



Highland District Council  
1978 Ford Parkway Saint Paul, Minnesota 55116  
651-695-4005 Fax 651-695-4019  
Email: info@highlanddistrictcouncil.org

*Building a More Vibrant, Welcoming, and Safe Neighborhood*

**Meeting Minutes of the Highland District Council**

**April 7, 2016, 7:00 p.m.**

**Call to Order - 7:05pm**

**Roll Call**

Directors present: Jopp, McDonald, McMahon, Kolar, Anderson, Nichols, Dobier, Thompson, Gallatin, Krivitz, Langford, Petterson, Heegaard, Beaumast (alternate-seated)

Absent: Jossi, Schicker, Cleaveland, Salmela, Brady, Armstrong (alternate-absent)

**Approval of Agenda**

Motion made, seconded, and passed to approve April agenda as presented, with understanding of accepting guest speakers when they arrive.

**Approval of Minutes of Prior Meeting**

Motion made, seconded, and passed to approve March meeting minutes as presented. Director Thompson abstains.

**Saint Paul Strong**

John Manillo

- Presentation goal: describe nature and purpose of Saint Paul Strong
  - A political group that is non partisan
  - Shine a light on city hall and local government
- Goal is not a particular side of an issue, but focus on an open process
  - Ex. Grand Ave parking meters, Dayton's Bluff teardowns
- Saint Paul Strong: wants to partner with local organizations, serve as a resource
- Q&A
  - Q: What is Saint Paul Strong's ideal process?
    - A: For everyone to know what is going on, which is an ideal that is unreachable, but for community councils to have input
  - Comment: Concern about Saint Paul Strong's launch, trying to take a place that is already filled by the District Council's
    - A: Not trying to usurp the position of District Council's, just trying to shed light on issues and open
  - Q: What is your constituency? Mayor, City Council, are elected. Who does Saint Paul Strong represent?



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### ***Building a More Vibrant, Welcoming, and Safe Neighborhood***

- A: We represent the city, and since the elected officials support our principals, we represent them and hold them to what they said they would do.[Ongoing debate around consensus and purpose of non-governmental, non-elected groups.]

### **Xcel Energy**

- Pipeline project
    - Timeline: May-October: Montreal/West 7th/Lexington; south on Elway
      - Q: When does Lexington/Randolph close? And is there coordination with the County to ensure there is access to 35E?
  - Project highlights:
    - 1.7 miles of water main replaced
    - 4.2 miles of gas main replaced
    - Community outreach
      - Fact sheet goes out tomorrow, April 8, to affected area residents
  - 2016 project impact
    - Lexington Parkway Building
    - Montreal/Lexington/West 7th
      - Xcel is working with traffic engineer to prepare for 35E exits and communication of the new traffic patterns
    - Closing St. Claire exit ramp of 35E
    - Montreal parking (Circus Juventus)
      - Comment: Pool House work during June, will conflict with Xcel's work.
      - Northside parking will be lost during work, beginning on May 9 and ending by July 4.
- \*\*\*\*7:45p: Arrival of KSTP News cameraman for Xcel presentation.\*\*\*\*
- President Anderson reads HDC bylaw regarding media recording.
  - Motion made, seconded, and passed to allow KSTP record.

### **Public Comment**

- None

### **Treasurer's Report: ED Carruth (Treasurer Salmela absent due to illness)**

- Presentation on the 990 tax form.
  - Motion made, seconded, and passed to approve the 990 tax form.
- Presentation of the 2015 audit.
  - Update of Financial Policies and Procedures coming
  - Flag pole
  - Motion made, seconded, and passed to approve 2015 audit.



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- Presentation of the treasurer's report.
  - Motion made, seconded, and passed to approve 2015 audit.

