



‘Where the biggies leave off...’

Hill & Lake Press

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Editor: Residents have expressed concern about the proposed development of the Sons of Norway building in Uptown.

Sons of Norway

By Lara Norkus-Crampton

Our new mayor and new council members have spoken forcefully about the issue of affordable housing. Meanwhile leaders in the City Council have stated that we should look to the free market to build Minneapolis out of its affordable housing crunch.

The planning staff recommendation to approve an up-zoning, planned unit development, and a conditional use permit (the only way to allow for such an exponential increase in the allowable density for this site on 31st St) for the Sons of Norway site does nothing to guarantee that this project will provide affordable housing. While more intense development maybe appropriate for a Commercial Corridor like Lake St or Hennepin Avenue--31st St. is a residential street and outside of the official Activity Center of Uptown. The scale and density of this proposal on 31st St. is not appropriate and violates the concept of thoughtful transitions from Uptown commercial corridors to the R2B residential areas next-door and directly across the street.

Will this huge increase in allowable density address affordable housing? 40 of the units are 400 ft.² or less and 60 of the units are around 500 ft.². One might think that these units would be more affordable. But the proposers have stated publicly several times that the lowest price point would be \$1200 per month. To put this in perspective, the base price for a two bedroom duplex//triplex/4 Plex unit in ECCO is around \$1800. Most traditional duplex units are a minimum of 1000 ft.². At this square footage the rental price would be \$1.80 per square foot. The proposed 375 square-foot units at \$1200 per month would be \$3.20 per square foot (not including any extra costs for parking. Other developments in the uptown area charge \$150 per month for a parking space). At the proposed square footage it would not be easy to get a roommate to help split costs.

If a new standard is being set calling for \$1200 as a base price for studios/efficiencies at 400 ft.² or less--how will that impact other rental housing in Uptown and city-wide?

An issue not talked about very much is the role of REIT's (Real Estate Investment Trusts) and land speculation in driving up the cost of housing units in the cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul.

In their Fall 2017 edition Colliers magazine is very enthusiastic about the ability of the speculative housing market in Minneapolis and St. Paul to deliver profit for national (and perhaps international) speculators. They are especially bullish because they note that national speculators tend to flip properties much faster than local longer-term investors--giving more national speculators a chance to get in on the action. Every time a property is sold at a profit it necessarily drives rents up. This is the market. This is how it works. Here is the conclusion of the report.

"While total transaction volume is expected to rise in a healthy market, what sets the Twin Cities apart

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Luminary Loppet Volunteers

By Carla Pardue



Photo by Carla Pardue

Over 40 volunteers gathered at the canoe dock on Lake of the Isles on January 13th and 24th to freeze and hatch the luminaries for the upcoming Luminary Loppet!

Weathering sub-zero temperature and snow – this team made 1700 luminaries. The Luminaries are now resting comfortably on the ice – in preparation for the upcoming Luminary Loppet on Saturday, February 3rd.

The Luminary Loppet was created by Peggy and Hal Galvin (KIAA) back in 2006, as a way to involve everyone in the sport of cross-country skiing.

East Isles resident Dave Bryan was the first Chief Luminarian and the rest is history.

Starting with 500 luminaries and 200 paying participants – it has grown to 1700 luminaries and is expected to draw 10,000 paying participants this year.

City of Lakes Loppet 2018 schedule includes events for both participants and for spectators. To learn more or sign up, visit www.loppet.org

Festival Events

The City of Lakes Loppet is a festival of cross country skiing and winter activities for the whole family.

Loppet Challenge
Minne Tour

Register

2018 City of Lakes Loppet Ski Festival Events:
(Everything but Crewski, Kubb, and Snow Sculpture)

January 27 and 28 Events:
Register Now!

January 30 and 31 Events:
Register Now!

Event Days

Saturday, January 27, 2018
Sunday, January 28, 2018
Monday, January 29, 2018
Finn Sisu Classic and Skate Sprints (January 30 and 31, 2018)
Saturday, February 3, 2018
Sunday, February 4, 2018

February 3 and 4 Events:
Register Now!

2018 Pearson's Crewski Loppet:
Register Now!

2018 Southwest Journal Snow Sculpture Contest:
Register Now!

2018 Captain Ken's Kubb Tournament:
Event Full
[Click Here for the Waiting List](#)

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LUNCH WITH LISA January 31 2018

Join Council Member Lisa Goodman
for lunch and conversation.

This month we welcome City Attorney Susan Segal and Sargent Snyder who will share about what the city does to combat sex trafficking on an ongoing basis and the extra efforts that have been put in place during the super bowl.

St Thomas University—Minneapolis
Opus Hall 202

\$10.00 Lunch is offered
Come early to get your lunch and a
good seat

Discussion starts promptly at
noon

PLEASE RSVP TO RUTH by the 23rd @
612-673-2207



Join the Twin Cities Jewish Chorale for an Open Sing Wednesday, January 31, 7 -- 8 pm @ Temple Israel, 2324 Emerson Avenue South Minneapolis 55405. Stay to chat with Chorale members and enjoy home-made refreshments. 8:15 - 9:00 pm will be a short first rehearsal for the next TCJC concert. Stay to watch or join in!

Congratulations to Jones-Harrison on 130 Years of Service to Older Adults!



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Minnesota Named Second Best State to Raise a Family

Minnesota is the second best state in the nation to raise a family, according to a new study from WalletHub. The new study ranked all 50 states across 42 factors, with Minnesota scoring especially high on measures of median family income and poverty, health and safety, and high-quality schools and child care.

“Minnesota’s great schools, excellent quality of life, and good work opportunities are some of the reasons why we have been rated the second best state for families,” said Governor Mark Dayton. “But the report got one thing wrong: no other state holds a candle to Minnesota!”

Minnesota scored especially strong in median family salary, ranking first out of all 50 states. Below, see additional scoring for Minnesota in the new study:

- 1st – Median Family Salary (Adjusted for Cost of Living)
- 3rd – Percent of Families in Poverty
- 4th – Separation & Divorce Rate
- 5th – Health & Safety
- 7th – Housing Affordability
- 9th – Percent of Families with Young Kids
- 9th – Violent Crime Rate
- 11th – Education & Child Care
- 12th – Unemployment Rate
- 15th – Infant-Mortality Rate
- 16th – Child-Care Costs (Adjusted for Median Family Income)

A New Novel Based on a Twin Cities Woman’s Role in the Feminist Movement of the 1960s and 1970s debuts. Many say the Women’s March on Washington last January marked the rebirth of “the women’s movement.” Judy McConnell of St. Louis Park, Minn., has been involved in the women’s rights movement since the 1960s. In her debut novel,

HAPPENINGS IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

Neighborhood monthly meetings

Jan 2, 1-3pm Ice skating party Lake of the Isles

Jan 26 - Feb 4, Loppet 2018

Jan. 31, noon Lunch with Lisa

Feb. 6, 7pm Precinct Caucuses

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

Precinct Caucuses are Tuesday, Feb 6th

From within the bipartisan environment of political discourse the leaders of the Republican and Democrat parties want to jointly invite the voters of Minneapolis to attend precinct caucuses being held the evening of Tuesday, Feb 6 at 7pm. Precinct caucuses are public meetings to discuss political party platforms, vote in a straw poll for Governor, and run to be delegates to party conventions that will officially endorse candidates.

