



HIGHLAND

DISTRICT COUNCIL

1978 Ford Parkway • Saint Paul MN 55116 • 651.695.4005 • HighlandDistrictCouncil.org

HDC Board Meeting September 5th, 2019 Highland Park Community Center

Pledge of Allegiance

Call to Order 7:02

Roll Call

Directors present: Kevin Gallatin, Tom Romens, Gary Martland, Lynn Varco, Susan Duffy, Jim Winterer, Matt McGuire, Anne Langford, Paul Langenfeld, Howard Miller, Sally Bauer, Kristina Mattson, Tim Morehead, Michelle Doyle

Executive Director Kathy Carruth

Approval of Agenda

Motion made, seconded, and passed to approve September 5, 2019 agenda as presented.

Approval of Minutes of Prior Meeting

Motion made, seconded, and passed to approve July 18, 2019 meeting minutes as presented.

Public Comment (10 minutes)

Kathleen, homeowner between Saunders between Howell and Kenneth

Concern about alley potholes not being taken care of. Kathy will follow up with city and Kathleen.

Mike Daigh

Question on equity plan. Is the board representative of the community? At the annual meeting in April, was the attendance representative of the community? Is the board equipped to establish an equity plan? Discussion about process to-date. MN compass data on neighborhood.

Standing Committee Reports

Community Engagement, Matt McGuire

- Reach out to people who ran but were not elected. Sam joined community engagement committee. Met with Tyler Blackmon, NextNetwork grant, Will setup meeting with Lawrence
- Crime prevention night, good turnout. Patty Lammers, civilian crime prevention coordinator. Commander Ford was present. Would like to host annually. Presentation is available on the website.
- Highland Together: will be held at Agelgil restaurant on West 7th on Wednesday Sept 11, 5:30-7:30. All board members are encouraged to attend.

Community Development Committee, Susan Duffy

- 1886 Ford Parkway, Daycare – remove existing duplex to build a new care and expand. Require a variance for parking, need 6 spaces, encourage parent pickup/drop-off in front of the building instead of the alley. Applicant made modifications to building, drop-off/pick-up



HIGHLAND

DISTRICT COUNCIL

1978 Ford Parkway • Saint Paul MN 55116 • 651.695.4005 • HighlandDistrictCouncil.org

procedures; did a lot to alleviate the concerns of the community. CDC approved, BZA approved, a neighbor appealed to city. Will go to city council.

- Starbucks on the corner of Randolph/Hamline – co-meeting with MacGroveland District Council. Significant neighborhood concerns over another coffee shop, a drive-through and pedestrian safety (large concentration of schools in that area). No proposal from the developer.

Transportation Committee, Kevin Gallatin

- Slow roll bike ride (8-9 mile tour of Highland) on August 13 (last meeting). ~10 people participated. Ruben Collins, bike coordinator for the city, Experienced the bike lanes, overlook of the Ford site and Snelling median
- Crosby bike paths flooding, Tom Romens has worked on flood control professionally. Consider raising bike paths in a few areas, short stretches 15-20 yards which will keep the path open from Crosby to Hidden Falls. Will discuss at the upcoming meeting (reuse of silt that is being clear from current/recent floods).
- Will discuss and generate a resolution on the transportation component of the AUAR at the next meeting
- Network Next grant – Metro Transit requesting proposals, under review. How is the community currently served by transit? What are the transit opportunities?

Outside Speaker(s) AUAR Q&A

Matt, SRF consulting, primary author of transportation study

Ashley Paine, Kimley Horn,

Randy Newton, St Paul public works,

Tony Barranco, Ryan Companies

Menaka Mohan, St Paul PED

Questions –

- Snow storage within the site (ped and bike focused grid) – A: is being considered, outside the scope of AUAR
- Mitigations – Likelihood of mitigation strategies that are outlined to be implemented (by city and/or Ryan co) – A: will consider comments received during draft period. Will consider for future plans
- Real estate market – market demand for units in relative size and capacity? Development reflective of market demand or 2010 census? A: Renters – recent empty nesters (1100-1200 sq ft) and young renters (smaller spaces 600-700 sq ft), unit types mixed senior, townhomes, rowhomes, active demand for all types of housing demand.
- Transportation study focused on through put of vehicular traffic. How does that impact ped/bike access? A: Some mitigation does conflict with other modes of transportation ie: adding turn lanes results in longing ped wait time to cross. City makes the decisions. Business community will way in on on-street parking ie: remove parking and ped/bike access to push



HIGHLAND

DISTRICT COUNCIL

1978 Ford Parkway • Saint Paul MN 55116 • 651.695.4005 • HighlandDistrictCouncil.org

cars through. Need to find the balance of all users. Specific mitigation for ped on streets with increased traffic? Comment, comment, comment!

