see if this is the case.
- After more discussion it was decided we will vote on the Holiday Tour proposal by email.

Nate would like to set a goal for the next meeting to pull together a plan for 2024 and bring together all our ideas into a strategic plan for the future year. Lauren will pull together a budget template for us as well.

Colleen suggests we need to have our ideas but we also need to bond as a board. It is important to have our initiatives but also do some team building as we work through them. Lauren let the Board know that we would also create a budget for 2024 that can be turned into the city.

Open Forum

Eli Persky here as a guest and wants to get more involved and to see our progress as a board
Nate invited Eli to join in any of our programs or become part of the board in the future.

Next meeting and adjournment

Next meeting – October 25, 2023 6:30-8pm McRae (see above discussion item)

Motion to adjourn made by Dan

Second by Charlie

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