



‘Where the biggies leave off...’

# Hill & Lake Press

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## Anita Tabb departs for Florida with gratitude, best wishes from Hill and Lake neighborhoods

By Michael Wilson

If Hill & Lake Press were to name a Person of the Year, the choice for 2017, hands down, would be Anita Tabb.

Coming off the remarkable achievement in 2016 of securing unanimous City Council and Park Board support for twenty years of increased funding for neighborhood parks, Tabb chaired her final Park Board meeting as its president on December 6, then headed off to rejoin her husband at their new home in Miami.

Throughout 2017 Tabb established a climate of respect and a spirit of civility on the board as she and Superintendent Jayne Miller led the way to a major ramping up to address the needs of the city's long-underfunded neighborhood parks. She championed the equity matrix developed by Miller to ensure that underserved parts of the city receive the most immediate attention.

What really clinches Tabb's place as our Hill and Lake Person of the Year, though, is the way she has become, in just a few short years, such an integral part of our four neighborhoods. Everyone knows Anita, it seems, or knows who she is. She gives her cellphone number and personal email address to everyone who asks. The Tabbs have thrown wide open the doors of their home for fundraisers and celebrations. Her support and enthusiasm for everything going on in our four Hill and Lake neighborhoods has been boundless.

But were it not for a singular confluence of coincidences, none of this would have happened.

### From Portland to ... Woodbury?

The Tabb family — Anita, Rob, and high school-age daughters Katie and Jackie — were enjoying life in Portland, Oregon, when Rob accepted the chief information officer at Ecolab at the start of 2004. Rob had held various executive positions in the systems technol-

### City Council ordinance signing



"Historic" was the word used repeatedly on April 29, 2019, when City Council members and Park Board commissioners signed a joint ordinance providing a 20-year funding stream for much-needed neighborhood parks improvements. Hill and Lake residents can take great pride that this effort was spearheaded by our two remarkable electeds, Anita Tabb and Lisa Goodman, along with Council President Barbara Johnson (right), Superintendent Jayne Miller, and Park Board President Liz Wielinski. **Photo: Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board. Caption: Michael Wilson.**

ogy industry, including a stint at Nike. Anita, with a BA and MBA from the University of Oklahoma, had a ful-

filling career at Accenture and MCI.

Both Anita and Rob had grown up moving around a lot. Rob was an "army brat," Anita tells Hill & Lake Press, while she was born in Brooklyn and grew up in Boston. When she was five, her parents moved to France for two years, where living was less expensive, and they could save up money for a down payment on a house. They returned to Boston and bought that house — where Anita's 93-year-old mother still lives.

Moving to the Twin Cities in 2004 was to be just another stop along the Tabbs' life journey, which prior to Portland had included five years in south Florida. Their Realtor tried to interest them in lovely new houses in Woodbury, but Anita and Rob, who were living in a beautiful old house near downtown Portland, wanted to stay close to the city's core. Then, by coincidence, they spotted a grand old mansion on Groveland Terrace that needed a lot of work. Anita, who says that historic preservation has always been a passion, was smitten. They closed in February 2004.

### It sure wasn't Miami.

The house did indeed need a lot of work -- ten months' worth, with the Tabbs living elsewhere. On one of her daily trips to Lowry Hill to supervise the renovation, Anita says, she happened by coincidence to see a copy of Hill & Lake Press with a lead article about tearing down old mansions. Not in my neighborhood Anita told herself, and she marched off to the next Lowry Hill Neighborhood Association board meeting. Although she had never before been much concerned with local issues and politics, this time Anita got involved.

The Tabbs liked Minneapolis immediately, although that first winter was daunting. Anita recalls standing at

### EARLY WINTER AND CANOES AT LAKE OF THE ISLES



Photo by Dorothy Childers

### MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

Happenings	2, 11	LHNA	8	Real Estate	10
Urban Coyote	3	EIRA, KIAA,	8,9	Masthead	10
In their Words...	4			Madeleine Lowry	11

Anita Tabb to page six

**Join us!**  
**For 'Later with Lisa'**

Each month during the year we host Lunch with Lisa, a gathering time where constituents can come and learn about news and issues in the ward. In December we change things up and host "Later with Lisa," a casual social gathering at The Normandy Inn.

This year it will be held: **December 18th from 4:30-6:30pm** and this is a free event. There will be great food samples and a cash bar. The hotel is locally owned and operated, and the building is charming. It's fun to be there during the holidays, and they even host your parking. Come out and visit with your neighbors and meet other Ward 7 constituents. Please plan to join us this year!

*Date:* December 18, 2017  
*Location:* The Normandy Inn, (405 S 8th St)  
*Time:* 4:30 - 6:30pm  
*Light Appetizers Provided*

Please RSVP by emailing Ruth at [Ruth.Weakly@minneapolismn.gov](mailto:Ruth.Weakly@minneapolismn.gov)

**HAPPENINGS IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD**  
 Dec. 18 at 4:30 Later with Lisa  
 Neighborhood monthly meetings  
 CIDNA: 2nd Wednesday 6pm Jones-Harrison  
 EIRA: 2nd Tuesday 7pm Grace Community Church  
 KIAA: 1st Monday 7pm Kenwood Rec Center  
 LHNA: 1st Tuesday 7pm Kenwood Rec Center

**Kenwood Student Council Takes on the Capitol**

On October 24th, Kenwood Student Council members took a field trip to the Minnesota State Capitol. Thirteen students and nine adults drove to St. Paul after school to learn all about government and how to get involved.

The field trip was organized by Kenwood graduate, Piper D'Emanuele. "The whole point of this field trip was to get students, especially young girls, excited about government. Being a young woman interested in politics I see a huge problem with women not being represented and respected as we should be. I want to do everything in my power to change this trend."

The trip started out with a tour of the newly refurbished Capitol building. Students and parents explored the Rotunda, Governor's office, Senate Chamber, and ended in the House of Representatives' Chamber. While there, the group met State Representative Frank Hornstein and worked with him to hold a mock debate on the House Floor. The students chose to debate the use of school uniforms in Minneapolis Public Schools. After the debate, Representative Hornstein said, "I think we have a lot of future leaders in this group."

Piper hopes this field trip got young girls thinking about going into politics and young boys thinking about respecting women in leadership roles.

**Hill & Lake Community Hosts Major International Event This Winter!**

**By Carla Pardue and Mike Bono**

The Masters World Cup is an international ski championship and festival with athletes from all around the world. Over 1,000 athletes are expected to compete in this week-long event. The event is organized by age class: 30-34, 35-39, 40-44, . . . 70-74, 75-79, . . . This year's event is focused at Theodore Wirth Park and takes place from January 19 - 26, with competitions nearly every day. The



Mike Erickson (CIDNA), Carla Pardue (East Isles) and Mike Bono (Kenwood) are leading an important international event this January. And no, it is not the Super Bowl

Loppet Foundation is hosting the event and is busy constructing a 7.5 kilometer (4.5 mile) loop with machine-made snow - so even if Mother Nature does not cooperate the park will be ready for the competition.

<b>CHRISTMAS EVE</b> December 24	<b>CHRISTMAS DAY</b> December 25
Mass at 3 PM, 5:30 PM, 8:00 PM	Mass at 7:30 AM, 9:30 AM, Noon, 4:30 PM
Vigil of Lights at 11:30 PM followed by Midnight Mass	

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Kenwood Student Council members took a field trip to the Minnesota State Capitol. Thirteen students and nine adults drove to St. Paul after school to learn all about government and how to get involved.