To find your local caucus location visit:
<http://mnvotesinfo.sos.state.mn.us/voters/precinct-caucuses>.

Proud Party Patriots,

Andy Rich

Scott Graham

Chair, GOP Senate District 61 Chair, DFL Senate

Dreamhouse, she writes about events she personally experienced in the 1960s and 70s as seen through the eyes of Radley Gallagher, a young mother caught up in the challenges of raising two young children. “The story is about how that cultural phenomenon impacted this conventional young family in Deephaven, MN. In some ways, the story parallels my life. I lived in that house in Deephaven,” says McConnell, who goes on to describe Dreamhouse as a stark portrayal of the soul-searching dilemma facing a young wife and mother as she confronts head-on the revolutionary changes of the early seventies.

The first public event for the recently released novel takes place on Sat., Feb. 10, 2018, from 2 p.m. - 4 p.m. at the Walker Library, located at 2880 Hennepin Avenue in Minneapolis. McConnell will do a reading, and also discuss her writing process, how the novel was created, and the experience of being a Minnesota author. McConnell also has appearances scheduled at the following locations: Wed., Feb. 21, 7 p.m., Common Good Books, 38 Snelling Ave. S., St. Paul, Wed., Mar. 7, 7 p.m., Subtext Bookstore, 6 5th St. W., St. Paul, Sat., Mar. 24, Rosemount Writers Festival, 10:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., 14375 S. Robert Trail, Rosemount, MN. Books will be available for purchase and signing at all of the events. For more information, go to the author’s website, www.agreatbook.net

To arrange an interview with Judy McConnell, contact Rachel M. Anderson, Publicist, at 952-240-2513 or rachel@rmapublicity.com. # family values and explore women’s issues, inspired by the swelling movements to transform the nation.



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Sons of Norway continued from page one

from other similar markets is the level of increase in total sales experienced during the past few years. What was once a fairly stable \$500 Million - \$750 Million annual sales market, has doubled since 2013, without any sharp pullback in sight.

In our conversations with both local and national investors, the general consensus is that while the Twin Cities market has matured into a truly national marketplace in the past two years, investors suspected it would likely retreat back to historical sales volume. However, the odds that the large uptick in sales volume is a temporary aberration is becoming less likely, given the current data.

As the market continues to mature into a more desirable and monitored national investment buyer marketplace, we will likely see sales volume remaining high in coming years, irrespective of macro market conditions. This will likely partially be a result of shorter hold periods for many national buyers, versus the long-term buy and hold strategy of local buyers.

Because of the increase in shorter hold periods, product will have a faster turn-over rate, which will keep market prices competitive and investment bidding active. The overall surge in demand for all classes of multifamily product in the Twin Cities market should continue to drive an increasing volume of sales."

The summary is followed by several pages of recent transactions selling existing properties to funds like TIAA-CREF. There are a lot of them.

How can we temper this "faster turnover rate" to keep the rental price point within the affordable limits of more Minneapolitans? \$15 an hour doesn't do folks much good if they have to start paying prices more common in Boston or San Francisco to accommodate all of this speculative interest.

The proposers have stated that they cannot make a profit unless they maximize the density on the site to allow for 319 units. If the current property owner was selling the land acknowledging the limitations of the

current zoning, the land price would likely not be so high. It appears the current ownership expects that the city will grant them whatever they need to justify a higher price. If the city says No to the rezoning and keeps the 31st St. site zoned at R4, the investors could go back to the land owner and say your property is not worth this much. Then the negotiations could continue to determine what is a reasonable price for this site within the current zoning.

The City has a role in mediating the excesses of the speculative real estate market. We could have a boom and bust real estate market without a planning department

to be "carefully integrated into the existing residential fabric by stepping down in scale as they (the buildings) approach existing residential buildings on the side streets."

The first purpose listed in the Minneapolis Ordinances for zoning (520.30 – Purpose) is "To implement the policies of the comprehensive plan." What can be the purpose of adopting a city comprehensive plan and a small area plan if they are to be ignored?

On April 2, 2010, the City Council adopted the Midtown Greenway Rezoning Study, which down zoned 3016 Holmes Avenue from MULTI (split zoning of C3A and OR1) to R4. While we understand that the development of this site is inevitable, we request that the city hold any developer to the current zoning, follow the Uptown Small Area Plan and ensure that there will be a thoughtful transition from the commercial district and commercial corridors into our neighborhood.

We are also very concerned with the physical effect on our neighborhood of the proposed building massing (with the R6 zoning) facing Holmes Avenue and 31st Street. As planned, the development would create a canyon effect on Holmes from Lake to 31st Street.

Parking is another concern for residents of East Calhoun and adjacent neighborhoods. The plan is for the development residents to rent parking located in the basement. Many renters will choose to park for free on the nearby streets, as will their visitors. Next year the City will eliminate parking on Hennepin Avenue from Lake to 31st Street and on the west side of Hennepin from 31st Street to 36th Street, which will cause many persons to seek parking within the East Calhoun neighborhood. Combined with the proposed massive development this will turn our neighborhood into a parking lot.

Traffic has also become a major concern for East Calhoun. The enormous traffic coming in from the west on Lake Street often chooses to go through East Calhoun rather than trying to go through the

Sons of Norway to page 4

January 11, 2018

Peter Crandall, City Planner, City of Minneapolis, City Council President Lisa Bender

Re: Sons of Norway Redevelopment Project

Dear Mr. Crandall and Council President Bender:

On January 10, 2018, the East Calhoun Community Organization (ECCO) electronically voted to oppose the request by Ryan Companies to increase the zoning for the south building of the Sons of Norway redevelopment from R4 to R6. This opposition also includes any related exceptions to the zoning ordinance that could be granted by the Planning Commission to increase the maximum height of structures in the Planned Unit Development application process.

The majority of residents of our neighborhood are very concerned about the proposed increase of residents that this very large project would bring to the neighborhood. We are currently experiencing excessive traffic and lack of on-street parking and believe that the present R4 designation recognizes this reality.

The Minneapolis Plan for Sustainable Growth designates this location to be R4 (four stories). The Uptown Small Area Plan calls for it to be mixed use and

Don't Miss The Annual Ice Skating Party

Sunday, January 21, 2018

1:00-3:00 p.m.

Lake of the Isles Ice Rink & Warming Hut

Enjoy Skating* & Socializing with your Neighbors & Family.

Get Warm by the Fire.

Drink Hot Cocoa & Coffee.

Eat Cookies and Puppy Dog Tails.

Have Winter Fun! *Non-Skaters welcome too.



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The Hamilton Studio: A Place Where Dreams Begin

By Harriet Horwitz

Dreams come in many packages. For Bryce and Donna Hamilton, a tidy storefront at 3112 West 28th Street holds the delicate magic of imagination and possibilities.

Once a grocery store, then a woodcarver's shop, then Hearts & Ivy, the Hamiltons' former holiday decor-making studio (located across from Park Siding Park) has morphed into a serene space to share and nurture the talents and values of people in our community.

"I want to live a creative life," says Donna, "and I want to share in the creativity of others. In this Studio, we help make it happen." We have hosted poetry readings, a fund-raiser promoting peace and justice. I see this as a showcase for playwrights, artists, musicians, discussions, even craft and cooking classes."

