

Board of Directors Meeting
Thursday, May 11, 2017 – 6:30PM

Edgumbe Rec Center

MINUTES

1. Call to Order – Erik Riesenber
2. Roll Call – John Zwier, Secretary
3. Approval of April 2017 Minutes
 - Motion to approve – seconded – unanimously approved
4. Additions or Deletions to the Agenda
 - North End guests
5. Special Elections – No candidates present
 - At-Large Residential Renter, Student, Residential Landlord, Faith, Education Representatives
6. North End Guests – Here to learn about the District Councils in other places
 - Board Sharing – spoke about the bylaws update; shared pluses and minuses
 - Liz shared her work on the Districts’ study
7. Housing and Land Use Committee
 - 1:

“The Housing and Land Use Committee of the Macalester-Groveland Community Council supports the garage height variance request for the property located at 221 Mount Curve Blvd”

 - Tom – speaking as the Grid Rep. – pro
 - Vote – aye - unanimous
 - 2:

“The Housing and Land Use Committee of the Macalester-Groveland Community Council supports the recommendations in the South Snelling

Zoning Study and strongly encourages the City to better define ‘mixed use’ in Traditional Neighborhood Districts”.

- Michelle – pro – but concern about T2 zoning at the end of Goodrich alley
- Cathy – a lot of discussion at the Committee – worked hard and came to a unanimous decision on what to support
- David – question – any sense on what the city’s stance is on this question
- Liz – answer – year long zoning study – goes through the planning commission – the public hearing is May 19 and that is where the planning commission will make the recommendation to the City Council
- Tom – anyone can submit things in advance
- Vote – aye - unanimous

8. Environment Committee Recommendations

“Resolution Supporting Saint Paul’s Packaging Ordinance

WHEREAS “to-go” packaging is food packaging taken off-site from a restaurant or other retailer providing food for immediate consumption, compostable packaging is certified compostable in a local industrial composting facility, and recyclable packaging is recyclable in our City’s local recycling program; and,

WHEREAS requiring “to go” food packaging that is reusable, recyclable, or compostable supports a goal of zero waste in homes, workplaces and businesses; and

WHEREAS “to go” packaging that is reusable, recyclable, or compostable protects our health and the health of our environment; and

WHEREAS exempting items that do not meet the recyclable or compostable requirement weakens the ordinance and dramatically reduces the positive environmental outcomes, and there are viable alternatives to potentially exempted items such as polystyrene, black plastic, and plastic and poly coated cups, which negatively affect both our environment and our local recycling programs; and

WHEREAS the proposed ordinance includes a commitment by the City to help businesses by financially supporting creative ways to comply with the ordinance, including support for investments (i.e. dishwashers, reusable plates); and

WHEREAS we plan to participate in educational efforts to increase the success of the packaging ordinance by sharing information with retailers and restaurants that helps them access compliant packaging while meeting their unique business needs; and

THEREFORE, be it resolved, that the Macalester-Groveland Community Council's Environment Committee supports the proposed Saint Paul Sustainable To-Go Packaging Ordinance, recommending that it be consistent with other regional communities that pursued similar programs.

- David presenting – task force worked for about a year on this to assist the city with reducing waste of food that is taken away from restaurants (discussion about even down to YMCA taking away cups from the premises; all the way up to grocery stores and restaurants) – discussion about compostable and recyclable materials that would be included in an ordinance – We are more following than leading on this one – St. Louis Park and Minneapolis have ordinances. Consistent with what the environmental committee is concerned about and consistent with the promotion of organized trash and compostability.
- Michelle – adding that there are exemptions usually (ex. Hospitals)
- Liz – DART, St. Louis Park, and city of St. Paul working on it and brought it to the committee – the language was pared down to fit with the Committee.
- Vote – ayes - unanimous

9. Inclusivity Task Force Recommendation –

Whereas, the mission and goals of the Inclusivity Task Force (ITF) and the Community Building Committee (CBC) share much in common, and

Whereas, a merger of the ITF with the CBC could provide significant improvements in efficiency and effectiveness in achieving the goals of both groups, and

Whereas, the membership of both the ITF and the CBC favor such a merger,

Now therefore, be it resolved that:

The CBC recommends including the ITF into the CBC and that inclusion will become a part of all the work of the CBC.

- Tom presenting
- John Z. – question – recruitment?
- Tom – it is still a hope and aspiration to continue recruitment

- Cathy – it is a duty of the board members to be reaching out for more diverse members
- Vote – aye - unanimous

10. Event and Program Updates

- Liz presenting –
 1. Alley Garden awards – looking for three more grids that the committee has created for judging; training to get to know the criteria is required.
 - a. Michelle – question about income considerations
 - b. Answer - income is not considered
 - c. Neat, able to see the house number, and some sort of beautification (ex. Potted plant)
 - d. Every property in the district is considered
 2. MacGrove Moves
 3. Stormwater Management – June 22; the first was a great success – presenter was so jazzed she declined her honorarium and asked that it be reinvested in more of this type work
 4. MacGrove Fest – Water Themed to build on Environment Committee work – sponsorship letters are going out – Sept. 9th. – Looking for an M.C.
 5. Grand Old Days – beer pouring
 6. Home Improvement Fair – Good feedback;

11. Other Business -

12. Adjourn – 7:32 p.m.