

Highland Park Community Center
1978 Ford Parkway
St. Paul MN 55116
HDC Board Meeting June 1st, 2017

Call to Order - 7:02pm Frank Jossi, Vice-President

Roll Call - Peter Armstrong, Acting Secretary

Directors present: Jossi, Tinnes, Salmela, Lindsay, Whitehead, Dobier, Armstrong, Long, Soderberg, Jopp, Zuro White

Directors present: Alternates Seated: Collen Zuro-White, Ken Jopp

Executive Director : Kathy Carruth

Elect Board President- Frank Jossi, Vice-President

Nominated: Kevin Gallatin by Armstrong, second Jack Dobier.

Statement by Kevin Gallatin: I'm very proud of the HDC and all that we've accomplished during the three years I've been a member. I'm consistently impressed with our excellent staff and the dedication and spirit of service I've seen in each of you. We've enjoyed strong and steady leadership from our executive committee, and I would be honored to continue that tradition by serving as president.

As board president, my primary goal would be to increase engagement by making it easier for community members to learn about HDC business and provide input. We are already very busy doing good work and there is little capacity to take on more, but I believe we can tweak our approach in a few simple ways to have a bigger impact. This could mean using technology to open up public meetings to those who can't attend in person, broadly sharing timely meeting agendas and minutes to improve visibility, and more deliberately engaging members of the community who we don't traditionally hear from. Last fall's demographic study showed a need to carve out a grid seat in Shepard-Davern and I believe we should pursue that before the next annual meeting.

I'm committed to listening to your input and using the ideas and talents of all board members to deliver the outstanding results Highland deserves. Thanks for your service and for your consideration.

Kevin Gallatin

Approval of Agenda

Motion made, seconded, and passed to approve June agenda as presented.

Approval of Minutes of Prior Meeting

Correction: Board members present: Miller, Gallatin, Jossi, Fischbach, McMahon, Kolar, Tinnes, Lindsay, Whitehead, Dobier, Thompson, Armstrong, Hood, Bauer, Soderberg.

Motion made, seconded, and passed to approve May meeting minutes as presented.

Public Comment: Email from community members attached.

Bruce Hoppe, entered petition opposing plan

Tom Romans spoke to tree canopy opposes proposal

Tom Bastion spoke in support

Kyle Lupke spoke in support

Ron Bennett spoke against

Rob Wales spoke in favor

Casey Hart spoke against

Tyler Teggate spoke in favor

Charles Hathaway spoke against

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Leah Hedman spoke against

Ford Resolution Discussion and Vote:

Dobier spoke in favor of the plan.

Zuro-White spoke against

See Attachment.

Armstrong moved for a roll call vote was held.

For: 8 Jossi, Salmela, Lindsay, Whitehead, Dobier, Armstrong, Long, Jopp

Against: 3 Tinnes, Soderberg, Zuro-White

Standing Committee Reports

Community Engagement Committee – elected Chair Sally Bauer, Mike Lindsay vice chair .Committee nominated community members James Baumaster, and Laura Merriam.

Reported an update on Highland Fest and the “parklette” Requested volunteers for Saturday July 15.

Transportation Committee – Jack Dobier Vice Chair.

Reported on Kayak Rental program, CP Rail update. Resolutions attached. Passed. Zuro-White abstained from vote on Mississippi River Road.

Community Development Committee – Amy Salmela Chair, reported SPRWS will decommission one reservoir. Ramesy County Parks and St. Paul Parks proposed potential use. Luci Ancora is requesting a full liquor license Committee voted to support. Resolution passed.

City Council Report

Melanie, McMahan, City Council Member Tolbert’s Aide –First day on the job, not a lot to report.

Business Representatives Reports

W7BA – Kathy Soderberg no report

Treasurer's Report Bob Whitehead, Treasurer

Motion made, seconded, and passed to approve the treasurer’s report as presented.

Executive Director’s Report See attached

Executive Committee Report

Reported on standing committee community member selection. Board voted to accept. Unanimous consent.

District 15 Plan Update- Kathy Carruth gave a progress report.

New/Other Business

Thanks to our outgoing president, Melanie McMahan, for a job well done.

Discussion was held regarding draft resolutions being made public –given to CEC to discuss at June Meeting.

Adjourn

Motion made, seconded, and passed to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 8:26 pm.

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Resolution for Ford Zoning and Public Realm

WHEREAS the Ford plant in Highland Park was decommissioned in 2011, and includes 122 acres of land above the bluff situated in the middle of one of the premier neighborhoods in Minnesota, and

WHEREAS the City of St. Paul has held community meetings totaling hundreds of residents over multiple years to discuss future use of the site, and

WHEREAS the Ford Task Force, which includes Highland Park community members, has met publicly for nearly a decade to study the feasibility of various future uses on the site, and

WHEREAS the Highland District Council (HDC) has been engaged with both the city and Ford Task Force since the plant was decommissioned, held three large community meetings with over a hundred people in attendance at each, received ongoing feedback from the community, and spent significant time as a Board learning of the feasibility of options for development on the site, and

WHEREAS the HDC believes future use of the Ford site will have significant, large-scale impact to the surrounding neighborhood and must be completed in a manner that respects and enhances the surrounding area,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the HDC supports the city's proposed zoning and public realm plan for the Ford site released on March 7th, 2017, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the HDC also believes that the city needs to continue to work to address neighborhood concerns about development on the site, including:

- Maximize green space on the site as much as possible, including connecting the site to the Mississippi River and surrounding community, as well as ensuring that all green space, including recreation space, is available to all community members.
- Address traffic concerns on all surrounding streets, as well as implement traffic calming measures where traffic will increase with the Ford site development.
- Work to ensure that the site is seamlessly integrated into the surrounding neighborhood with human scale and architectural features.
- Create design guidelines for the site to ensure high quality, sustainable, construction and design, following national standards.
- Adopt standards in construction to accommodate bird safety in the Mississippi River Flyway.