Currently, a showing of photography by Joseph Donovan dominates the main room. His large format, black and white nature images powerfully inhabit the 25'x35' gallery area. Step to the side and you enter another room and another world, reminiscent of a Victorian parlor. Beyond that, a small kitchen. Together, they estimate up to 30-40 people can be accommodated for various events.

Scheduling and choosing events is Donna's domain.

Some will be private, some open to the public. Publicity is apt to be word-of-mouth. For more information, email: hamiltonstudio3112@gmail.com

(Gallery will be open Saturdays from 10am-4pm through February 24; Joe will be there to talk with you.)



Photo by Dorothy Childers

A look inside the Hamilton Gallery. Left to right, Bryce Hamilton, Joseph Donovan, and local photographer Martha Driessen, discussing "Reverence," Donovan's current exhibition at the gallery. For more information on Donovan's photography, please go to: JFDONOVAN.COM

Sons of Norway from page three

Hennepin/Lake intersection. The Travel Demand Management Plan conducted by Swing Traffic Solutions says that the 340 new parking stalls will not significantly increase the levels of traffic or the length of cars waiting in line. We find this hard to believe, and note that the study actually says that the eastbound PM queue at Humboldt Ave. and Lake St. will decrease from 392 feet to 351 feet with this development! The traffic study was conducted mid-October and it does not take seasonal traffic into account. The study also neglects other planned construction projects and the upcoming changes to Hennepin Avenue from 31st Street to 36th Street.

The effects of these traffic and parking items, when combined, will dramatically and negatively shift driving patterns into the neighborhoods surrounding Hennepin and Lake.

East Calhoun is a neighborhood of single and multifamily dwellings; 76% of our residents rent their homes, duplexes or apartments (source: Minnesota Compass, 2011-2015). While we recognize the desire of the City to facilitate new housing construction, we feel developers are excessively targeting this desirable neighborhood such that it will become undesirable.

We urge you to reject the proposed rezoning and ask Ryan Companies to come back with an alternative proposal that accomplishes the goals of the Uptown Small Area Plan and creates an appropriate transition from high density along Lake Street to residential single-family homes and duplexes on 31st Street.

Thank you for hearing our concerns.

Sincerely,

Ralph Knox, President, East Calhoun Community Organization

ECCO Board members:

Gary Farland	Rhoda Reighard
Luke Schaan	Caroline Vaaler
Bobbie Keller	Amy Rutherford
Judy Shields	Jenny Walter
Marya Morstad	Mary Sabatke
Lee Todd	

cc: Tony Barranco, Ryan Companies



The Hamilton Gallery storefront.

Photo by Dorothy Childers

To the Editor:

I live at 3039 Humboldt Avenue South, one of the five homes adjacent to the property. I am in favor of developing the Sons of Norway property but within the current zoning of R4 reflecting the Uptown Small Area Plan.

The Uptown Small Area Plan is a nationally recognized plan that the neighbors, business owners, and developers were active participants in the creation. The city then reviewed the zoning in 2010 and the city supported the current zoning. It was agreed during the all of the ECCO Livability meetings that the reviews were carefully conducted and should not be overturned by the Planning Commission and City Council. Ryan Cos. is requesting spot zoning benefiting only Weidner to the detriment of the Uptown residents and businesses. If this developer is allowed change the zoning to R6 this project will negatively impact the Uptown businesses and residents who have consistently contributed to the community. Weidner purchased the property knowing it is zoned R4 they should not be requesting the city to change the zoning to gain greater profits at the expense of their new neighbors.

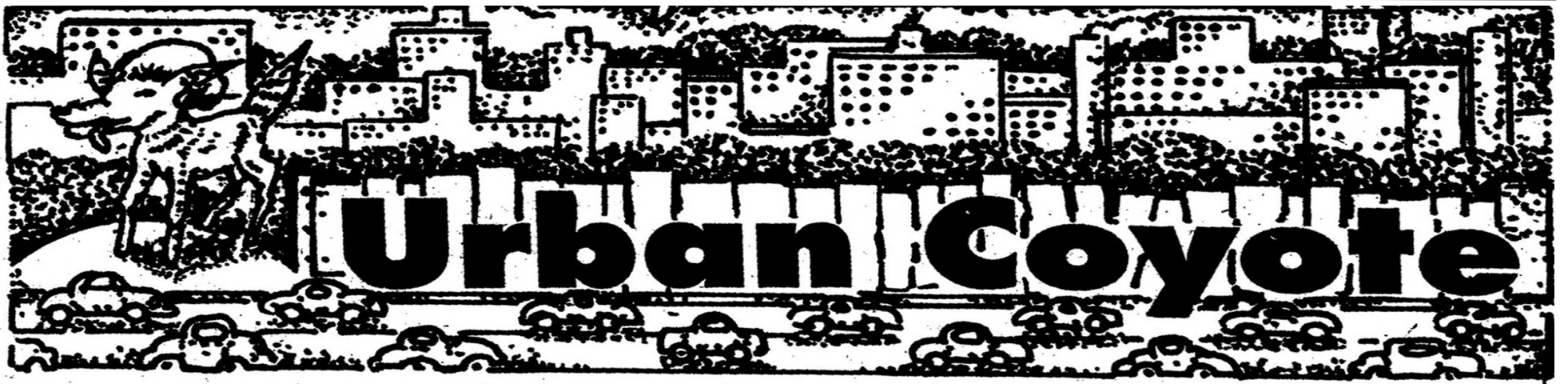
The Sons of Norway property is a vital transitional corridor to the ECCO neighborhood. The height of the proposal does not provide a transition to the neighborhood. It was the widely held view during the ECCO

Livability Meetings that the transition corridor of no more than four stories should remain in place. Ryan Cos. proposed building on Holmes Avenue South is one mass complex rather than a number of buildings, with green space between, representing the character of the neighborhood the property will be joining. The neighboring properties to the west and south are residents zoned R2 and R1. The R4 zoning of the Sons of Norway property was put into place to protect the surrounding neighborhoods and our city's treasured lakes and park areas.

The proposed development by Weider is too dense for the property. R4 zoning allows 32 units per acre with a minimum of 1,200 square feet per unit. The Sons of Norway property is approximate 2+ acres. Weidner is proposing 320 units, approximately 500 additional residents added to the current ECCO population of 2,000. An increase of 25% on one small parcel of land.

Traffic and parking are already a problem in the Uptown this will only exacerbate the problems. Ryan Cos. provided the Travel Demand Management Plan it was discussed at the ECCO Livability Meetings that the plan does not accurately reflect current and future

Sons of Norway concluded on page five



COLD ENOUGH FOR DA SUPERBOWL, EH?

By James P. Lenfestey

As I write this, Friday, Jan 5, the high temp for the day is minus 11.

To one who has covered and fretted and fracked over climate change for three decades, nasty winter cold spells offer a double blessing. They bring out the loony naysayers who can't tell the difference between weather and climate to parade their anti-science idiocy before the public's mocking gaze. Meanwhile, hardy HLPers joyfully don skates for a glide on Lake of the Isles, or strap on Nordic skis or thick boots for a slide or stroll in the slick bliss of winter white.

We do love our real winters, sadly short and infrequent these days. However, the rest of the country does not. Take my daughter-in-law. Puleeze! A native Californian. No more need be said.