- 3800-4000 units generating 23,000 trips. Why doesn't the study include pinch points further out (ie: Montreal-I35)? A: Higher level look, did look at regional roads, Hwy 5, 55, Snelling. Additional analysis not needed on those areas. See extended roadway network projected traffic volumes. Is there a number that tips the bucket? Central location is a big advantage (proximity to downtown Mpls and St Paul, airport) spreads the traffic out in multiple directions. Pinch point at Hwy 5, 35E, Cretin to I-94. Local benefit by building out network through the Ford site. What is the peak hour data?
- Comment on selection of criteria, specifically on density scenarios that were included. Should include this criteria in the AUAR.
- Why are greenhouse gases not included in the AUAR? A: cCity does have a climate action plan, ongoing city wide plan. Greenhouse gases are not part of the state requirement. Questions from the public (on scope draft) about CO2 have not been addressed in AUAR draft.
- Traffic west of Snelling, impact between Ford site to Snelling. Four schools, related to D15 10 year plan, bus/mass transit
- Area C exclusion, CP rail and Lunds site not being developed. Tunnels from area C run under area A/B. What are the mitigation plans should contaminants be unearthed? Ie: radon in houses. Baseline for air quality? Foot note on tunnels on site listed in mitigation plan (p 56) maps with tunnels at 80 feet. A: Tunnel remediation has been done. Tunnels have been reviewed. Nothing in the reports to be concerned that the buildings will not be safe. Cleanest building site that Ryan has worked on.

Kevin - Discussion on AUAR, what should transportation committee take up?

Tool design firm, walk through concerns in the neighborhood two years ago. Some mitigation efforts overlap with that previous community request. What are the gaps between mitigation and what the public desired? Comments to the city on draft AUAR on study results.

Susan has concerns that CDC would also comment on the AUAR. Distinct transportation and other issues (wildlife, air quality outside of transportation and contamination).

Transportation will develop a resolution related to transportation matters, pass it Tuesday 9/10 and will be sent to the full board. Development will craft its own resolution. Resolutions must be submitted to the city by the September 18th deadline.

City Council Report

Melanie McMahan, City Council Member Tolbert's Aide

AUAR update – deadline for submitting comments is July 18th. Submit individual comments.

Housing design standards public hearing yesterday. Council will vote

Raise minimum age for tobacco purchases to age 21, public hearing yesterday. Will vote next week.

Budget review, each individual department reviewed. Will be voted on in December.

District 15 plan adopted.

Star funds for public art bench on Cleveland.



HIGHLAND

DISTRICT COUNCIL

1978 Ford Parkway • Saint Paul MN 55116 • 651.695.4005 • HighlandDistrictCouncil.org

Shepard/Graves road reconstruction project – two phases public meeting next Wednesday, July 11. Timeline and separate meeting with the assessor's office to talk about potential homeowner costs.

Executive Committee Report

- Retreat on September 23, 2019
Please review the equity plan. It will be discussed at the retreat with a plan to pass in October. Possibility for outside consultant to lead a discussion. Time limited at the retreat. (Part of innovation funds, requirement to have an equity plan). Training can be part of the equity plan.
Work plan is developed at the retreat
- Website overhaul is underway
- Grievance/Complaint policy – we should have a policy in place, please review so we can vote on it in October

Treasurer's Report

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

Business Representatives Reports

HBA – Anne Langford - Executive director resigned. Interim director, James Farnworth, for the next year. Consultant hired to attend Highland Fest. Looking at different programming and flavor.

W7BA – Soderberg

- None tonight

Executive Director's Report

- Holiday party with the HBA at Summit Brewing
- Website proposal, meeting with Lisa Haines, website designer today. Moving forward with content and layout. Frank Jossi is willing to help with the website redesign.
- District Council e-newsletter started last month. Will be monthly.
- Print news out today.
- Partnering with the league of voters and MacGroveland DC to host a candidate forum for Ward 3 city council. Scheduled for October 1 at HPCC auditorium
- City wide cleanup volunteers needed. September 28 8:00-2:00pm
- Public Art bench, short \$1000. HDC will need to cover unless we raise some funds.

New/Other Business

Zero-Waste St Paul meeting to advocate for improved efficiency, zero waste practices \$10 September 22

Kristina Mattson resigning from the board

Adjourn

Motion made, seconded, and passed to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 8:54 pm.

Michelle Doyle filling in for Rebecca Reiners, HDC Secretary