



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

Board of Directors Meeting May 3, 2018, 7:00 p.m.

Call to Order – 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call

Directors Present: Miller, Gallatin, Jossi, Mattson, Hood, Tegatz, Lindsay, Whitehead, Dobier, Duffy, Schwarz, Long, Bauer.

Directors seated upon election: Hurse, Grill and Basgen.

Appoint-at-large alternatives - Four candidates present and gave brief presentations. Tom Basgen; Kristine Grill; Tom Romens, Jim Winterer and Tim Morehead. HDC Board Members voted by ballot. *Kristine Grill* was elected as the 1st Alternate. *Tom Basgen* was elected as the 2nd Alternate.

Grid 12 Election/Appointment - Motion made, seconded and passed to seat Nate Hurse as the Grid 12 Representative.

Elect Officers – Frank Jossi, Nominate Committee presented the following slate of candidates: President: Kevin Gallatin; Vice President: Mike Lindsay; Secretary: Amy Schwarz; Treasurer: Bob Whitehead. Motion made, seconded and passed to approve the slate of candidates.

Approval of Agenda: Motion made, seconded and passed to approve the March agenda as presented.

Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes: Motion made, seconded and passed to approve the May meeting minutes as presented.

Whitney Clark, Friends of the Mississippi Presentation: Mr. Clark gave a presentation on Review of Area C Investigation, Environmental Hazard Assessment. Mr. Clark gave a brief overview of FMR’s mission and “Area C – Comprehensive Site History and Investigation Report II.” Site C was an industrial dump of heavy metals, toxins and contaminants in the floodplain of Mississippi. FMR and its consultants have concerns with the report and its conclusions. Hood mentioned adding signs to prevent residents from recreating on the site and other HDC members and members of the public asked clarifying questions of Mr. Whitney.

Hidden Falls/Mississippi River Road Adjustment: FMR has suggested a boundary adjustment of Hidden Falls Regional Park to widen it and move Mississippi River Boulevard (MRB) to a different alignment to add more park space along the bluff. If this occurs, a regional park acquisition fund could be used. The City would be required to match the funds. FMR also suggests the asphalt parking lot on the bluff side be moved. Two realignment proposals were presented, adding approximately 2.3-6.5 acres of parkland could be added. This was recommended by the Ford Task Force to the

The Highland District Council’s mission is to foster opportunities for the people that live, learn, work, and play in Highland Park to engage and connect with neighbors, businesses and local government and to help build a more vibrant, welcoming, and safe neighborhood.

The HDC is a registered 501(c)3 non-profit.



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Development Committee. This was incorporated by reference into the Ford zoning plan adopted by the City Council. Gallatin stated that the HDC has asked the City to bring this matter to the HDC transportation committee and the HDC if it is advanced.

River Gorge: there is a proposal to eliminate the Ford Lock and Dam 1 which would recreate the river gorge. This would change the hydrology below the dam. This proposal is many years out but was provided as an FYI.

Public Comment: None.

Standing Committee Selection: Kathy Carruth, Executive Director, provided the Standing Committee Selections. The following appointments were made:

- Community Development: Lindsay, Tinnes, Jossi, Duffy, Soderberg, Langford, Miller.
- Transportation: Gallatin, Schwarz, Hood, Dobier, Grill, Basgen.
- Community Engagement: Long, Whitehead, Willis, Mattson, Bauer, Teggatz, Hurse.

Standing Committee Reports:

Transportation: Nate Hood, Chair presented that HDC and Mac Groveland has \$5,000 to do pedestrian improvements, Cretin and Highland Parkway will be improved for pedestrians. Route 54 frequency will be increased. The City is exploring parking requirements and bike parking related to Snelling Avenue. The Snelling Avenue median is an ongoing project. The transportation committee will discuss Stop for Me locations and events at the May 8th meeting.