As the Superbowl descends upon us on Feb 4, I am reminded of what Lee Lynch, in his amazing new book, *Amazing Minnesota*, called "a bad PR day." It was the last time National Football playoff cameras were trained on Minnesota, fans outdoors hidden in condensate fog

from frozen breath! Debate all we want the merits of US Bank Stadium, which will be toasty inside, hosting the Superbowl here is a bad PR idea, showing off to the people of the world one of our greatest strengths, hardiness, but one they are sadly unprepared to appreciate.

Unless... Unless....

Dare I say it? That a wildly enthusiastic home crowd propels the stalwart Purple and Gold finally over the goalposts, and we win the Superbowl!!! But, we know better, don't we, even with a LOUD crowd advantage.

The Curse, of course.

My children are divided on The Curse. Most are firm believers. Never mind, the say, the missed chip shot field by Blair Walsh to lose the Vikes last plaffoff game against Seattle in the freezing cold of TCF Stadium. Forget the NFL championship game in which Gary Anderson, "the most accurate field goal kicker in football," missed a chip shot at the end of regulation time against the Falcons, to whom we lost in overtime.

No, they cite the last time the Vikings played New Orleans in the playoffs. The incomparable Brett Farve, heroic all day against the murderous intentions of New Orleans' poisonous defense, was driving to win the game. On the last play, he was open to run a short clear distance to place the ball for an easy field goal to win the game! Instead, he inexplicably threw a pass right into the arms of.... Oh, never mind. The Curse.

But I am happy the game is here nevertheless. Many of you have rented out a drafty abandoned attic bedrooms for a million dollars a night to a few burly New Orleans football fans and their friends. What could go wrong?

Speaking of wrong, maybe, like last year, we'll have another run of 60 degree temps in February, sunburn ratings replacing wind chill. Then we'll win the Superbowl for sure. Two wrongs just might make a right.

Sons of Norway

traffic in the ECCO neighborhood. The Lake Street, Excelsior Boulevard and Minnetonka Boulevard all heading into and out of St. Louis Park is one of the most congested intersections in the city. The Star Tribune did a story on that the corner of Lake and Hennepin is one of the worst intersections for pedestrian accidents. Uptown businesses are losing consumers because there is nowhere to park when they visit the area. Established residents and businesses are considering abandoning Uptown due to traffic, air quality, parking and the ecological impacts of the increased population around the lakes.

Sharon Eiden Cornejo

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Meet Your Neighbor, Sarah Janecek

By Craig Wilson

Tragically, the Hill Lake Community lost a dear friend and neighbor Sarah Janecek, 57, of Lowry Hill. Sarah was an influential Minnesota political commentator, writer and strategist who embraced the Republican Party but was well respected across party lines. Sarah died of a severe septic infection in a hospital in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil while touring South America this month. Memorials for Sarah are being accepted by the Lowry Hill Neighborhood Association for a memorial in the community she loved so dearly. Please visit <https://donorbox.org/support-lhna> and comment that your donation is for the “Sarah Janecek Fund” or send checks to PO Box 3978, Minneapolis, MN 55403 payable to LHNA and stipulating the “Sarah Janecek fund”.

In January 2015, Craig Wilson interviewed Sarah Janecek for the Hill Lake Press. Sarah had been involved in Minnesota politics for more than 25 years as a writer, campaign adviser, Republican activist and lobbyist and business consultant. In this interview, Sarah discusses her life in politics, the Hill Lake community and what made her slow her hectic life down in order to grow a boulevard garden.

Where did you grow up and what brought you to the Hill Lake community? Mary Tyler Moore! After law school, I knew I wanted to live in an apartment in an old mansion and walk Isles and check out guys, just like Mary. I grew up in New Brighton. So, for most of my life, I’ve lived a few blocks off the MTC Bus No. 25 line. I love Lowry Hill because of the architecture, the older trees (many of which we’ve lost) and the thought and care people put into their landscaping. I can walk to get almost anything I want. I love the vibe that “this is our neighborhood and we take good care of it.” That’s not a Republican or Democrat vibe, it’s a good human being vibe.

How did you become so influential in the



Republican Party? It should be noted that my “influence” waxes and wanes. I got my start as an intern for Bill Frenzel in DC and then Jim Ramstad here. When I first moved to Lowry Hill, I was lucky to meet many GOP moderates who were great about mentoring younger people. When Arne Carlson was elected governor, two DFLers—DJ Leary and Wy Spano—decided they needed a GOP editor to help write their snail mail newsletter, Politics in Minnesota (PIM). I added a PIM Directory and published eight editions of that. When DJ and Wy retired, I took the PIM newsletters into paid subscription online publications. I sold the whole shebang in 2008. There are three secrets to being good in politics. One, know your stuff inside and out, and always be ready with facts to argue your side. Two, know when your party is wrong and don’t be shy saying so, publicly. Three, get to know the opposition and earn

their respect.

What is it like for a Republican living in Minneapolis? I’m fond of saying I’m a little red spec in a big blue precinct. I don’t mind being surrounded by Democrats. Keeps me on my toes. Plus I find a lot of the liberal sanctimony to be downright hilarious. People still come up to me at The Wedge and ask what am I doing in there? My answer is always the same: Buying Kadejan chickens. My point is that lots of people—make that too many people—superficially stereotype people based on their politics.

In your opinion, what is the future of the Republican Party? After six years of President Obama and the 2014 elections, I think the future is very bright. Democrats who stay and play in the city don’t understand how much working class people who live in the suburbs and Greater Minnesota—the DFL base for decades—think the country is on the wrong track. But now the Republicans have to deliver, particularly in Congress. Time to have long conversations and draft and pass bills to solve problems like immigration, Islamic extremist terrorism and the national debt. Worth noting, however, is that Republican prospects in Minneapolis will continue to be bleak. That’s a tragedy. A one-party town breeds government workers who get reimbursed for expenses without supplying receipts and provides a revolving door for overpaid school superintendents who do nothing to improve schools.

Will the 2015 legislative session be collaborative and bipartisan or hostile and partisan? Obviously, I hope for the former, and I’m enormously optimistic. Rep. Kurt Daudt (R-Crown) was the perfect choice for Speaker at this time. He’s relatively new and not jaded by the process. He brought the Republicans to the majority dance and he’s close to the issues and reasons that happened. Hostile partisanship was not one of those reasons.

How do you help your business clients? I lived

Sarah Janecek to page eleven

BRUCEBIRKELAND
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Coldwell Banker Burnet



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Fifty Years of Poems from a Marriage



Poet James Lenfestey gave a memorable reading from his newest poetry collection, *A MARRIAGE BOOK: 50 YEARS OF POEMS FROM A MARRIAGE*, for Literary Witnesses at Plymouth Congregational Church on December 5, 2017, before a packed house of a hundred fifty people. He was introduced by Daniel Slager, publisher of Milkweed Editions. A delicious post-reading reception was catered by cookbook author and neighborhood resident Beth Dooley. The audience felt an exceptional evening had taken place, bearing witness to the poet and the poet's wife Susan, seated in the front row, sharing images of their life through his poems, at times with laughter, at times tears. Lenfestey, also known as the Urban Coyote, is a columnist for the Hill and Lake Press. "Marriage is like a journey on the Silk Road," he said afterwards. "You leave from the Eros of Venice or Persia, and over the decades face sandstorms, hunger, thirst, miraculous oases, chanting monks, jugglers, dancing girls and prancing horsemen, and bandits everywhere. Persisting, you arrive already swathed in the silk of the journey."