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 architecture

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“These are some of the best Master skiers in the world,” says Loppet Nordic Racing Head Coach (and CIDNA resident) Piotr Bednarski, who will himself be competing in the 50-54-age class. Bednarski, who is the current 50-54 year old national champion in cross-country skiing, expects to be humbled by the competition from abroad. “I’m going to be happy to just finish in the top ten in this competition. It is amazing how fast athletes in their 50s can go . . . I guess after the kids grow up people start really training.”

Former Kenwood resident Kate Ellis will also be competing. Kate competes in the 60-64-year-old age class. Kate heads up a whole contingent of “Masters” skiers (skiers who are at least 30 years old). Kate is a specialist in the classical or traditional style of skiing and, like Piotr, expects the competition to be fierce. “But at the end of the day we are all out competing to have fun. I expect to meet great people from all over the world - Norwegians and Swedes, Russians, Germans, Italians, Finns - that’s what makes it fun!”

The competition is headed up Loppet Foundation Events Director and CIDNA resident Mike Erickson. Mike organizes the volunteer crew, who really runs the day-to-day operations of the competition. “It is the volunteers who bring the event to life,” says Erickson.

Kenwood’s Mike Bono is a veteran volunteer with the Loppet and the Event Director for the Masters World Cup. Mike directed the successful Junior Nationals event at Wirth Park in 2011 and is looking forward to an even bigger and better event this winter. “I competed in the World Cup last winter in Switzerland. Really amazing to ski with some of the best skiers in the world. And to be able to host the event and compete here in Minneapolis will really be special.”

Carla Pardue, of East Isles, agrees. “This event shows off what is really unique about Minneapolis. How many other major cities in the world can host an international ski competition within just a few miles of downtown? You can actually see the downtown skyline from the trails. That’s why I love Lake of the Isles and Minneapolis - I can’t wait to share our town with people from all over the world.”

Carla is heading up the Race Headquarters - staffing an information booth at Wirth and heading up the



## STRAY VOLTAGE IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD, AND MAYBE A COW

By James P. Lenfestey

In November, the water pressure at 1833 Girard dropped in half. The copper pipe we had replaced to the street only two years prior had again mysteriously failed.

City workers arrived and dug up the street to locate the leak, a burly woman at the helm of the backhoe, silent as the foreman was jabbering.

Then Inner-City plumbers, certified to work on underground plumbing, efficiently replaced the pipe for the second time, and filled the hole. Their friendly workers cheerfully provided us a chunk of failed pipe to show Xcel. The copper was brittle, with two fingertip-sized holes in it, eroded by stray electricity voltage, reverse electroplating. “Never seen that before,” said the guys.

Dodd Demas, Penn Ave Electric, our god of an electrician, set out to find the source of the stray voltage, probably an improper neutral. Not in our house, he learned.

Dodd called in Xcel. The next day an Xcel worker in a yellow hard-hat scaled the ancient power pole\* behind the house, and determined power was clean to

the house connection.

So Dodd called in Xcel’s “stray voltage guy,” the expert in the field of mad electrical voltage. He was deer hunting all week, a legal and understandable absence, but the next week he waved his magic wand all around our house, following where our underground cable enters the house. Not the problem.

Dodd then wired up our house, testing it this way and that, and determined it is not the source. As of this writing, the source remains unknown, possibly a street-light line in the street, but that’s a guess. No one really knows. Lost electricity somehow finds our copper pipe to carry it home, says Dodd. A well-read man, he find this conundrum Shakespearean.

Here a detail you may already know from Susan’s funny Facebook posts of the weeks-long dig. The stray voltage expert mostly works in rural areas because dairy cows won’t enter a barn in its presence. Susan asked, then why not just bring a cow to Girard Ave. and follow it around?

So if you see a milk cow wandering neighborhood streets, don’t worry, It is working for Xcel, the true stray voltage expert on the job.

\*as for that power pole in the back yard, prior to our emergency our neighbor had been told by Xcel for 3 months that no one could climb it, it is too old. Nothing like stray voltage, or a call from Dodd, to send Xcel skittering.

events at the host hotel downtown. “What I love about this role is that we get to tell people about all the things that we love about Minneapolis. It’s just easy to do and fun!” Carla is looking for volunteers to help staff the

Race Headquarters. Volunteers are right in the action and all will receive a World Masters memento and a big thanks from the community. If interested in helping, email Carla at carlapar@mac.com.

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**Happy Holidays!**

## In their own words...

Friends, neighbors, and colleagues speak about Lowry Hill resident and Park Board president Anita Tabb as she ends her remarkable 14-year stay in Minneapolis. (Compiled by Michael Wilson.)

**JACKIE TABB/** Anita's and Rob's younger daughter

A city that was once completely foreign is now a place I can truly call home. At first, the January move was difficult and everything was unfamiliar. However, over several months and years, our family grew attached to the neighborhood and the culture. Living so close to Lake of the Isles, it was apparent how important these outdoor spaces were to the city. Winter or summer, rain or shine, people take in the natural beauty!

When my mom became a part of the Park Board, we had no idea what it meant to the community. She spent long hours and late nights collaborating, researching and proposing new ideas for our parks. It has been an incredible 14 years and I'm proud to know my mom was a part making Minneapolis a beautiful community.

**LISA GOODMAN/** Ward 7 City Council member

I have loved working with Anita over the past eight years because she is so smart and dedicated to making the parks work well for everyone. In our many meetings and negotiations in 2016 over the neighborhood parks funding ordinance she never lost sight of the critical need for funding and the impact this could have on taxpayers if not done right.

Mostly however, Anita's commitment to serving her constituents, solving their problems, answering their contacts, and helping them deal with park issues was unmatched among commissioners. Politics at this level is all about working with people, and Anita's skills and dedication to our neighborhoods and neighbors will be truly missed. I'll also miss her pink and green capri pants, her preppy outfits, and parties at her home so often open to the whole community, including my dog Sadie.

**SHAWN SMITH/** KIAA board chair

Anita has been a great partner to the KIAA board. She's extremely responsive and puts parks first, ahead of any ideology or political pressure or agenda. I could always count on her to give me straightforward answers to questions and concerns relating to the environment at Lake of the Isles, activities at East Cedar Lake Beach, and others. Thanks so much, Anita, and best of luck to you in your future endeavors!

**LIZ WIELINSKI/** MPRB commissioner and board chair

Anita and I met through our work with Park Watch, but our true adventure began when we became newly elected Park Board commissioners in 2010. When we would run into a roadblock in getting things improved Anita would declare "Field Trip" and we would go in search of more information. Confused about Park Board funding from the state? Off to the Met Council to see just how the maintenance and bonding funds worked. Wondering just how bad the working conditions were for the employees (not good)? Off to tour

our maintenance facilities. Just why wasn't golf in good shape and how deferred has the maintenance been? Off to the courses. We were the commissioners who showed up everywhere, even in the police cars. We learned a lot.

After I was elected President of the board in 2014 I asked Anita to be the MPRB representative on the Board of Estimate and Taxation. There she met Carol Becker, who asked her: "Does the Park Board have enough bonding money?" And the starter's pistol went off for the big race that eventually became the NPP20 Neighborhood Parks Plan.

Anita always believed that if it seemed too tough for one woman, then a two-woman team could handle anything. I have been honored to be the second half of her dynamic duo for the past 8 years. My next step of course will be a field trip to Florida.

**JANET HALLAWAY/** Lowry Hill board member and neighbor

I've enjoyed working with Anita over many years. She joined the Lowry Hill Neighborhood Association board shortly after she moved to the neighborhood. From the get-go, Anita was interested in contributing her many talents to make our neighborhood and our city a great place. She rose to serve as President of the Park Board and leaves an amazing legacy. This includes improving park board transparency and securing an unprecedented amount of city funding for our neighborhood parks over the next 20 years.