Community Engagement: Sally Bauer, Chair presented that HDC held a new resident welcome in March. Thanks to Bob Whitehead for lining up sponsors. Committee is learning about the Innovation Grant, \$5,800, which is to better engage and get better representation on district councils. The committee will look at putting together an equity plan or learning about equity plans from other district councils. There are opportunities to partner with Neighborhood House and Sibley Manor to address food scarcity, including a produce stand at Sibley Manor.

Community Development: Frank Jossi presented that 900 Albion Resolution passed at the March HDC meeting: “Resolution in Support of the CUP and Variance for the Property at 900 Albion” is available on the HDC website. The City is going to add two test holes to the disc-golf at Edgcumbe. At the next meeting, the committee will be discussing accessory units. Carbone’s Pizza has a new bar and is requesting an outdoor sidewalk food and wine license and wants a waiver of the 45-day waiting period.

Executive Director Report: see attached.



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Treasurer's Report: Bob Whitehead, Treasurer. Kathy Carruth discussed finances, including reimbursement request form, March and April check details and expense reports. Frank Jossi, Bob Whitehead and Sally Bauer are designated signatories for checks. Motion made, seconded and passed to approve the check signatories. Motion made, seconded and passed to approve the Treasurer's Report.

Business Representatives' Reports: None.

City Council Report: Melanie McMahon, Legislative Aide to CM Tolbert. McMahon stated that the Citywide Clean-up was canceled but supplies were available at community centers. The southern part of Lexington will be resurfaced and it will be getting a bike lane from Randolph to St. Clair. Parking will be removed on 2 blocks. City Council is looking at raising the minimum raise. The Citizen's League completed Phase I of a report related to this topic. Phase II of a report will be prepared and presented to the City Council. There will be additional community engagement opportunities over the summer and fall. Bike walk to school day is next week. Volunteers may be needed. Contact McMahon if you are interested. Historic Preservation Commission (HPC): Hood discussed ordinances related to maintenance of historic homes in a recent article. Jane McClure commented on the article and noted an upcoming article in the Villager. There is an HPC meeting on May 24, 2018.

Executive Committee Report: Gallatin welcomed new members and thanked members and staff who assisted with the HDC meeting. Gallatin encouraged attendees who were not elected to attend committee meetings.

New Business: None.

Adjourn: 9:00 p.m.

Notes by Amy Schwarz



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ED Report May 3rd, 2018

Misc items I have worked on this week...

Trash pickup on West 7th street, Block Club –helping someone find their, Dead tree’s in the Village Street Scape, Sidewalk on Hartford by CDH, Carbone’s Pizza Outdoor service area, Organized Trash Collection mtg,
Brightside Farm Stand –Licensing/EBT, Dirt at the Ford site, Trees being cut down at the Ford site, noise at the Finn

Administrative

Peter Myers -Ford Documentary –Fiscal Agency – I interviewed with Peter in early April for the Cultural STAR grant. Peter had a good lead with Brookfield, may start to look for Local Business Support

2016 COPP Grant for Public Art – We are under contract with the artist for \$4300 from 2016 COPP, the City expired the grant. They have always done an extension from when you sign the grant. This was redone, -4 times between the Pool House and the Public Art piece with the final being signed in end of May 2017. They gave no notice and took the balance of \$4300 and reapplied into the COPP pool.

2017 COPP Grant for Ped Safety Demonstration Projects –a matrix has been developed, met with MGCC and HDC Transportation Committees, MGCC and myself met with PW. Mac Grove is doing evaluation of their intersection tomorrow morning. HDC will schedule soon.

2018 COPP –applied for \$1200 for a Right Track worker to share with Mac Grove, and the \$4300 for the Public Art contract. We should find our within a couple weeks.

Lease –We are still operating under the 2015 lease

D 15 Steering Committee Update – With lots of scrambling the D15 Plan survey was up and running by the HIF in March. We have been handing out cards with the link, ran in the print news, at Annual Meeting, etc. Our Planner Kady Dadlez gave us a very detailed edit – most changes were made, some need to be reviewed by a committee.