Photos by Dorothy Childers

Uncontrolled Climate Change Event at The American Swedish Institute

Left to right: Freya Manfred, Ruth Bly and James Lenfestey, organizers of "Poets, Writers, Musicians Against the War on the Earth," which took place at the American Swedish Institute on Wednesday, January 10 before a packed auditorium of three hundred people. The event was a fierce expression of poetic rage, despair and hope for the future of the children in the face of uncontrolled climate change. All proceeds of a silent auction and a free will offering were donated to activist environmental groups Citizens Climate Lobby, Climate Generation, Cool Planet, Interfaith Power and Light, and Mn350.org.



Photo by Dorothy Childers

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LOWRY HILL NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

BY Emily Beugen, Secretary

Lowry Hill Neighborhood Association Board Meeting Minutes

Jan. 9, 2018 at the Kenwood Rec Center

Board Members Present: Phil Hallaway, Bob Hinck, Emily Beugen, Sam Ellingson, Lee Switzenberg, Tom Huppert, Craig Wilson

Others: Krishna Dorney, Andrew Wilson, Council member Lisa Goodman

Call to Order: 7: 06 pm

Quorum not met with only seven board members

Community Announcements: Council member Goodman reviewed the following:

Lunch with Lisa will be Wed. Jan 31 at U of St. Thomas. Presentation will be on sex-trafficking pertaining to the large event coming to town.

Road closures have started for the Super Bowl. Information is available at mnsuperbowl.com/transportation and minneapolis.gov/superbowl

The intersection of Franklin and Hennepin Ave will have a new, audible crossing light for the visually impaired.

Treasurer's Report: Phil Hallaway read the Treasurer's report provided by Toni D'Eramo. LHNA is in good financial shape. A donation was received to pay for the winter plantings at the Emerson Triangle.

1st Amendment to NRP Funding Agreement for 2017-2019 CPP (Community Participation Program) was received from the City of Minneapolis. The 1st Amendment Contract amount awarded to LHNA for years 2017 & 2018 is \$34,301.

Committee Reports:

Environment: Bob Hinck reported that he is exploring more information on the Gypsy Moth quarantine. Hoping to have something to release by the end of the month. He should also have more information on how to handle brush and branches in the quarantine area.

Zoning and Planning: Valet company serving the Burch restaurant was recently fined \$400 for traffic violations.

Crime and Safety: Block captains will have priority for the Citizen's Academy classes with the Minneapolis Police Department. A different topic will be covered each week from March 6 through May 15. Also open to the public.

Crime maps have been eliminated.

Armed robbery in East Isles. Graffiti tagging is becoming an issue on Lowry Liquor and other buildings along the Hennepin corridor. Will be removed as soon as the weather warms up.

Events:

- Ice Skating Social: Sunday, January 21, 2018 from 1-3 PM. LHNA will provide firewood and fire pit.

- Annual Meeting: checking on venue options. Decision needs to be made in February.

The Walker will be doing a snowshoe tour of the Sculpture Garden in February. There may be a possibility for LHNA sponsor one or two tours for residents.

Neighborhood Priorities:

Hennepin/Lyndale Corridor: Craig Wilson provided a brief overview of plantings and irrigation for the Hennepin/Lyndale corridor. He stated that Citizens for a Loring Park Community, the Basilica of St. Mary and St. Mark's Episcopal Church have signed off on the Minnesota Department of Transportation Community Roadside Landscaping Partnership Program Application—Letter of Assumed Responsibility. This letter relates to the ongoing maintenance of landscaping plantings in the Hennepin/Lyndale Corridor by stakeholders, rather than the City of Minneapolis. LHNA has been reluctant to sign this letter because of possible future liabilities.

Fremont Triangle - Craig Wilson reported that plants for the Triangle have been donated by two LHNA residents. Mark Addicks, who installed the plantings, will continue to provide maintenance.

Lake of the Isles Warming House:

The "refreshment" of the Lake of the Isles Warming House by EIRA has been completed. This included repainting, a new roof, doors, windows, and shutters. LHNA had questioned why there was no public input on this project. The Park Board clarified that this was unusual, but it was due to viewing this as a maintenance project rather than a capital project.

The life span of the current building is expected to be 3-5 years, with an annual moving cost of \$20,000. LHNA is more interested in a long-term solution and therefore did not fund this project. LHNA will continue to explore possible solutions to the replacement of the warming house.

Historical: A link to the Historical Context Study has been posted to the LHNA website.

LHNA will explore possible conservation designation for Lowry Hill.

Communications:

Hill & Lake Press: Notice of Citizen's Academy and block captains will be part of this month's ad. CIDNA will pay for the Ice Skating Social ad for this month.

MailChimp has integrated with the new website to get new email signups. There is no charge for up to 2,000 subscribers. LHNA currently has 592 email subscribers.

New Business: No new business.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 8:31 PM.

EAST ISLES RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

Diana Schleisman, Administrator

Minutes from the EIRA BOARD OF DIRECTORS (BOD) Meeting 11/14/17 Grace Trinity Community Church

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 Council Member)

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.

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 country 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 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.

Your Legal Rights: Don't Dial "1" to Stop Bogus Calls (From the Office of Minnesota Attorney General Lori Swanson)

It can happen like this: "Ted" answers his phone. A pre-recorded voice instructs him to press "1" to stop future calls or "2" to speak with a live person. Ted presses "1" because he wants the calls to stop.

"Beth" receives a similar call. She presses "2", intending to tell the caller to stop calling. In both cases, the call immediately disconnects. Pressing one of these numbers may seem harmless, but doing so may lead to an increase in calls. Here's why:

Scam artists often use dialing machines to place calls using a number generator. The automated dialer does not know when it dials a number whether that specific phone number is active. Answering such a call and then pressing "1" or "2" in response indicates that the number is valid and that someone has picked up the call. If you get unwanted calls, the most effective approach is to simply hang up without speaking. Do not press any buttons, which just confirms that your number is active.

People should report these calls to the Federal Trade Commission (FTC), Consumer Response Center, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, D.C. 20580

Website: www.ftccomplaintassistant.gov

KENWOOD ISLES AREA ASSOCIATION

By Jack Levi

January 2018 KIAA Meeting Minutes

KIAA Board met on 01/08/18 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, Will Stensrud, Jeremy Nichols, Kyle Leier, Mark Brown.

Absent: Mike Bono, Jeanette Colby, Angie Erdrich, Carl Goldstein.

The Agenda was approved unanimously.

Lisa Goodman — City Council Update

Lunch with Lisa is on January 31, 2018. The main topic will be on sex trafficking and how to address issues surrounding the problem. Minneapolis Police Department will be sending people to answer questions.

There will be 2 meetings at the Westminster Church on Thursday, January 11, 2018 to talk about the Super Bowl and all the events that will be taking place in the Twin Cities.

The new City office building in downtown Minneapolis will start construction at 501 4th Ave S. It will take approximately 18 months to complete.

Park Board Commissioner Jono Cowgill – District 4

The new Park Board commissioner Jono Cowgill attended the meeting today to introduce himself and answer questions. The highlights are:

Jono is an urban planner and is working at a local consulting firm

Jayne Miller stepped down as superintendent; Mary Merrill Anderson is the proposed interim superintendent.

