



District 10 Community Council Board Meeting
Historic Street Car Station
1224 Lexington Parkway, St. Paul, MN 55108
Tuesday May 15, 2018
7:00 PM
MINUTES

I. Call to order

Chair Ryan Flynn called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm

II. Board introductions

Present: Laura Jo Busian, Ryan Flynn, Haley Fruen, Mike Ireland, Cari Ness Nesje, Tim Post, Amy Perna, Anne Hartman, Rebecca Calvo, Annie Huidekoper, Thomas Coburn, Cody Zwiefelhofer, Olivia Mulvey Morawiecki

Absent: Maggie Zimmerman, Adina Florea Weseman, Dunette Combs, Melissa Liu

Staff: Michael Kuchta

III. Review, amend agenda:

MOTION: *Approve the agenda (Approved by acclamation)*

IV. Community section

A. Special presentations

[City of St. Paul Comprehensive Plan](#): The board received an update on St. Paul's vision for the future in the areas of land use, transportation, parks, recreational and open space, housing, water resources, heritage and cultural preservation. A draft of the plan can be reviewed by the public during open houses on June 9 and 12.

Proposed Lexington Crosswalk: Alice Messer from St. Paul Parks and Rec told D10 board members that concerns about the placement of a new crosswalk of Lexington were taken into consideration and the position of the crosswalk will be moved north by 40 feet to increase sightlines. A flashing pedestrian crossing light will also be added to the project.

B. Board chair report: Ryan Flynn report is in the officers' meeting report.

C. Treasurer's report: No report this month

D. Other community concerns

The group behind the "Save Historic Saint Andrews" petition asked that D10 join a request to delay expansion at the Twin Cities German Immersion School in order to consider alternatives to demolition of the church. The chair explained that, per bylaws,

the matter would be referred to Land Use. The chair sought direction from the board. A motion to suspend the rules failed; per bylaws, the matter goes to Land Use.

V. Board Business Section

A. Minutes and financial reports

MOTION: *Approve April 2018 meeting minutes--no financial report. (approved by acclamation)*

B. Officers' report: Ryan Flynn said the execs discussed fundraising at their last meeting, as well as options on the table for the equity grant from the city, rounding up volunteers for upcoming events, and timing for an upcoming board retreat.

C. Treasurer's report: no report this month.

D. Committee updates

Environment Mike Ireland says the committee is looking for volunteers to help clean up the Churchill and native plant gardens. D10 will host a rain garden analysis training with the Capitol Watershed on June 23.

Land use Maggie Zimmerman is absent so Cody Zwiefelhofer offered an update (detailed info in the committee's minutes). Cody reports the last Land Use meeting had a good, and respectful, conversation on TCGIS, and took up and supported a variance on a garage placement issue.

ACTION ITEM: *The District 10 Board retroactively approves the support expressed by the Land Use Committee for the garage variance requested at 873 Arlington. Passes*

MOTION: *D10 supports the revised proposal for the Lexington Avenue crosswalk. (Nesje/Fruen) Passes*

Neighborhood Mike Ireland filled in for Melissa Liu at the last meeting, there wasn't a quorum. The committee discussed the Orchard Park social event coming up in the fall.

Staff report: Michael Kuchta referred to committee reports that describe the items he's working on.

E. New business

ACTION ITEM: *The Como Community Council board authorizes staff to contact the Minnesota Department of Transportation to renew the lease for Community Garden land at Snelling and Almond.*

The Como Community Council board amends the "Plot Maintenance and Trash" section of the Community Garden Rules to add the following language: "Straw, hay, and similar materials are prohibited as winter cover. Gardeners are required to remove these materials at the end of the summer gardening season." (Ireland/Fruen) Passes

VI. Adjourn Meeting was adjourned at 9:17 pm by Ryan Flynn.

Respectively submitted by Tim Post. These minutes are not official until approved.

District 10 Environmental Committee Meeting Minutes

May 30, 2018 at 7 pm

STANDARD ITEMS

- **Call to order**

Present: Eric Odney, Meher Aslani, Mike MacDonald, Mike Ireland, Michael Kuchta, Andrew Gustin, Teri Alberico, Thomas Coburn, Adena Weseman, Ellen Bailes, Erin Dooley

- **Committee member and guest introductions**

- Welcome Thomas Coburn and thank you Laura Busian

- **Approval of previous meeting minutes and this agenda draft**

- **District 10 board meeting summary**

- Adina, Cari, Thomas, Michael and Mike

Highlights/Action Items:

Public Works – Leaf Sweeping: The timing can't change to match the annual leaf fall, due to the staggered nature of the various leaf species. They will look into posting notices to NOT rake leaves into the street before sweeping.