Anita responded to every phone call, email, or request for a meeting. Smarts, great energy, and ever-present good humor – she's leaving big shoes to fill!

**BARBARA JOHNSON/** Ward 4 City Council member and Council president

Anita is a terrific leader- always keeping the importance of our beautiful park system at the forefront of her advocacy for funding and stability. She is a respected voice who will be missed.

**MEG TUTHILL/** Ward 10 City Council Member (2010-14)

When Anita was informed of the problem with the lagoon between Isles and Calhoun not freezing because of the de-watering from CPM's development at Knox and Lagoon, the park board and the city joined forces to halt the pollution. Her involvement was critical. Anita was never afraid to tackle the really tough issues. She was a warrior on the budget. It had to be transparent and make fiduciary sense. Anita was committed to our parks and belief that our parks and lakes are for everyone. She truly understood that the lakes are the "jewel" in our crown.

**JEANETTE COLBY/** former KIAA board chair

Anita started making positive contributions to our community from the day she arrived in Minneapolis with her family. As an MPRB commissioner she consistently looked for fair, positive, sensible solutions to every issue that came before her. Her vision for improving neighborhood parks is reflected in the 20-year neighborhood parks plan. She is a fantastic leader and

mentor, and Minneapolis will miss her!

**MARK ANDREW/** Hennepin County commissioner. (1983-99); chair, Save Our Minneapolis Parks (2016)

Anita Tabb has been a potent force for both an unparalleled urban park system as well as one that is professionally managed and wisely budgeted. The only way to maintain excellence in our urban parks is to combine great vision with superb management and budgeting that assure our parks will remain their quality long into the current century. I have loved working with Anita as she is, an addition to being a great commissioner, a delightful and really fun person. She will be missed by me and all of her constituents.

**JAYNE MILLER/** MPRB superintendent

Anita has been an amazing commissioner and boss. She took her role as District 4 Commissioner seriously, being incredibly responsive to her constituents and supportive and respectful of staff, all the while expecting the best in service delivery. She saw the big picture, doing what was best for the Park Board and for the community as a whole. As Board president, she was always available and willing to handle the most challenging situations, always positive even during extremely challenging times.

I am indebted to her leadership and support during my tenure as Superintendent and will cherish the personal relationship we have developed. I will miss working with her. Thank you, Anita, for your vision, leadership and our laughs together.

**CRAIG WESTGATE/** former CIDNA board chair

When I think of working with Anita, I smile. She was extremely fair, and she took your passion and made it her passion. She will be missed for many reasons but deep down she is one of those people that I am extremely lucky to know. She loves this city. Good luck on the next one, Anita.

**JAN CALLISON/** chair, Hennepin County Board of Commissioners

I'm grateful for Anita's steady leadership at the Park Board. She has been a resource on issues that touch parks and Hennepin County and I have appreciated her perspective . . . and her good humor.

**TOM EVERS/** executive director, Minneapolis Parks Foundation

Anita has served her district and the city incredibly well as Park Board commissioner and president. She was a key leader securing the monumental neighborhood park funding agreement with the city which will benefit the next generation. She always brought the right mix of seriousness and humor to each situation, was committed to the whole park system, and saw the big picture. She is greatly appreciated and will be missed.

**ANNIE YOUNG/** MPRB commissioner (1990-2017)

As a citywide commissioner there is lots of activity to keep track of so I must depend on the district commissioners taking care of the business in their districts.

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# In their own words...

Anita was very thorough with the details of the projects in her area. I trusted her judgment and supported her actions. An outstanding representative she was. I will also miss her as a friend.

**JIM LENFESTEY**/ Urban Coyote and Lowry Hill sage

When an open seat turns up in politics, one wonders who will step forward to do the people's business. It can be a seamy, time-sucking, nasty, mostly unpaid business, at best. So when Anita Tabb ran for the Park Board, I wondered, can she be as good, smart, selfless, and caring as she seems, not to mention fearless, energetic, and hilarious? Yes, she could. And she maintained that demeanor, tireless and never tired, forceful and never vengeful, effective and never deterred as she carried the legacy of the nation's greatest urban park system on her back - with a few others - into the 21st century. We will miss her, but wow, I am still amazed she ran!

**SUSAN SCHMIDT**/ Minnesota director, Trust for Public Land

Anita Tabb's leadership and actions leave a lasting impact on parks and trails in Minneapolis and the metropolitan region. Anita's collaborative approach help ensure that Minneapolis Parks will remain the nation's best for years to come. I am honored to introduce Anita to my Trust for Public Land colleagues in her next home state of Florida.

**JOHN ERWIN**/ MPRB commissioner and Board vice-president

It has been a joy and honor to work with Anita! Personally, she was thoughtful, assertive, hard-working and always sought to advance the interests of her constituents while insuring that their tax dollars were wisely spent.

It was Anita who made sure Parade Road was completed, who dealt with the cattails around Loring Pond, who got the milfoil out of Lake of the Isles, who defended Kenwood Park at every turn, who limited your property tax increases, and who got a 20-year plan to fund fixing up neighborhood parks done citywide!

The word/phrases I think of when I think of Anita

are: smart, thoughtful, fun, fiscal conservative, represents her constituents well, respect. It's been a pleasure, Anita!

**ARLENE FRIED**/ co-founder, Park Watch

I have known Anita since 2007 when Park Watch was forcing Superintendent Gurban's grandiose plans for Parade Stadium out of the back room. Because of Anita's reservations about the Parade Stadium plans and the lack of public information about them, she joined Park Watch at Park Board meetings. Then she and Liz Wielinski ran for the Park Board and became commissioners in 2010. And now eight years (and approximately 192 board meetings) later, Anita's second term is up and she is leaving Minnesota and moving to Florida.

I think it is amazing that after she and Rob sold their house earlier this year and Rob retired to Florida, Anita's commitment to the Park Board was so great that she rented an apartment and commuted rather than do what most most individuals would have done -- which is resign and leave. She wanted to honor her commitment to her constituents, fellow board members, and Superintendent Jayne Miller by completing her term.

Kudos to Anita for her significant contribution and unwavering commitment to the Minneapolis Park Board during both her eight years on the Park Board and the preceding years with Park Watch. We will miss her very much.

**ROB TABB**/ supportive spouse, genial host

I came to Minneapolis as a career move and Anita and the girls dutifully made the switch from a home and city (Portland, Ore.) we all loved. Minneapolis was definitely not on our radar as a place to live. Over the next thirteen years we made a gradual transition from wondering whether we could endure living in the flatlands and cold winters of the upper Midwest to embracing and becoming part of a great culture. We discovered what makes Minneapolis a truly livable city that is accepting of relative newcomers stepping into leadership roles around the cultural icons of the community such as the Walker, Mia, Guthrie, and of course the beautiful park system. Places and events we felt ambiva-

lent about at first became special in a way that often only the native-born understand and appreciate.

Finally and most important, we all developed friendships across many business and social spheres in a way not feasible in most big cities today.

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### Anita Tabb from page one

a gas pump in -20° weather filling her tank and having her nose freeze shut. "That's when I knew for sure that this wasn't Miami," she laughs. Anita always assumed she'd get a job here, she says, "but it kinda never happened." By coincidence there were plenty of things happening in the neighborhood that needed attention.

The Tabbs enrolled Katie and Jackie at Southwest in 11th and 9th grades respectively, but the school's tone-deaf handling of a midyear course enrollment issue led them to move the girls to Edina High School a few weeks later. By coincidence it was Jackie, not Anita, who did the daily driving to and from the far side of Edina. The Tabbs were always deeply involved in their daughters' education, but they didn't get involved with their daughters' school.