Chair Shawn described the issues with East Cedar Beach and Jono said that he is aware of the issues and supportive of the action steps that KIAA has taken and plans to continue in 2018.

Jono is supportive of KIAA's priorities for 2018

Larry Moran brought up the Rec Center's need for repair to Jono's attention

Matt Spies – Activities for a proposed Kenwood Spring Festival:

Matt described the activities proposed for the Spring Festival in Kenwood. This would be in the May/June timeframe. Matt asked for volunteers to help 3-5 hours per month for about 5 months to plan the event.

Amanda Vallone – KIAA website

KIAA contracted Amanda to do community engagement for KIAA, among other responsibilities, with CPP funds. Amanda will start redesigning the webpage and aim for a February launch; she talked about several new ideas for the KIAA website as well as Facebook page.

KIAA is proposing a name change; a few proposed names will be submitted for a community vote soon.

Amanda also mentioned that the Rec Center will close in April, May and part of June.

Chair Shawn Smith – Miscellaneous news

A block captain is sought to help plan events and be active with crime and prevention.

KIAA has received a quote from Red Wagon Pizza for the Kenwood annual meeting. KIAA will counter the bid in order to keep costs to a manageable level.

The Kenwood School auction will be held on February 24, 2018; KIAA, in the past, has been a \$750 sponsor from CPP funds.

Chair Shawn Smith adjourned the meeting at 8:34 p.m.

The next Kenwood Isles Area Association Board meeting is on February 5, 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

CEDAR ISLES DEAN NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

By Monica Smith

CIDNA BOARD MEETING MINUTES, December 13, 2017. The meeting was held at Jones-Harrison Residence.

Board members in attendance: Interim Chair Jan Nielsen, Secretary Rosanne Halloran, Stacia Goodman, Rich Heichert, Barbara Lunde, James Reid, Amanda Vallone, and Mike Wilson. Staff: Monica Smith

Interim Chair Jan Nielsen called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

City Council Member Lisa Goodman, Ward 7

Later with Lisa will be Monday, December 18, 4:30-6:30 p.m. at Normandy Inn, 405 S 8th St.

The Board of Adjustment approved two variances for 3311 Cedar Lake Ave.

The 2018 City budget was adopted. The budget includes funding for 11 new police officers.

Check out the free activities offered around the Super Bowl at mnsuperbowl.com.

Jono Cowgill

Jono Cowgill, the recently elected District 4 Park Board Commissioner, introduced himself to the board. Cowgill will be invited back to a future meeting.

Treasurer's Report

The board approved the annual report to be sent to the MN Attorney General.

The Treasurer's Report for the first six months of the fiscal year was distributed.

Transportation Committee, Mike Wilson

Mike Wilson attended the Section 106 meeting for the Protection Wall. Another meeting will be held in January.

Barbara Lunde shared a Star Tribune article about the recent light rail derailment.

A representative from Calhoun Village will be invited to the January board meeting.

Art Mart, Amanda Vallone

Art Mart was held on November 25 and featured 17 vendors and three activity stations.

Wine Tasting Fundraiser

CIDNA sold 88 tickets for the Wine Tasting Fundraiser, totaling \$2,194.

Minneapolis 2040, Heather Worthington, Director of Long Range Planning, City of Minneapolis

Minneapolis 2040 is the City's twenty-year Comprehensive Plan that will direct the physical and economic development of the City into the future. Minneapolis is required by the Metropolitan Council to update the Comprehensive Plan every ten years to meet state law and regional planning requirements.

Equity and affordable housing are key factors in the plan.

A community Open House is being planned for Tuesday, January 23, 6:00-8:30 p.m. at Plymouth Church, 1900 Nicollet Ave.

Next steps: A draft of the Comprehensive Plan will be submitted to the City Council in March 2018, followed by a six-month comment period. Community engagement opportunities will be scheduled in spring/summer 2018.

For more information: minneapolis2040.com.

NRP/ CPP Report, Claire Ruebeck

The NRP fund balances were reviewed.

The CIDNA Board approved the following:

To meet the Phase II 70% housing requirement (at the time that the funds become available) by making a loan to Propel (formerly Nonprofits Assistance Fund).

To extend the current affordable housing loan to Propel for one additional year.

To contract \$5,900 of the 2018 CPP funds for community engagement purposes.

Cedar Lake South Beach update:

Construction has started. The board approved the use of up to \$20K (shifted from 2018 CPP funds) for two unfunded features of the project (block steps off of plaza and curb separation between the beach and grass), updated graphics, and signage at the construction site. To accomplish this, the CIDNA Board will formally vote at the January 2018 meeting to create a

Neighborhood Priority Plan for Cedar Lake South Beach and to contract the funds.

Pedestrian Safety Committee, Richard Logan, WCNC

A draft of a resolution for the Dean Pkwy and Lake Street intersection was introduced. The resolution will be revised and presented as a joint CIDNA-WCNC resolution to be voted on at the January board meetings.

Monica Smith's 2018 Contract

Due to time constraints of the meeting, the board voted to extend Monica Smith's current contract until the January meeting.

New Business

CIDNA's Treasurer has indicated a desire to resign; nominations and elections for open officer positions will be undertaken at the January meeting.

The next Speaker Series event will be held on Sunday, February 25, 3:00 p.m. at Jones-Harrison Residence. The speaker is David Smith; the topic is "Linking Shrinking Lakes, a Deadly RR Crossing, and the Northwest Passage: CIDNA's Rich Park History."

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Next meeting

The next meeting is Wednesday, January 10, 6:00 p.m. at Jones-Harrison Residence. Stacia Goodman will serve as Interim Chair.

Note to CIDNA residents: sign up for our monthly e-newsletter by sending a request to info@cidna.org.

CIDNA BOARD MEETING MINUTES, January 10, 2018. The meeting was held at Jones-Harrison Residence. Board members in attendance: Interim Chair Stacia Goodman, Secretary Rosanne Halloran, Rich Heichert, Jan Nielsen, Taylor Pentelovitch, James Reid, Amanda Vallone, Vern Vander Weide, and Mike Wilson. Coordinator: Monica Smith.

Interim Chair Stacia Goodman called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

City Council Member Lisa Goodman, Ward 7

The city recently published a Pedestrian Crash Study. To read, go to minneapolismn.gov/pedestrian/data/WCMSP-206913.

Lunch with Lisa is Wednesday, January 31, noon at University of St. Thomas. The topic is combating sex trafficking.

Minneapolis 2040 Open House is Tuesday, January 23, 6:00-8:30 p.m. at Plymouth Church, 1900 Nicollet Ave.

Street closures have begun around US Bank Stadium in preparation for the Super Bowl.

CM Goodman is hosting Super Bowl LII Information Meetings on Thursday, January 11 at Westminster Presbyterian Church, 1200 Marquette Ave S from 6:00-7:15 p.m. and 7:30-8:15 p.m.

The City Council held their organizational meeting of the new council on January 8. Committee assignments and appointments were announced.

CM Goodman encouraged everyone to participate in the free activities offered around the Super Bowl.

Peggy Sue Imihy, Intern to CM Goodman, also attended the meeting.

Approval of minutes

The board approved the minutes from the December 13, 2017 meeting.