2018 City Contract –was approved, Jan-March reimbursements have been received.

2017 990 –was signed, approved and mailed to the IRS

Upcoming Speakers

June – Lucy Thompson, PED City Comprehensive Plan
Scouts would like to come sometime

Innovation Fund –was approved by City Council and the Mayor’s office to be split evenly by DC’s for 2018, the process will be like our City Contract (except we can use it to purchase food and beverages). We do not have the application yet, but each DC will receive around \$5,800.



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Environmental Contract with Public Works –just received it yesterday and need to submit, we will be the lead on the Fall Drop Off event, plus extra money for the Organized Collection outreach that we will be doing.

HDC Programming

Annual Meeting – the Annual meeting was very well attended, we will review at Exec, most of the changes we made to process and logistics seemed to help with the flow of the meeting.

Tour de Highland –has been crazy trying to get restaurants, sponsors to commit. We have 50 riders registered with 3 weeks to go. **Please share the FB Event everywhere you can!** I sent the link to the Volunteer doc, we do need help and lots of it☺

Citywide Drop off event –we are scheduled to take the lead again in 2018, had a debrief to make some improvements, I filed a permit for Saturday, September 29th –we are confirmed.

New Resident Welcome –Was a great success with almost 50 people attending –Mike and Bob can tell you more.

Other Projects

Public Art –the artist threw a wrench into the project. We knew electric was going to be extra, but we are now told that the lighting for each bench will be \$1500 + \$1000 to run the electric, for a total of \$5,000. I have \$1,000 committed from Xcel, and Kari and I are meeting with Bob Moeller tomorrow at 10 am. We are trying to set up meetings with Highland Bank, and apply for a Target mini-grant.

St Paul Ave/ Cleveland “Pork Chop” – we found the planters from Ford and Cleveland(they are at the Ford site) Highland Nursery has agreed to plant them, HBA has agreed to water and the County has agreed to placement of 4 planters!! The City moved them –now trying to get the donation... and will maybe pay Chuck \$100 to plant them(?)

Snelling Ave Median Update- medians are still scheduled for this spring of 2018, so Dave Kuebler will be the City person picking up the project.

HPCC Play Area –construction this spring (we hope), it has been put out for bid

Sibley Plaza –connected them with Visible City, Jon Commers new business. I met with them in March, and they are very close to having a grocer signed (closer than they have been)

South Highland Reservoir – was given to the County and City to work cooperatively on a design.....

Albion School –J Wedam Foundation –will be at the May 15 CDC. They have applied for Rezone, CUP and Variance. HDC has voted to support all 3.

Ford Pkwy Work –we are still working with the County to move the lane merge on west bound Ford past Kenneth, and to remove the arrows by Walgreens and Chipotle,

Shepard Development (Johnson Brothers) –no update.

St Kate’s Parking Lot Project –Letter to the President-was sent, with no response. The woods have been cut, and the lot is being installed



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Highland Senior Apt –Parking lot project – rezoning passed the Planning Commission, they are moving through site plan.

Highland Disc Golf Proposed Expansion – Parks came back to the March CDC meeting with neighbors and offered a compromise. They will put in temporary holes this summer, no expansion across Edgumbe, and SPPD said they have been sending extra patrols to the area. The neighbors were very appreciative of the greater Police presence

Sidewalks for EXPO/ CDH/Holy Spirit –at Transportation in February, moving forward, I asked the Engineer, Elizabeth Stiffler to keep us updated. WE had a severe communication breakdown but I think we are back on track. I am meeting with PW, Forestry and CDH on Monday at 10 am.

HDC Meetings

May 8 Transportation 7:00 PM, HPCC –Route 54 Improvements, Snelling Ave Parking Requirements, D15 Plan priorities

May 15 CDC 6:30 PM, HPCC – Albion, Carbone’s Outdoor Patio License, Accessory Dwelling Units

May 19 Tour de Highland – Ride, Walk and Eat –Don’t miss it!

May 22 CEC 6:45 PM HPCC – TBD