#### Tough times on the Park Board.

The mid- and late-2000s were not a time of comity, courtesy, and singleness of purpose on the Park Board. Superintendent Mary Merrill Anderson retired in December 2003 -- with strong encouragement to do so, some say -- and Jon Gurban, president of the Minnesota Recreation and Park Association, was hired as interim superintendent while a search got underway for a new superintendent. Gurban's selection by a 5-4 vote for a job for which he had neither applied nor interviewed caused immediate anger and charges of



Anita and Rob Tabb enjoyed an evening at the Guthrie with their daughters Jackie (left) and Katie (right). (Photo courtesy Jackie Tabb.)

There were smiles and laughter aplenty at Stevens Square Park on June 24, 2015, when Commissioner Anita Tabb led a neighborhood celebration for the grand opening of the park's new playground. (Photo: Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board. Caption: Michael Wilson.)



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"back-room deals."

"Gurban's selection last December, wrote the Southwest Journal in August 2004, "underscored deep Park Board divisions. The question now is, can a board marked by years of bad blood create something resembling consensus as it tries to choose a permanent leader?" The answer was no, and it was about to get much worse. The search imploded when the two top candidates withdrew, and the search committee opted for the embarrassing tack of going back to its pool of second-tier, passed-over candidates. Only one gave them the time of day: Jon Gurban. Despite heated opposition, a 6-3 majority of the board voted Gurban a three-year contract in December 2004.

Gurban was a blunt, no-nonsense, get-it-done superintendent who by many accounts saw himself, not the elected commissioners, as being in charge of the park system. Consensus-building, public input, and transparency were typically not priorities.

Controversies arose thick and fast, particularly over plans to reorganize the playing fields at Bryn Mawr Meadows and to build a new Parade stadium, returning that site to its former glory as a citywide sports venue, as Gurban put it.

Bryn Mawr Meadows in 2004 had 13 overlapping ball fields, several unofficial soccer fields, and two cricket pitches. The Park Board's general manager for planning described it as "10 pounds in a five-pound bag." Gurban's draft reorganization plan showed six youth soccer fields, three baseball fields and three softball fields, with the cricket pitches retained.

"Bryn Mawr has too-intense use by adults," Gurban told the Southwest Journal, adding that his vision "would allow Bryn Mawr to become less intensely used by adults and be used a little bit more by kids."

**Parade Stadium was the catalyst.**

Parade Stadium, built in 1951, was home to a 19,000-seat stadium that hosted high school football games, minor league baseball, and big-name concerts like Simon and Garfunkel. It was demolished in 1990 due to increasing disrepair, and a field for youth and adult recreational sports, mostly softball and soccer,

**Anita Tabb to page 11**



Candidates Anita Tabb, Lisa Goodman, and John Erwin campaigned hard and had fun doing it, as shown in this Hill & Lake Press ad from October 2009. Goodman was running for re-election, Tabb for her first term on the Park Board, and Erwin to return to the Park Board. All three won, of course. Tabb and Erwin both leave the Park Board this month, Tabb as president and Erwin as vice-president. (Caption: Michael Wilson.)



Park Board President Anita Tabb bundled up on December 19, 2016, to officially open the newly-redesigned snow-tubing hill at Wirth Park. Tabb's granddaughter Annabelle cut the ribbon with encouragement from Tyrize Cox (left), MPRB assistant superintendent for recreation services; Commissioner Jon Olson (rear); Anthony Taylor (right), adventures director for the Loppet Foundation, partners in the redesign; and Taylor's daughter Senetneb Theba. (Photo: Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board. Caption: Michael Wilson.)

**BRUCE BIRKELAND**  
GROUP

Coldwell Banker Burnet



**WALKING THROUGH A LUXURY HOME WITH BRUCE IS DEFINITELY A ONE-OF-A-KIND EXPERIENCE.**

Bruce Birkeland doesn't sell homes, he shares homes. The local lifestyle, the neighborhood history, the architectural details, the impeccable construction, the feel of rare, exotic hardwoods beneath your stocking feet. Every listing has a unique story and Bruce would love to walk you through it.



20 Park Lane,  
MPLS \$3.85M



2120 Newton Ave S,  
MPLS \$975,000



Lake Of The Isles Parkway,  
MPLS \$3.499M

**Bruce Birkeland**  
612-925-8405  
bbirkeland@cbburnet.com  
bbirkelandgroup.com



## LOWRY HILL NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

By Sam Ellingson, Acting Secretary

### Lowry Hill Neighborhood Association Board Meeting Minutes

Nov. 14, 2017 at the Kenwood Rec Center

Board Members Present: Phil Hallaway, Tom Huppert, Bob Hinck, Toni D'Eramo, Clint Conner, Jennifer Breitinger, Jimmy Fogel, Sarah Janecek, and Sam Ellingson

Others: Krishna Dorney, Kathy Spraitz, Lisa Goodman, Michael McLaughlin, Janet Hallaway

Call to Order: 7:05 p.m.

**Approval of Minutes:** Tom Huppert moved and Jennifer Breitinger seconded the approval of the October 3, 2017 meeting minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

**Treasurer's Report:** Toni D'Eramo reported that we have one outstanding invoice currently, for the urn in Emerson Triangle. We are waiting for NRP funds to pay that bill, otherwise we are financially in good shape. Clint Connor will submit his fees for amending the articles.

**Community Announcements:** Council member Goodman reviewed the following:

This is the last week for the City to pick-up leaves. Those in gypsy moth quarantine area cannot have sticks and branches picked up, but leaves are fine.

"Later with Lisa" at the Normandy Inn will occur the second week in December on either the 12th or 14th, but the date has not been set yet.

Public meetings on the Minneapolis 2040 Comprehensive Plan are set for December and January around the city. The closest one to Lowry Hill will be Monday, Dec. 11, 2017 from 5:30-7:30pm at MLK park at 4055 Nicollet. There will also be a meeting in January 2018 at a location in downtown. These meetings will discuss density and preservation among other issues relevant to Lowry Hill.

Public hearings on the City budget and 2018 property tax levy are occurring now. Next meeting is Nov. 29, 2017 at 6:05 p.m. at City Hall, Room 317. Another meeting on Dec. 6, 2017 at 6:05 p.m. in the same place.

The snow emergency pamphlet went out and residents should watch for other notifications from the City.

New Airbnb regulations have been adopted. Goodman summarized as follows:

If someone is renting a room or portion of their home while staying in the home, nothing is required.

If someone is renting a room or portion of their home while out-of-town or on a temporary basis, then need to register with the City as a short-term rental for approximately \$40/year and no inspection is required.

If someone is renting a house and never living there or renting a duplex and never living there, then they must get an ordinary rental license and an inspection.

Amended Uniform Housing Policy—this is now available. A few changes are: (1) that the City will now requires a 30-year commitment instead of 15-20 years for those seeking affordable housing credits, (2) allow homeownership for slightly higher income groups.

**Environmental Committee:** Gypsy moth quarantine is in effect. Residents must store sticks, branches and wood on their property or hire a company to come in and remove.

**Zoning and Planning Committee:** No variance requests this month. The Burch valets have been cited by the city with a fine of \$400. Several members would still like to meet with Jean Rottman of Nolan Properties regarding Burch's use of Colfax, but no meeting has occurred.

**Crime and Safety Committee:** Toni D'Eramo reported that the email newsletter now has a link to the live crime and safety map.

**Communications Committee:** Website is ready and has been reviewed by Phil Hallaway. Clint Connor moved that the LHNA provide its annual contribution to the Hill & Lake Press of \$1,000. Motion seconded by Toni D'Eramo and was passed unanimously.

**Events Committee:**

Phil Hallaway was only participant in the Rank Choice Voting Workshop held on Oct. 25. Discussion about how this was one of many workshops regarding rank choice voting.