Announcements

Ice Skating Party on Sunday, January 21, 1:00-3:00 p.m. at Lake of the Isles

2018 Community Connections Conference on Saturday, February 10, 8:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. at the Minneapolis Convention Center, 1301 2nd Ave S

CIDNA Speaker Series on Sunday, February 25, 3:00 p.m. at Jones-Harrison Residence. The speaker is David Smith; the topic is "Linking Shrinking Lakes, a Deadly RR Crossing, and the Northwest Passage: CIDNA's Rich Park History."

NRP/ CPP Report, Claire Ruebeck and Monica Smith

Cedar Lake South Beach update:

CIDNA to page 10

Hill & Lake Press

www.hillandlakepress.com

CIDNA from page 9

The costs of the two unfunded features of the project (block steps off of plaza and curb separation between the beach and grass) may be able to be absorbed into the project budget.

The board approved the following motion: The CIDNA Board approves the creation of a Neighborhood Priority Plan for Cedar Lake South Beach. If funds are needed for improvements in the future, the CIDNA Board also authorizes allocation of up to \$20,000 from its Community Participation Program funds to this Neighborhood Priority Plan. A reserve in said amount will be noted on CIDNA's funding sources spreadsheet.

The project graphics have been updated and are on the project website. Go to minneapolisparcs.org and search "Cedar Lake South Beach Improvements."

A banner about the project will be added at the construction site.

Claire and Monica also reported on the following:

The additional loan to Propel for affordable housing was for \$45,325.

The 2016 Neighborhood Program Annual Report was shared.

Rita's House is hosting a Grand Opening on Thursday, January 18, 5:00-6:30 p.m. at 2200 Emerson Ave S.

James Reid will represent CIDNA by doing a Flash Presentation at the Community Connections Conference.

The next meeting of the committee is Tuesday, January 23, 3:30 p.m. at Walker Library, 2880 Hennepin Ave S.

Treasurer Update

Roger Klimek formally resigned as a CIDNA Board member and Treasurer. The board recognizes and thanks Roger for his service.

Rich Heichert was elected as Treasurer. The board approved a motion that Rich Heichert and Rosanne Halloran be appointed as signatories for the bank account (as Treasurer and Secretary respectively) and to remove Roger Klimek and Craig Westgate as signatories.

Monica Smith's 2018 Contract

The board approved the terms of Monica Smith's contract for 2018.

Pedestrian Safety Committee, Steve Goltry

The Brickstone development is expected to impact pedestrian movement around the project site during construction.

Transportation Committee, Mike Wilson

No update on Southwest LRT. The judge has not yet ruled on the lawsuit.

West Calhoun Neighborhood Council's January meeting included a presentation by Hennepin County on proposed changes near the BP station at Lake St and Excelsior Blvd. The speaker will be invited to CIDNA's February meeting.

On January 9, architects attended the meeting of the West Calhoun Neighborhood Council and presented plans for a 12-story boutique hotel on the BP site (within the shoreland overlay district).

Two 22-story apartment towers are being proposed next to Calhoun Towers in West Calhoun.

Development is being proposed in ECCO for the Sons of Norway site and on East Calhoun Pkwy.

A guest from Calhoun Village will attend a CIDNA Board meeting in April or May to provide an update on the exterior work.

Minneapolis Park Board/2018 CIDNA Priorities

Commissioner Jono Cowgill will attend the February 14th meeting. The CIDNA Board will share ideas for priorities via email to be able to share with Commissioner Cowgill in advance of the meeting.

Interim Chair

Schedule for the Interim CIDNA Chair:

February – James Reid

March – Taylor Pentelovitch

April and May – Amanda Vallone



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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.

Where we are Now!

By Jean Deatrck, Editor

I am wintering in Florida (with my computer and cell phone of course) and enjoying many emails from friends in Minnesota who complain about the cold weather. And I don't feel guilty, especially after my daughter called to tell me that a hot water pipe burst in my house leaving the kitchen and basement flooded and a big bill from the plumber. Nice old house, wonderful neighborhood.

Loppet is almost upon us. It is a joyful event. Please plan to attend. Loppet: www.loppet.org for more information or see page one.

Last Sunday's Vikings game was enjoyed by neark everyone. What an ending! Although we didn't attend, we watched on tv with friends, My son Steve surprised his son Andrew who is a big Vikings fan with tickets and a plan ride to Minneapolis from Los Angeles.

This issue includes several articles about the proposed development of the Sons of Norway site. Many people have emailed to express concern.

And don't forget Hill and Lake Press. Advertising is down this winter and production costs continue to climb. We welcome contributions so that we can continue serving our four neighborhoods..

Renter Outreach, Stacia Goodman

The objective for renter outreach is to increase participation and diversity on the CIDNA Board and committees.

CIDNA is working to partner with The Lakes for our first renter outreach event.

Committees Review

Amanda Vallone passed out an Events Committee Mission and Action Plan, with the first meeting on Monday, January 22, 6:00-7:00 p.m. at Jones-Harrison.

New Business

James Reid's father George passed away on December 23. Condolences to the Reid family

Contractors doing construction to un-occupied 1-2 unit dwellings must sign the Minneapolis Residential Construction Management Agreement that stipulates a variety of work conditions such as hours of operation, noise reduction, neighbor notification, etc. View the agreement at minneapolismn.gov/ccs.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Next meeting

The next meeting is Wednesday, February 14, 6:00 p.m. at Jones-Harrison Residence. James Reid will serve as Interim Chair.

Note to CIDNA residents: sign up for our monthly e-newsletter by sending a request to info@cidna.org.

To the Editor: from Ann Minnick to Rep. Paul Torkelson regarding SWLRT

January 2, 2018

Rep. Paul Torkelson
MN State House of Representatives
381 State Office Building
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55155
Dear Rep. Torkelson,

I was pleased to learn from a December 19 Star Tribune article about your continued concern with the SWLRT project. I completely agree with you the entire process surrounding SWLRT has been chaotic and expensive. While I fully support rapid mass transit, this project makes no sense. It is neither rapid nor mass transit. I'm sure you are familiar with the history of missteps that has brought us to this point, but I include an article written by Jeanette Colby (who co-chaired the first SWLRT community advisory committee), which captures key highlights.

I also include an article written by Frank Hornstein, your colleague in the house and my representative, which describes the safety concerns with having freight and passenger service running in close proximity. Although the Met Council seems unconcerned about the potential for sparks from light rail igniting highly flammable freight cargo (oil, ethanol, chlorine, etc.), BNSF clearly is, which is one of the reasons they requested a ten-foot-high crash wall and demanded a cap on liability from damages that result from freight/LRT related mishaps.

As chair of the House Transportation Committee, I urge you to persuade other legislators to reconsider allocating taxpayer dollars to this flawed project. Know there are many citizens who will applaud your leadership on this matter. Having robust transit options is essential for a first-class metropolitan area like the Twin Cities, but the high cost, questionable safety and low number of individuals served by the current SWLRT route does not contribute to that end.

