



HIGHLAND

DISTRICT COUNCIL

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**HDC Board Meeting
January 9, 2020
1978 Ford Parkway
St. Paul MN 55116
Highland Park Community Center**

Call to Order: 7:01pm

Roll Call:

18 directors present: Miller, Varco, Tastad Damler, Langenfeld, Hollingshead, Gallatin, Doyle, Winterer, Dobier (for Bob Whitehead), Hurse, Reiners, Duffy, Bauer, McGuire, Langford, Soderberg, Martland, Romens Excused: Morehead, Pickett

Approval of Agenda

Motion made and seconded to amend agenda to have an executive session at 815pm then passed to approve January 9, 2020 agenda.

Approval of Minutes of Prior Meeting

Motion made, seconded and passed to approve November 7th, 2019 meeting minutes as presented.

Public Comment:

NONE

NeighborCare-Karen Vento, Program Director

Goal is to take care of our neighborhoods and get a richer living through a diverse neighborhood. Spoke about Living Grant to help seniors in their homes, other innovation. In-home support by Episcopal Homes.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Community Development---Susan Duffy, Chair Gary Martland Reporting

Gary Martland spoke to a variance at 1827 Highland Pwy PCA and Area C: Ford will still own that area (open discussion). MPCA will be meeting on February 20, 2020. Mike Richardson, Planning and Economic Development, study on changing standards to preserve existing housing footprints, and more. Sibley Plaza/Starbucks has passed the Planning Commission.

Community Engagement—Matt McGuire, Chair

Big scope of work in a plan. Tom Rumens volunteers with Free Bikes for Kids and HDC will work with them later in the year for an event. Night of Peace and Goodwill, made the news and informative. One Board member thought that 4 people speaking for one hour about their religion with only little snippets of information about their culture was not informative and complete. Board member felt this was essentially a religious event and that this is not something that HDC should be supporting. One Board member said that he saw folks from the community that he doesn't see coming to our events. Civic right involves expression. Another Board member stated



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that event was the most diverse District Council event she has been to. We are concerned about the people who live here. But we didn't say, "how can we help?"

Transportation----Kevin Gallatin, Chair

New orientation of Lexington Pwy

A-Line Split Stops

Grid 5, rip up streets and put in streets and gutters

MnDOT will have a meeting Tuesday, January 14th, 2020.

Ward 3 updates were email out that has a lot more information.

City Council Report

Melanie McMahan, City Council Member Tolbert's Aide

Submitted via email

Sally Bauer talked about the Annual Meeting and Task Force has formed. Received 5 applicants. Bylaws will be discussed. Michelle is drafting a survey and will be discussed next week. 10 members total.

Treasurer's Report: Jack Dobier for Bob Whitehead

Approval of 2020 Operating Budget, motion made, seconded and passed.

Motion made, seconded and passed to approve the treasurer's report as presented. Covers November and December. Funding does not roll over.

Business Representatives Reports

HBA----Anne Langford:

Nothing to report.

W7BA---Kathy Soderberg:

ALDI is very nice, clean and successful.

Executive Director's Report: ATTACHED

New/Other Business:

Tom Romens: Grievance Compliant Policy recommendation of wording

To the Transportation Committee. Over the past year been a huge change from bikes to scooters. Scooters are taking over the space.

Bylaws, who has the right to officially vote on an issue? 4.8, 4.9 in Bylaws.

Executive Committee Report, Howard Miller, President

8:24pm went in to Closed Session.

During Executive session, a motion was made to change executive roles. Motion failed with a tie vote.

Adjourn

Motion made, seconded and passed to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 903pm



Executive Director Report

Administrative

Website Update – we are in the final stages of the website development. The committee met on Dec 10th to give input before they start building the new site. Patty and I are updating content, and we were just sent a link to the new site.

Class N License Meeting –held three meetings and gave ideas on how to improve the Early Notification system. DSI will now take the feedback and put together language to improve the system.

2019 Audit- will set up a date with Anderson and Baxter for early Feb

STAR Grant –a grant for \$1480 of the Public Art project was filed with the STAR board all paperwork has been submitted and the reimbursement was sent with Nov reimbursement!

Work Plan – Exec, CDC and CEC have all been updated on the 2020 work plan. I will resend the link

City Contract –I have the new forms and have just started working on it
Collective Effectiveness Group – ED/CO Committee that HDC is on. We were working on Honor Roll and a Bush Grant-not a lot happening

CIB Process 2020- 2021 – the City has a process for evaluating projects. Please see attached. I would like to ask someone to come and speak again or take time in committees to focus on projects. The “fingers” on Shepard road would be a project that seems to fit the criteria, and is part of GRP and Shep Dav plans.

Hen House Bookkeeping –they closed at the end of 2019 with only about a 12 day notice. Dani, which is who I with is starting her own business and gave me a new quote. She doesn't have quite as good a deal with ADP (payroll processing), but is still reasonable.