Thrill Kenwood appeared to be well attended this year even with less than ideal weather.

The proposed Dunwoody Tour is still being scheduled. The dates that were proposed by Dunwoody overlap with spring break or Memorial Day weekend, so need to get additional dates.

Tom Huppert reported that the Thanksgiving Thank You to the 5th Precinct Police and Fire Station is set to move forward. Will provide receipts to Treasurer for reimbursement.

**Ice Skating Social – Will occur on Jan. 21, 2018 (weather permitting).** East Isles will obtain the permit and refreshments. LHNA responsible for fire. Phil Hallaway will confirm whether LHNA or East Isles will be doing the ad with the others to contribute.

**Sculpture Tour**—Kathy Spraitz offered to do a snowshoe tour of the Walker in February. She needs 2-3 weeks advance notice, so we will set a date at the next meeting. Kathy will confirm that the Walker will have snowshoes available and get that information to Phil Hallaway.

**Annual Meeting**—Need to find a venue. Will consider that and a date at the next meeting.

The Lowry contacted the LHNA about possibly doing a meat raffle, with LHNA providing advertising and receiving some of the proceeds. The Lowry suggested that it would happen this upcoming weekend, but did not have any details. Phil Hallaway will attempt to get some additional information.

**Neighborhood Priorities Committee:**

Hennepin/Lyndale and Douglas Median—Michael McLaughlin, Community Innovation Fund Consultant, attended to answer questions. Toni D'Eramo and Sarah Janecek stated that they would meet with Craig Wilson and come up with a plan to present to the board at the next meeting.

**Emerson Triangle—project is completed.**

**Warming house at Lake of the Isles**—Kathy Spraitz presented background on the group she had organized to attempt to replace the current warming house with support and representation from the Park Board, the Minneapolis Park Foundation, and the surrounding Neighborhood Associations. She thought it costs about \$10,000-15,000 to bring and remove the warming house each year. Spraitz' group had hoped to build a new mobile structure that could go to the North Mississippi Regional Park in the summer. The group had interest from local companies and later the NFL Superbowl Committee in sponsoring part of the costs. They had planned to do a design contest, but the NFL decided not to offer funding. At that point, discussions stalled, and the East Isles Residents Association ("EIRA") learned that the existing warming house could be painted in time for the Superbowl for \$5,000-10,000. From there, Spraitz believes the budget for the warming house "refresh" has grown to approximately \$40,000 or more. Neighborhood associations are being asked to contribute, but have not had any input into the project. Spraitz had asked someone from the EIRA be present at tonight's meeting to update the Board and answer questions, but no EIRA representatives were present. The life span of the current building will likely be 5-10 years with a new roof (which EIRA is adding). The work will be done in November, but there are a number of questions that have yet to be answered, including whether the building will be ADA compliant.

Janet Hallaway then spoke about requesting that the Park Board hold a meeting about the warming house "refresh". On November 8, 2017 EIRA held an informational meeting about the warming house "refresh", but declined to have a MPRB representative in attendance because this is an EIRA project, not a MPRB project. Several citizens from Lowry Hill and Kenwood attended and were upset that they had not been involved in the process. The Park Board usually uses citizen advisory committees, but this was not used here, even though Lake of the Isles is a regional park. Janet Hallaway requested that the LHNA write a letter to the Park Board regarding the lack of public or neighborhood involvement in this project. Clint Connor moved to authorize Phil Hallaway to send a letter to the Park

Board expressing disappointment that the citizen advisory process was not followed and asking for greater transparency moving forward. Sarah Janecek seconded. The motion was passed unanimously.

LHNA received a request for a letter of support to Hennepin County Commissioners for a Hennepin Youth Sports Grant to renovate the tennis courts in Loring Park. After discussion, Sarah Janecek moved to authorize Phil Hallaway to provide a letter of support on behalf of the LHNA as requested since many neighborhood youth would likely use and benefit from the Loring Park courts. Clint Connor seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

**Historical Society Committee:** Krishna Dorney reported that the committee is going to set up a workshop to help people in the neighborhood research the history of their homes and a walking tour in the spring. The committee is also looking into doing a letter to homeowners of historical properties in the neighborhood for some type of event. Will update at the next meeting.

**New Business:**

Clint Connor recommended and Tom Huppert moved that the association amend its bylaws pursuant to Minn. Stat. 317A.439 subdivision 6 to no longer keep a member list of all members because it is too onerous. The motion was seconded by Jimmy Fogel and approved unanimously.

Suggestion to consider adding a signal at Franklin/Hennepin crosswalks for blind individuals given the proximity to BLIND, Inc. City may just need to be notified or there may be grant funds available. Will inquire of Councilwoman Goodman at next meeting.

Adjournment: Toni D'Eramo moved to adjourn, which was seconded by Jimmy Fogel. Meeting adjourned at 8:42 p.m.

### Board Meeting Minutes Dec. 5, 2017 at the Kenwood Rec Center

By Emily Beugen, Secretary

Board Members Present: Phil Hallaway, Michael Cockson, Toni D'Eramo, Jimmy Fogel, Lee Switzenberg, Tom Huppert, Bob Hinck, Emily Beugen, Jennifer Breitinger, Sarah Janecek, Clint Conner

Others: Krishna Dorney, Lisa Goodman, Arlo Ashbach. Call to Order: 7:03 pm

**Approval of Minutes:** Michael Cockson moved and Jimmy Fogel seconded that the minutes of the November 14, 2017 minutes be approved. The motion passed unanimously.

**Community Announcements:** Council member Goodman reviewed the following:

- "Later with Lisa" will be Monday, December 18th from 4:30-6:30 at the Normandy Inn. All residents are encouraged to attend.

- Minneapolis 2040 - City's comprehensive plan. December 11 at 5:30 at MLK Park. Seventh ward is encouraged to attend. Another meeting on Tuesday, January 23rd at Plymouth Church. Dinner served at 6 PM with meeting to follow at 6:30.

- Truth in taxation meeting - many people from low economic areas are seeing

- high increases in property taxes. Public hearing on Dec. 6, 2017.

- \$1.2 million grant to hire 10 new police and address gun safety.

- 2 budget amendments by Goodman with regard to inspections. City needs to hire more inspectors that should speak more than one language and are more culturally sensitive.

- The city has acted to revoke the rental licenses of Steve Frenz. As a result, all tenants will be evicted if a receiver for the properties is not appointed. Goodman is concerned for the tenants and making sure they have a home.

Sarah Janecek moved and Toni D'Eramo seconded that the LHNA send a letter in support of the appointment of a receiver by the city of Minneapolis for all properties held by Minneapolis landlord Stephen Frenz. The motion passed unanimously.

Phil Hallaway will notify Council Member Goodman



and Minneapolis City Attorney, Susan Segal, regarding the above action.

**The Lowry - Blue Plate Restaurant - Arlo Attach:**

The Lowry restaurant is interested in doing a meat raffle in 2018 and would like to donate the proceeds to the LHNA. They are looking to partner with LHNA to help promote the neighborhood organization. They are hoping to host the event in February in conjunction with Lowry Hill Meats. Jennifer Breitinger moved and Tom Huppert seconded that the LHNA proceed with the meat raffle with the Lowry restaurant. The motion passed unanimously.

**Treasurer's Report:** Toni D'Eramo reported LHNA is in good financial shape with only two outstanding invoices. NRP funds have been recently received from the City.

**Committee Reports:**

**Environment:** Bob Hinck reported that he is exploring more information on the Gypsy Moth quarantine. There will be a more formal report done in December.

**Zoning and Planning: Nothing new to report.**

**Crime and Safety:** New crime prevention specialist assigned to our area. Bicycles, along with the bicycle rack were stolen from near The Burch.