Sincerely,

Ann Minnick, East Isles
amminnick@gmail.com

CC: Governor Mark Dayton

Congressman Keith Ellison

Hennepin County District 3 Commissioner Marion Greene

Representative Frank Hornstein

Congressman Jason Lewis

Star Tribune reporter Janet Moore

FTA Region 5 Administrator Marisol Simon

Met Council Chairwoman Alene Tchourumoff

Deputy FTA Administrator Jane Williams

Sarah Janecek from page three

and breathed the Minnesota Capitol for 23 years. During that time, I had a lobbying business and a publishing business. The last few years, the business part has become more interesting to me than the lobbying, so I try to work on deals that combine both. For better or for worse, there's a government aspect to almost every business deal. I've become good at working the government angle to further the business. I guess you could call me a Fixer.

You are heading up an effort as a Lowry Hill board member to prioritize investing in neighborhood amenities. What's the opportunity? It's a huge opportunity. Twenty years ago, the Lowry Hill Neighborhood Association chose to spend allocated neighborhood funds on period street lighting compatible to the neighborhood. Now the Kenwood people wish they had done the same. We have the same opportunity: Spend our money to better the neighborhood for both homeowners and renters, with projects that someone 20 years hence will say, "I'm glad they did that back then." I am particularly interested in making the Douglas entrance to our neighborhood more attractive, pronounced and more walker / biker friendly.

How did you come to slow down your life to pursue growing Hill Lake's "first" boulevard garden? It's true. I was one of the first people in our neighborhood to plant a boulevard garden. In the mid-1990s, I was sitting on my front porch reading the Sunday papers looking at all that dead grass. I went to the nursery and got some plants and figured I'd have the thing planted by dinnertime. Little did I realize that it would take me about a week to dig out the grass and the tree roots before I could plant. Last summer I killed off all the grass in my front yard and planted that out. I'm looking forward to putting the lawn mower on craigslist this spring! For decades, I was a Type A, work-all-the-time person. I buried a husband three weeks before he turned 50. From that point on, I always knew I would blow up my life when I hit the big five oh. Which I did. If I pop off tomorrow, I won't be sorry that I didn't have the time to spend more time with family, nurture friendships, read whatever I want, master making a Beef Wellington and do things like start an entire 1000-square foot garden (up at the lake) from seed in my Lowry Hill basement. I guess I'll only be sorry that not once did someone call the police because that person saw all the grow lights in my basement and assumed I was growing marijuana down there.

What is missing in today's society? Two words: Critical thinking. Somehow in the last few decades, as we've culled out conservatives in K-12 and higher education, we've got younger generations who don't question what they read and what they are taught. This has been compounded by confirmation bias. Too many people read the publications they agree with. For Democrats, it's the NYT, the New Yorker, Slate and Huffington Post. For Republicans, it's the WSJ, National Review, Drudge and Powerline. People on both sides of the aisle need to read each other's stuff—and then critically think about it.

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Sous Vide

By Madeleine Lowry

For Christmas, my husband asked me for a gift idea. I wanted a new kitchen toy, but before I could answer him, I had to make a hard decision between an instant pot and a sous vide cooker.

I chose the latter. Why? There were at least three good reasons. First, the sous vide takes up less storage space. Second, the signature dishes for the instant pot were dry beans, rice, yogurt, and stew meat. Similar to a slow cooker, but super fast, which is less of a draw now that I work from home. Besides, I already own a slow cooker and a rice cooker. The sous vide was purported to be better at precision cooking steaks, chops, vegetables and puddings. No contest!

The third reason was that I suspected my gourmand older son would be more interested in experimenting with sous vide with me over his holiday break. This is the child who asked for a crème brûlée torch for his eleventh birthday and a molecular gastronomy kit for his thirteenth.

The sous vide method results in reliably tender, juicy pork, something I have never been able to achieve with stove or oven methods. Pork chops comparable to shoe leather have been the norm around our house.

Various online reviews pointed to two sous vide contenders: Anova and Joule. The Anova is usually favored based on its easy controls and clear readout. It's bulkier, however. The Joule by ChefSteps is sleeker and more portable though it gets dinged because it requires a smartphone app and wifi connection. I figured that I was not going to be bringing this culinary appliance on a camping trip, and since my home and vacation condo are both equipped with wifi, those were not drawbacks.

I think I made the right decision! I love this sous

vide thing! Cooked in a precisely-controlled hot water bath pork chops and tenderloins are juicy, pink and perfectly cooked. A lifelong goal attained! Vegetables are crisp-tender and perfectly cooked. Puddings, well I haven't tried those yet.

But, let me tell you about the app. I knew that we were going to have some fun when I launched it. It's a joy to use! I was expecting, you know, a piece of software where you set temperature and time for the hot-water-heating stick that is a sous vide cooking device. Maybe some dry little French words would be batted about, like "sous" and "vide" and "viande" or "poulet."

But no, it's actually quite entertaining. Like scanning-through-recipes-and-selecting-your-next-sous-vide-adventure kind of fun. The app is designed for a non-cook (gasp)! It's designed for an eater. What a concept! All instructions are video-based and quite mouthwatering. Imagine selecting from levels of desired doneness by watching a clip of a chef slicing a steak showing you the pinkness, the juices flowing. You don't have to know a darn thing about cooking to use the Joule. You don't even need a kitchen—just a pot, water, zip-lock bag, an electrical outlet and something to cook.

But here's the best reason to buy a sous vide – eggs. Ramen eggs, specifically. Firm white on the outside with a velvety liquid center—the kind that are served atop steaming bowls of ramen. These are kind of tricky to make any other way because of the precision of temperature and timing required, but this is exactly where sous vide shines. Perfect poached eggs and flawless hardboiled eggs are possible as well, in quantity.

Deviled eggs, anyone?

Subject: Lake Calhoun Name Change

By Arlene Fried

As expected, the Hennepin County Board voted 4 to 3 on November 28 to change the name of Lake Calhoun to Bde Maka Ska. In doing so, the Board ignored a petition against the name change from 334 individuals who live on or near Lake Calhoun. Those voting against the name change were Jan Callison, Jeff Johnson, and Mike Opat. Voting for the name change were Debbie Goettel, Marion Greene, Linda Higgins and Peter McLaughlin. The resolution was forwarded to the Minnesota DNR Commissioner. And from there it will go to the U.S. Geographic Board on Names.

Happy New Year from the Lowry Hill Neighborhood Association.

Don't miss the Annual Lake of the Isles Skating Party on January 21st! (1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.)

Enjoy skating* & socializing with friends and neighbors! Get warm by the fire and enjoy hot cocoa, coffee & goodies.

Sponsored by Cedar-Isles-Dean, East Isles, Kenwood Isles & Lowry Hill Neighborhood Associations
*Non-skaters welcome too.



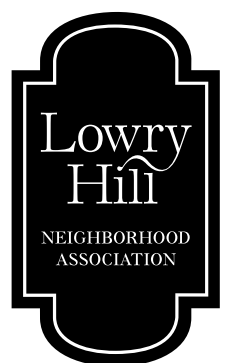
Sign up at lowryhillneighborhood.org for our monthly neighborhood email. You'll receive info, news and tips for:

- Upcoming neighborhood events
- Crime & Safety Reports
- LHNA Board Meetings
- Environmental Updates

Sign Up for Citizen's Academy.

MPD's top training personnel present police work basics and how the community can partner up with precinct officers. Block Leaders get priority for sign up. For details, email lhna@lowryhillneighborhood.org

Remember to "Leave A Light On" to help deter crime in our neighborhood.



Questions or concerns about neighborhood issues? Contact us at lhna@lowryhillneighborhood.org

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