HDC Programming

Home Improvement Fair 2020 – Contract has been signed with MGCC, the date is Saturday, March 7, 2020. Invitations to apply were sent out in mid - October. We have changed the pricing structure to encourage early registration. Please help spread the word, invite businesses, etc. We have about 30 exhibitors registered and would like at least twice that. The deadline is Jan 31st.

Highland Night of Peace and Goodwill –December 4th –Paul L will give you an update.

Neighborhood Honor Roll – **will not be happening this year.** A few people wanted to change the venue and the day of the week. They had a year to come up with another plan, and then had very bad dates, and it cost more money. UST was still willing to host, but the group voted everything down. I have one person who has been nominated for Honor Roll –was thinking maybe we can recognize them at the Annual Meeting??

Annual Meeting – Task Force is working on location, date, etc. should have something soon.

Taste of Highland Park – The idea right now is that we will hold it on a Thursday in May from 5:30 -8:00 pm, ending at Tiffanys, with a band and some give aways. I met with Blake at Tiffs, meeting with Kyle at Highland Grill tomorrow



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Other Projects

Southwest Business Coalition – Would like Board approval to have the HDC participate. Includes 4 business Associations, 5 District Councils, 2 Chambers. Together we can pool resources to educate, collaborate, advocate and celebrate –/local business in the Southwest area of St Paul.

Ryan Company Update –has hired a Consultant to help brand/ name the site, I have an informal phone meeting set up for next week.

Public Art –We would still like to raise \$1,000 from local business to help pay for the bench lighting.

Give to the Max – GiveMN we updated our account on the giveMN site, and our donation button on our website. The donation button will run through Paypal since that is easier to get the money and lower fees –we raised \$215.

Sibley Plaza –Starbuck's CUP passed through the Zoning Committee, and Paster is going to site planning at the City on Jan 17th(?). We will have more information soon.

Shepard Development (Johnson Brothers) –same

Cameras at the top of Rec Stairs/ Hillcrest Turn around – HDC has been working with neighbors and CM Tolbert's office to add cameras at the end of Hillcrest, continues to be a place to deal drugs. Need to follow up

Highland 9 Visioning –Plan options were presented to the Community on December 11 at Gloria Dei, the City is taking feedback and will present the options to the Park Board in Jan. There is NO money for planning or implementation at this time.

Crime –Car thefts in Highland are up. From Commander Cleveland: *We have been working with 3 different groups of neighbors and SPPD. I gave the information on the White SUV to patrol and it has been shared with the investigators who have been assigned the cases however the problem is that the incidents have been spread out over the last 6-8 weeks and have not been limited to one neighborhood. We had a couple of attempted auto thefts in the 2100 block of Saunders (Grid 182) and in the general area in mid-November but those described the suspect vehicle as a newer white Suburban or similar vehicle. The recent incidents on Pinehurst are quite a ways away (Grid 204) and the vehicle described is a white, older Honda CRV or Toyota RAV 4 so I'm not sure that they are related. If it is the same group it is hard to nail them down because they are so sporadic and obviously there is a big discrepancy in the suspect vehicle descriptions. Please encourage the residents to keep calling when they see suspicious persons or vehicles, especially late at night, however they must be able to articulate specific behavior that would indicate criminal activity. I will keep having squads on the overnight shift who are assigned to the South end of the District make extra trips through the area watching for the vehicles but it can be like finding a needle in a haystack without callers reporting incidents when they are actually occurring. I know that the of the two incidents that happened on Saunders one of the victims did not call and file a report so that makes it harder for us to see trends*

Deer Hunt –Since 2008, the City of Saint Paul, Department of Parks and Recreation has worked cooperatively with Ramsey County on deer management efforts in Saint Paul. As a part of this effort, the 2019 special permit archery hunt is planned to take place in Crosby Farm Regional Park and in Highland Park on: October 14 – 16 and November 4 – 6. Oct dates: MBRB was able to remove eight deer in 2019. Not a bad year. Ramsey County may be flying the park shortly to perform a deer count. I'll try to remember to let you know...

MnDOT – Highway 5 Project for 2020, Attending Jan 14 Transportation meeting



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River Modern Street Car Project – HDC has been invited to participate on a project “for a demonstrated interest in the effect of the undertaking on properties listed on or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places” Kathy Soderburg is the HDC rep

HDC October Reminders:

Jan 9 - HDC Board Meeting 7:00 pm HPCC

Jan 14 –Transportation Meeting -7:00 pm HPCC

Jan 15 – Annual Meeting Task Force 6:00 pm HPCC

Jan 21 – CDC meeting – 6:30 PM HPCC –Ryan Co Parks Survey Results

Jan 21 - Presidential Nominating Primary –League of Women Voters, SPNN offices

Jan 28 – CEC meeting – 7:00 PM HPCC

Jan 29 – HDC Exec Committee meeting, 7:30 am Highland Café and Bakery

Jan 24 – HPCC Community Rec Night 6:00-8:00 pm HPCC

Feb 6 – HDC Board Meeting 7:00 pm HPCC