**Events:** Tom Huppert reported that the Thanksgiving pie drop-off for the firefighters and police officers was a success.

- Ice skating social: Sunday, January 21, 2018 from 1-3 PM. Lowry Hill will provide firewood and firepit.

- **Annual Meeting: Tuesday, May 22, 2018.** Still deciding on a venue. Possibilities include area above The Burch, and the Unitarian Society.

**Neighborhood Priorities:**

**Douglas Median Update:** Michael Cockson moved and Sarah Janecek seconded that an additional \$10,000.00 be allocated for the installation of the irrigation hand holes, pipes and faucets throughout the Hennepin-Lyndale corridor, between the building side of the streets and the center medians. The motion passed with Lee Switzenberg and Jennifer Breitinger abstaining.

Krishna Dorney reported that there appears to be an issue with the hand holds. Several are below grade. Need to check to see if these have been fixed.

Mr. Hallaway discussed the Letter of Assumed Responsibility for the Hennepin/Lyndale Public Space Coalition and the need to have this letter approved by the LHNA Board. The Board declined to provide a motion to approve this letter without having further information. Mr. Hallaway will pursue getting more information for the Board on this matter.

**Emerson Triangle: Urn was updated with winter plantings.**

**Lake of the Isles Warming House:** Mr. Hallaway provided brief review of a recent meeting with Anita Tabb (MPRB), Jeremy Barrick (MPRB), Dana Murdoch (MPRB), Mike Erlandson (EIRA), Michael Wilson (CIDNA), Claire Ruebeck (CIDNA), Kathy Spraitz and Craig Wilson on the warming house project. This project is not a MPRB project, but rather an EIRA project.

EIRA has allocated \$25,000 for "refreshing", rather than repairing the structure. This amount is below the budget of \$28,163, which includes painting, steel roof, doors, windows, shutters and new exterior lights. Therefore, additional funds would be needed in order to complete everything in the budget. CIDNA agreed to contribute \$1,000 to the project. MPRB reported that the cost of putting in and removing the warming house is \$20,000 per year, and often results in damage to the structure because of the strapping and crane used for the yearly installation. Mr. Hallaway advised others at this meeting that LHNA would not be providing funds because the LHNA Board was concerned that there had been no public process related to this project and that money was being spent on a structure with a short lifespan. LHNA believes that it makes more fiscal sense to acquire a new, modern structure that is easily movable at low cost, and that could be used for another purpose during non-winter months.

**Historical:** Krishna Dorney proposed do a walking tour of homes in Lowry Hill in the spring, especially those by architect William Kenyon. Many of these homes are along Colfax Ave. He has created google

## KENWOOD ISLES AREA ASSOCIATION

By Jack Levi

### December 2017 KIAA Meeting Minutes

KIAA Board met on 12/04/17 at the Kenwood Recreation Center. Chair Shawn Smith called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Directors present: Vice Chair Larry Moran, Treasurer Matt Spies, Secretary Jack Levi, Jeanette Colby, Angie Erdrich, Will Stensrud, Carl Goldstein, Jeremy Nichols, Mark Brown. Absent: Kyle Leier, Mike Bono

The financial report was added to the agenda at the beginning of the meeting. The Agenda was approved unanimously.

**City Council Update – Lisa Goodman**

Wednesday, December 6 was the last opportunity to provide public testimony for the City of Minneapolis' budget.

Lisa commented that due to the larger tax base, many homeowners did not see an increase this year. However, other wards saw increases based on the appreciation of the value of their homes

"Later with Lisa" will meet on December 18, 2017 between 5:30 and 7:30 at the Historic Normandy Inn.

The renovation of the warming house on Lake of the Isles is proceeding.

**Reading Partners – Kari Heistad**

Reading Partners is a non-profit organization that addresses illiteracy in schools. This effort started 3 years ago and they are currently in 13 schools in Minnesota, mostly in the metro area. For more information, please go to: [readingpartners.org](http://readingpartners.org)

The non-profit is looking for volunteers and also hoping to spread the word about the program.

**NRP/CPP – Shawn Smith:**

The contract for the years 2017-2019 was approved by the City of Minneapolis. KIAA is now waiting for the funds to come through before reimbursements can be executed.

Chair Shawn talked about the continuing challenges for hiring a bookkeeper and communication contract person. The main challenge is the difference skill sets required for bookkeeping and communication. The idea of hiring two people is contemplated. Matt offered to do the bookkeeping for the next 3-6 months until a suitable person is found. KIAA placed public notice in Next Door as well as Hill and Lakes Press to solicit interest.

**Hidden Beach planning ideas – Will Stensrud**

Will proposed to turn a section of the beach into an amphitheater for music and theater events; Will is also suggesting a solar generator at the beach to run the equipment associated with an amphitheater.

Chair Shawn Smith adjourned the meeting at 8:33 p.m.

The next Kenwood Isles Area Association Board meeting is on January 8, 2018, from 7:00-8:30 p.m. at the Kenwood Recreation Center. Monthly meetings are held on the first calendar Monday of each month unless otherwise noted. KIAA invites and encourages participation by every resident to each program, service, and event organized by KIAA. Should you require an accommodation in order for you to fully participate, or if you require this document in a different format, please let us know by contacting us at [kenwoodminneapolis.org](mailto:kenwoodminneapolis.org)

## EAST ISLES RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

Diana Schleisman, Administrator

### Minutes from the EIRA Board of Directors Meeting 11/14/17

Board members present: Brad Ash (President), Brian Milavitz (Treasurer), Debbie Gold (Secretary), Steve Havig, Amy Sanborn

Board members absent: Mike Erlandson (Vice-President), Andrew Degerstrom, Peter Mason, John Grochala, Julia Curran

Guests: Lisa Goodman (City Councilmember)

Welcome & Call to Order: Brad Ash, EIRA President

Guest Speaker

Lisa Goodman, City Council Member

Later with Lisa: Mon Dec 18th, 4:30-6:30pm, Normandy Inn & Suites (405 South 8th Street)

Minneapolis 2040: Tue Jan 23rd at Plymouth Church 6:00 dinner from Salsa a la Salsa followed by discussion. Residents are encouraged to attend.

Minneapolis city budget has been adopted.

map showing who the architects are for various homes in the neighborhood. Emily Beugen would like to offer a class for residents looking to research their historical homes. Will be sending out a note to residents to gauge interest.

**Communications**

**Website:** New website is up and running per Toni D'Eramo. Content was picked up from the old site but updated.

**Hill & Lake Press:** Year-end thank you will be published this month in addition to Ice Skating Social ad.

**New Business:** The Kenwood Rec Center will be closed from March 30, 2018 until June 4, 2018 for repairs. Therefore, an alternate venue will be needed for monthly meetings during this period. Several possibilities will be explored.

January 2, 2018 Lowry Hill Neighborhood Association meeting was moved to January 9, 2018 because of conflicts with New Year's weekend.

Upon motion duly made and seconded the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 PM.

Buses returned to Nicollet Mall. Interesting tidbit – Nicollet Mall was built with Federal transit grants so if buses are not allowed on it the Federal Government must be repaid.

**Committee Reports**

**• President's Report**

Storage unit & post box options are limited without a physical EIRA office location. Steve Havig offered to be a potential option for mail and storage.

Sons of Norway is planning to break ground in March. Plans have not yet been approved by the city.

**• Zoning & Land Use Committee**

2323 Lake of the Isles has submitted a permit for restoration and EIRA Zoning Committee supports the project so long as it is in compliance with the Historical Society.

**• Social Committee**

The Wine Tasting was successful, bringing in about \$2,700 total for EIRA including direct and combined shared sales. The tentative date for next year is Oct 11th, 2018. Discussion ensued whether it was worth it for EIRA volunteer time.