Adopted on June 1, 2017
By the Highland District Council Board of Directors
Resolution 2017 – 12E

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ED Report June 1, 2017

Administrative

Peter Myers -Ford Documentary –Fiscal Agency –St Paul foundation donation for \$20,000 in March, Thank you's have been sent, he has started his interviews. I have an email update, and he just sent a letter from TPT with intent to partner with Myer Communication and HDC on the Documentary.

2016 COPP Grant for Structural/ Engineering Review – We have \$7306.14 left over that is being transferred to the Public Art project at Ford and Cleveland. The \$7300 would only get electricity pulled up to the building –which would not be in keeping what COPP should be used for.

Lease –it was approved by the Parks board, not sure about City Council, not sure when the new rate will start-still don't have it

D 15 Steering Committee Update – two full Steering Committee meetings have been held, and the Sub-Committees have started their work. Survey for input has been put together and feedback is coming in –the survey will stay up until June 30th and is on the website, Sub-committees will meet May –August, the committee meeting times and all other information is on the D15 planning page on our website. At the Steering Committee meeting in June, they will re-design the survey to make it more specific for certain priorities from each committee and ask for input in July and August.

2017 COPP Funds –will be asking for \$1500 -\$2000 for mailings for Ford and D15 Plan

Chuck's Gift Card –gave Chuck a \$100 gift card that was approved by Exec, he was very appreciative

Photo's for Website –Patty was going to take photos in June for the website but there were too many Board members missing –she will do it in September☺ dress nice!

HDC Programming

Garage Fest –is this weekend of June 2nd and 3rd –we have about 40 homes signed up

Volunteer Sign Up Sheet is Active –the link was sent to the Board-I will include it in Board meeting reminder emails.

Home Improvement Fair –we are waiting on confirmation of final numbers, but MGCC should be sending our share of the money by June 25th.

Tour de Highland- it rained, and rained and rained –I think the people who attended still had fun, I can't believe that people actually rode the 21 mile ride. THANK YOU so much to all of the Volunteers!

I do not believe we made any money –the good news is that we have bags and water bottles for next year and we can save that expense. We lost \$\$\$ this year –but will not have water bottles, bags, route maps, signs, and t-shirt expenses next year.

Music at the Pool House (“Pool House Rock”)–we have the Noise variance waiver, ice cream truck, sound guy, bands, Parks will have lawn games –it is coming together nicely

Jazzed about Highland –we have an awesome New Orleans Jazz band locked in, McNasty -we are working with HBA again, should be a fun event-Villager is running a piece on them!

Parklet –the parklet is all set, Quixotic and Highland Grill are both on Board –will be set up the week of June 26th and stay until the first week in August

Other Projects

Snelling Ave Median Update- will start project in August or September

HPCC Play Area –Parks has assigned a Landscape architect for the HPCC Play area, have held two meetings –HDC recruited FHA, HBA, Hi-C, Horace Mann, Highland Elementary, HPCC staff and a couple of neighbors. The design is coming together, will have a Community input meeting in June (I believe)

Sibley Plaza –Bob W has been talking to tenants and Yarmo, the Nail Salon and someone else have all made major physical improvements to their spaces. Doesn't appear Paster is doing and remodeling soon.

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Riverview Corridor Update –no decision until December of 2017 is the latest.

Hwy 5 Realignment– Melanie and I met with Libby and Mark Finken, PW they are calling the task force back together to vote on a proposed “no realignment” unless Riverview impacts the area.

Albion School –the group met again on May 5th, we reviewed two proposals –I signed a non-disclosure agreement with SPPS –and have not heard any follow up to our meeting.

Ford and Cleveland –we met with the artist, I am waiting for a draft of the contract for HDC to enter into with James –it will be for the COPP funds and the donations portion of the Money. The City will enter into a contract for the \$10,000 + funds from the Streetscape project.

St Paul Ave and Cleveland Intersection –County has redesigned the Ped crossings, triangle will get grass, ADA accessible

Edgumbe and Davern RR Tracks –have been pulled out and replaced☺

Other News

Bus Shelters at St Paul Ave and West 7th & Maynard and West 7th both received funding under the MT bus shelter improvement project. (this is the project we were going to apply to, but were told not to, because we didn't qualify)

Tiff's may be looking for an expansion of their liquor license, will need a variance

HDC Meetings

June 2 & 3 –Garage Fest –Highland Park Neighborhood Garage Sale

June 13 –Transportation -7:00 PM- Fairview & Beechwood/ Montreal & Howell Ped Crossings

June 15 – Pool House Rock 6:30 -8:30 PM Pool House on the Corner of Montreal and Hamline

June 20 – CDC Meeting -6:30 PM –proposed Tri-plex at 639 South Cleveland Ave

June 20 –D15 Transportation Sub-Committee Meeting 6:30 PM –HPCC

June 20 – D15 Parks/Historic Pres/Public Art/Water Sub-Committee 6:30 PM – HPCC

June 21 – D15 Land Use/Housing Sub-Committee TBD –St Kate's

June 22 – Jazzed About Highland 6:30 PM –Langford Chiropractic Parking Lot –Jazzfest Stage

June 27 – CEC Meeting 6:30 PM - HPCC

June 28 – D15 Steering Committee 6:30 PM -HPCC