**Executive Director's Report: ED Carruth**

- 735 S. Cleveland: "HighPark" scrapped; new name is "The Finn"
- Annual Meeting: volunteers needed, sign up
- Home Improvement Fair: volunteers needed; sign up
- Streetscape: remaining balance of \$470,000 on the streetscape work
- Serendipity grant: ongoing
- Welcome Signs: some have gone up; keep your eyes peeled
- Bike Racks: working on sponsorship sheet
- A Line Planning: working with HBA, Jon Commers and Jonathan Sage Martinson pushed for kickoff party in Highland, and we will be having one on June 11
- Annual Meeting: Tiff's will be catering

**Executive Committee Report: President Tia Anderson**

- Thank you for your service this year, if you are not returning, thank you
- Tia Anderson: announces that she has accepted a position with the City of Saint Paul in DSI, transitioning out in May/June
  - Board offers congratulations
- Mike McDonald: announces he won't be returning, endorses Kevin Gallatin for Grid 2
- Annual Meeting Election Procedures
  - Please review before Wednesday's meeting
- Highland District Council Bylaw Change
  - First reading of the proposed changes to bylaws:
    - 4.3
    - 4.4
    - 4.10
    - 7.4

**Standing Committee Reports**

- **Community Engagement Committee: Ken Jopp, Chair**
  - Parks and Rec presentation last month
  - Serendipity grant extended
  - Highland Pool House neighborhood engagement now under way, events will take place this summer
- **Transportation Committee: Kevin Gallatin, Chair**
  - A Line Party: Save June 11



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***Building a More Vibrant, Welcoming, and Safe Neighborhood***

- Safe Routes to School: Resolution
  - Group of parents and community members would like HDC help in moving resolutions to address lack of sidewalks
  - Resolution for Sidewalk Infrastructure Near Randolph/Hamline Ave Schools, coming from committee so no second needed
    - Resolution passes.
- Snelling Avenue Center Median
  - Two Transportation Committee meetings ago had input for design, workshop style to get community input
  - Last meeting, median design presented that would be concrete, raised and planted, from Randolph to Highland Parkway, and Highland Parkway to Ford Parkway, would be painted in advance of necessary funding
    - Parking lost on East side
    - Community input: 50/50 split for an against median
      - Pros voiced: Dangerous street to cross; need beautification on the street; reduction in speed
      - Cons voiced: lane width, truck issues (rebutted by John Matzko), cost (no assessments, 8-80 funds and state grant, \$2.25 million estimated cost, side street and alley volume increases (every other street would be blocked off), business access (resolution asks for consideration of this point in design), all concrete medians (resolution does not support this)
  - Resolution in Support of Snelling Ave Center Median, coming from committee so no second needed
    - Resolution passes, with amendment to oppose ALL all concrete medians.
- Riverview Corridor Preferences for Highland Park
  - Riverview Corridor locally preferred option coming in June, but other community organizations are weighing in now, so Highland is weighing in on what Highland would like to see and what we cannot accept.
    - Chair Gallatin explains background and resolutions proposed “requirements” and “concerns.”
  - Resolution Declaring Riverview Corridor Preferences for Highland Park, coming from committee so no second needed
    - Friendly amendment: specify “modern” streetcar; accepted.
    - Friendly amendment: specify “only” Highland Park; declined



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- Resolution passes; with Directors Petterson and McMahon abstaining.
- **Community Development Committee: Tia Anderson, Committee Member**
  - Sidewall articulation definition continues.
  - Liquor license applications coming down the pipe.
  - TIF Resolution
    - Passed out of committee in support of City of Saint Paul's establishment of TIF district at Ford Site.

**Communication Task Force: Kevin Gallatin, Chair**

- Communications Task Force Recommendations presented
  - Board passes on thanks to committee for their work
- Motion made to sunset old communication plan and update the new, Resolution Passes

**Councilmember Tolber's Office: Libby Kantnor**

- Wednesday, May 4: Walk/Bike to school event

**W7BA: Kent Petterson**

- No update

**HBA: Anne Langford**

- Highland Fest planning in full swing.

**Adjourn** Motion made, seconded, and passed to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 9:01p.m.

Joe Kolar, HDC Secretary