Ice Skating Party is scheduled for Jan 21st, 1-3 pm. Plans are progressing, volunteers are needed.

New Social Chair is needed: An ad on Nextdoor will be posted and the Outreach & Nominations Committee will be involved in the search.

Instagram: Debbie Gold will look into starting a new Instagram account to post pictures.

**• NRP Steering Committee**

The Lake of the Isles Warming House roof is on. An issue with windows needs to be addressed but it should not cause extra cost.

An agreement and invoice are being sought from Mark Addicks for the benches and gardens.

The concept of providing funding to the Park Board and Loppet Foundation to purchase equipment for additional grooming of cross county ski trails on the lakes was brought up as a potential investment of NRP funds. Approximately \$25,000 would cover snowmobiles and grooming equipment needed to expand

# Hill & Lake Press

www.hillandlakepress.com

## EIRA from page 9

grooming to Calhoun and increase grooming on Isles and Cedar for the full winter season. The concept is also being discussed with other lakes area neighborhoods to see if several could work together to fund. It was noted that given the typical time frame of the NRP approval process it may be difficult to get this funded for this winter.

### Transportation (N/A)

### Action Items (N/A)

### Open Forum: Potential EIRA Farmers Market

Debbie Gold is continuing to explore options for an EIRA-sponsored Farmers Market with the Mall being considered as a possible location. She has met with several people who have been involved in other markets, as well as the City Councilmember's office and the Minneapolis Park & Rec Board. As of now, most Minneapolis Farmers markets are on private land. The Park Board is willing to consider an EIRA Farmers Market as a possible pilot. Conceptual discussions have taken place but details are undetermined. EIRA may be willing to be in charge of marketing and management. An inquiry form will start the process. Debbie will proceed with Admin support. Summer of 2018 is the goal. Volunteers will be needed, so if anyone is aware of a resident who is interested in helping with this initiative please have them contact info@eastisles.org.

President Brad Ash adjourned the meeting.

**The next EIRA meeting will be at 7 pm on Jan 9, 2018 @ Grace Trinity Community Church, 1430 W 28th St.**

*EIRA invites and encourages participation by every resident to each program, service and event organized by EIRA. Should you require an accommodation to fully participate, or if you require this document in a different format, please let us know by contacting us at info@eastisles.org at least five (5) days before an EIRA sponsored event.*



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Since March 1976, The Hill & Lake Press has served the community as a non-profit newspaper staffed by volunteers. Views expressed are not necessarily those of Hill & Lake Press.

HILL LAKE PRESS  
Selected Real Estate Sales  
November 2017

STREET ADDRESS	ORIGINAL PRICE	Seller Contrib	DAYS MKT	SALE PRICE	TYPE	BED BATH	SQ FT	TAX VALUE	PROP TAX	YR BLT
1901 Emerson S #304	\$ 145,000	\$ 5,150	13	\$ 147,525	C	1/1	792	\$ 105,500	\$ 1,677	1964
2881 Irving S #201	149,900	0	41	145,000	C	1/1	648	133,500	2,055	1916
2706 Humboldt S #104	179,500	100	109	160,000	C	1/1	686	100,100	1,593	1963
821 Douglas S #202	225,000	0	3	230,000	C	2/2	1,053	179,265	2,866	1963
48 Groveland Terr #208	235,000	0	64	230,000	C	2/2	1,110	209,360	3,256	1967
3116 W Lake St #116	369,900	2,000	187	285,000	C	2/2	1,337	258,150	4,000	2007
3116 W Lake St #228	400,000	0	198	325,000	C	2/2	1,360	328,000	4,856	2007
2870 Kenwood Isles Dr	345,000	1,000	24	325,000	TWN	2/2	1,350	315,375	4,890	1986
1925 Dupont S #5	375,000	668	40	339,700	C	3/1	1,550	237,500	3,656	1912
2733 Drew S	549,900	0	12	549,900	H	4/3	2,637	691,000	11,376	1939
2216 Humboldt S	575,000	0	7	618,000	H	4/2	2,300	445,000	7,314	1895
1808 Irving S	699,900	0	176	605,000	H	4/2	2,575	600,500	9,579	1900
2815 E Lake of the Isles	725,000	0	33	637,500	H	4/2	1,612	525,000	8,733	1904
2732 Chowen S	950,000	0	268	845,000	H	4/4	3,641	208,700	3,911	2016
3 Park Lane	995,000	0	157	1,000,000	H	4/4	5,661	1,275,000	22,219	1930
1314 Mount Curve	1,700,000	0	975	1,300,000	H	8/8	9,365	1,885,000	31,038	1931
2603 Newton S	2,295,000	0	124	2,000,000	H	5/4	5,810	1,673,500	29,685	1913
Sources: Harvey Ettinger - Steve Havig					Home	H				
					Condo	C				
Broker Reciprocity Websites / Hennepin County					Townhouse	TWN				(Go to mplsrealtor.com for additional info)

## Thank You, Anita Tabb

By Jon Fageron  
("Mr. Meg Forney")

Anita Tabb lived in a generous house:  
Rooms so many, they ran out of names.  
The community felt it was their house,  
So many parties, celebrations,  
Fund-raisers, and public events.

To work hard is a good thing.  
To work hard at a job you believe in is better.  
To work hard at a job that is for the common good  
is the best.

But to open your home to strange looking politicos  
with name tags,  
That is way beyond the call of duty.

All one hundred and one of us thank you, Anita Tabb.

We know it was not the house, but Anita's spirit  
That made it so welcoming,  
The same spirit she gave to her community service,  
Steady, reliable, unstinting.  
Wherever Anita moves, we know,

## Happenings at Cedar Lake's South Beach



Photo by Dorothy Childers

Shortly before our first snowfall, construction on the Cedar Lake South Beach improvements project began. This winter, workers will perform site preparation, make utility connections and install the building foundation for a new three-season restroom, which was made possible by an anonymous donation of \$400,000. The beach will remain closed until construction is complete, which is anticipated before 4th of July weekend of 2018. Cedar Lake Regional Trail users will encounter a short detour around the construction site during the beach closure

## Anita from page 7

took its place. Gurban envisioned a 5000- to 7000-seat stadium with artificial turf and lights that would once again be a meeting place for youth and adults from across the city.

The problem was, Gurban was not good at communicating his vision. Or at letting people know he wanted to change their neighborhood park. Or at explaining how he'd pay for it. Or at setting up any sort of community engagement process. His ideas may have had merit, but his high-handed, overbearing approach was bound to raise suspicion and strident opposition.

Another problem: just by coincidence, the site of the proposed new Parade Stadium lay directly in front of Anita Tabb's living room windows.

Tabb and many of her Lowry Hill and Bryn Mawr neighbors began attending Park Board meetings and became increasingly perturbed by the infighting and acrimony they witnessed on a regular basis. After one meeting where Tabb spoke eloquently and forcefully during Open Time, she was approached by a short, thin, steely-eyed who asked to exchange contact information. It was the redoubtable Arlene Fried, co-founder of Park Watch.

Tabb quickly turned her talents and energy to the mission of Park Watch, which was founded in early 2004 in the aftermath of the first Gurban contract. She joined other Park Watch members in making sure someone attended every Park Board meeting and in insisting on accountability, transparency, and citizen participation. In 2009 Tabb and Liz Wielinski, another Park Watch co-founder, ran for and won seats on the Park Board. Along with four other winning candidates who ran with Park Watch backing, the Park Board was set to leave its tumultuous years behind and get down to conducting the people's business.

**April 29, 2016: history was made.**

The Minneapolis Park Board is a proud, rare anomaly among the nation's urban park systems. Established in February 1883 by an act of the Minnesota Legislature and approved two months later by a majority of Minneapolis voters, the Park Board is independent of City Hall. It is not a department of city government, which is the case virtually everywhere else in the country.

Our Park Board came into existence over the strenuous objections of many city aldermen, and periodic calls to abolish the Park Board have echoed forth from City Hall for the past 13 decades. The StarTribune, editorializing in December 2004 for a streamlined and more accountable city government, strongly recommended that the Park Board be eliminated and its responsibilities over to a city department. In 2009 Council Member Paul Ostrow tried — and almost succeeded — to put a question on the November ballot asking voters to abolish the independent Park Board.

Concern during the first six years of Tabb's tenure on the Park Board over the shortage of funds for maintenance and new programming in our neighborhood parks grew into an alarm. In late 2015 Save Our Minneapolis Parks was formed, with Mark Andrew as chair, to attempt to wring additional funding from the City Council, which controls a large part of Park Board funding. Anticipating failure on that front, the group began laying the groundwork for a referendum question on the November ballot asking voters to approve additional funding. A battle was in the making.

But coincidence intervened once again. Two women, Tabb and 7th Ward Council Member Lisa Goodman, who had become fast friends and shared the same belief about the role of elected officials, looked at each other and said, "This is nuts. We're elected to solve problems, not pass the buck back to the voters when the going gets tough." They began meeting quietly with Park Board Chair Liz Wielinski, City Council President Barbara Johnson, and Superintendent Jayne Miller.

Friday, April 29, 2016, was a day of joy and pride that everyone present in City Council chambers will always remember. The sense of history being made was palpable. On April 29 the City Council passed unanimously the result of the hard work of these five remarkable women, the 20-Year Joint Ordinance for neighborhood parks and streets. The Park Board passed the joint ordinance unanimously the following week.

To go from calls to abolish the Park Board to unan-

## Extreme Ice

By Madeleine Lowry

For the record, I agree with Eric Dayton.

In the recent Star Tribune Magazine profile, "King of Cold," Eric Dayton is hailed as a champion of winter and our state, and as a foe of the effects of climate change. As a Minnesota resident for more than 20 years, I have been here long enough to witness the changes on our weather patterns.

Minnesota's true identity is the Bold North, as Eric has coined it, only now with a hardiness zone of 5 or 6 instead of 3 or 4. This is not something to be celebrated. This is a dangerous trend. This is a change in climate that affects important state industries like tourism, agriculture and outdoor sports, not to mention increased damage to homes and infrastructure from hail and storms.

It's sad that the opening of the ice skating rinks on the Chain of Lakes, usually set for Dec 15th, now run a month late, or end abruptly early. It's regrettable that the Loppet Ski Festival is endangered more often than not by a lack of snow, cold temperatures or both.

My notion that growth in carbon dioxide levels in the atmosphere happened gradually over the decades since the Industrial Revolution was shattered on a recent trip to Hyde Park in Chicago.

Extreme Ice is an exhibit at the Museum of Science and Industry, a gargantuan building that you can literally get lost in. It served as the Palace of Fine Arts for the World's Fair of 1893 and was converted to a museum in 1933.

James Balog and his Extreme Ice Survey team have captured more than a million photographs of glaciers in remote locations as visual evidence of climate change. Simultaneously beautiful and shocking, the hourly chronicling of their disappearance over the last decade imous agreement on how to reach a common goal is nothing short of astounding. And Anita Tabb stood right at the center of this transformation.

**The power of relationships.**

That's the big picture. Down at ground level, what's made Anita such an effective, cherished part of our community is her energy, her smile and laughter, her generosity, her love of people. "I enjoy people," she says. "People are always interesting to me, with all their quirks and passions and knowledge and ideas. I'm a glass-half-full kind of person, and being around the people I've gotten to know in the city and in our neighborhood constantly recharges me."

As a Park Board commissioner Tabb unfailingly showed grace under pressure. Many of us came to know Anita through her gracious hospitality, welcoming us into her home on occasions large and small. "This

is affecting. There's a compelling 7-minute video interview with James Balog as well as data about atmospheric carbon dioxide concentrations over the years. If you don't have a chance to see the exhibit, watch James Balog's TED talk online.

Here's the shocker: atmospheric concentrations of carbon dioxide reached levels not seen on Earth for 3 million years only just recently. The point at which we surged past the 400 ppm threshold, a clear redline into the danger zone of climate change, was in 2014. This is happening right now, on our watch. "The earth," says James Balog, "is having a fever."

Awareness of climate change and our hand in it had never been brought home to me in quite this way before.

The exhibit includes resources with information about reducing your carbon footprint. In lieu of that an online carbon calculator is handy and instructive. Our family completed one at the Science Museum of Minnesota a few years ago. Step through a list of lifestyle questions and get recommendations for reductions. How many newspapers do you subscribe to? How much meat do you eat? How many miles do you drive each year? What's your utility usage? Our results revealed that most of our carbon footprint was attributable to one activity—travel, particularly air travel.

So yes, the change in our seasons is real and scary. Bold Cold may not be our motto for long.

home was meant to be lived in and enjoyed," she says, "and Rob and I are grateful to all the people who have helped us do it."

In April 2016, when Hill & Lake Press was celebrating its 40th anniversary, we knew a party was in order, so Jim and Susan Lenfestey, Carla Pardue, Jean Deatrack, and I paid a call on Anita. "Might we possibly, if it wouldn't be too much trouble," we stammered. "I'd love to host the 40th anniversary party," she beamed, throwing her arms wide in welcome. Two months later, 175 Hill and Lake folks showed up for the gala event and had a grand time, thanks to Anita and Rob.

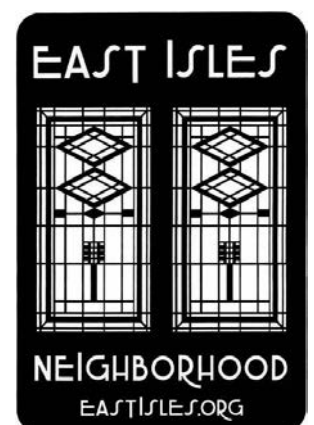
Tabb was interviewed for a "Meet Your Neighbor" column in the August 2013 Hill & Lake Press as she was running for her second term. "Never underestimate the power of relationships," she said. "Good ones allow us all to work together to move our city forward. I know that most of this is the boring process stuff, but it is foundational and it's what is expected in a sophisticated environment like Minneapolis where people take pride in being part of and making a positive contribution to the place they call home."

# With Appreciation

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MPRB Commissioner Anita changed our neighborhood for the better with her election as Park Board Commissioner. Earlier I knew her as a neighbor and friend. We would go to lunch occasionally, usually at The Lowry. If I were slow at keeping in touch, I would get an email from Anita: "It has been too long. Let's have lunch." We always had a lot to discuss. Gossip, but more usually, the neighborhood and Parks.

We worked hard to get Anita elected. I remember years ago when she sent a letter describing her displeasure with SWLRT plans, especially freight trains/LRT colocation, and her opinion that some prominent people were suddenly silent despite their earlier opposition

to colocation. She said her letter was going to annoy some people, but she sent it anyway and named names. Anita is not afraid of expressing her opinion, but she remains loyal and dedicated to our neighborhoods.

Anita is a board member of Hill and Lake Press and has hosted board meetings at her home. She and her husband Rob have been friends to all even though they often travel to visit family. Although I am personally sad that Anita has left us and moved to Florida, I am heartened by the fact that I will be in Florida for part of the winter and I hope to visit her there. I wish her great happiness in her new home. Thank you, Anita.

**Jean Deatrack, Editor, Hill and Lake Press**

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