Native Garden: The Audubon Society requests that we remove their name from the sign. We will do this.

Seed Library Event: Well attended, approximately 60 people.

Churchill Gardens: May 19 spring spruce up, approximately 20 people donated their time. There is an issue with one of the drains and one of the curb cuts.

Rain Barrel Workshop: Well attended – 41 people had signed up for a barrel; more than that number were in attendance.

June 23 Rain Garden Assessment: More volunteers are still needed.

Committee Initiatives for the year were discussed and leads volunteered:

Encourage replacement of pesticides, herbicides and other chemicals in lawn and garden maintenance:

Mike Ireland has contact information for a U of M professor who is also looking into a campaign. Teri is willing to join this committee, Eric is also in.

Initiate improved recycling options in parks and other public spaces:

Eric Odney is looking into this, Michael will get him information on contacts in the city/county. Teri is also interested in a leadership role.

Explore options to fight the growing chloride threat to Como Lake:

Possible: Dawn

Pursue improved leaf-clearing initiatives to fight the growing nutrient threat to Como Lake:

We had Ellen Bailes at tonight's meeting, Mike MacDonald will be looking into how the WD's role overlaps. Adena will also join this group.

Establish a neighborhood "pollinator friendly" garden tour

Erin is interested. We have also Dawn in mind to take a leadership role due to her vast pollinator knowledge, Mike MacDonald may also join. We will base the process on prior tours, which were spearheaded by Val Cunningham.

GUEST DISCUSSION

- Ellen Biales, City of St. Paul Public Works Department, on the timing of street sweeping

Spring street sweeping just wrapped up. They do city-wide spring and fall, arterial streets 8 times per year 340 miles – there are 530 miles of residential. They also sweep paved alleys. Spring and fall sweeps take about 6 weeks each; the timing window is narrow.

A frequent question is, “Why can’t sweeping sync with when the leaves fall?” this is because the leaves fall at different times from year to year, and timing also varies tree species to tree species. The sweep needs to be completed, if possible, before snow season, as the same trucks are used for snow plowing.

Q: We are hoping to prevent leaf pollution of Como, are there steps that we can take, in addition to CACC, to support leaf sweeping?

A: Getting the word out that if sweeping will be taking place, support others in NOT raking the leaves INTO the street. This fills trucks faster, making the process take longer. Suggestion: Add a “sweeping into the streets is illegal, so please don’t do it” message to the current no parking signs, to raise awareness.

They are also partnered with the Watershed District and Hamline to “adopt a drain.” This encourages stewardship. There is a web page (possibly on Watershed website) where we can find out available drains.

Q: Could routes be based on environmental impact – leafy area + small lake + storm drains leading directly to the lake maybe greater need than areas that don’t have all 2 of these environmental elements? Follow up question: Could there be an extra sweep for more fragile areas or areas perhaps do an environmental impact study?

A: For right now, the routes rotate, Public Works is willing to work with the Watershed District on environmental impact investigation, as well as looking at sharing funding to do an extra sweep.

Q: How is street sweeping assessed:

A: It is assessed after it is done. It used to be assessed with the right-of-way street maintenance, but that was recently ruled more of an additional tax, not an assessment.

Q: If we did our own sweeping, could we get a discount?

A: No, because sweeping is a requirement for federal and state funding.

Q: How do city streets/county roads play in?

A: Funding is shared with the city to maintain.

Q: Where does all of the sweeping stuff go?

A: As much as possible, it is composted. It must first be dried and sort-sifted. Items that can’t be recycled or composted is sent to the Ramsey County Resource Recovery Center. Pre-treating with saline solution uses less salt and the salt doesn’t bounce off of the road and/or in storm drains. It is more effective, unless there will be rain first, in which case, they go back to salting after.

Snow tagger positions are available during snow emergencies, one would receive a badge number and could ticket cars who are illegally parked on these routes. It is more difficult to ticket people who rake leaves into the street.

She is looking at adding leaf law to the current sign.

INITIATIVES AND UPDATES

- **Native Garden signage issue** - Mike Ireland

Audubon Society prefers that we remove their name from the sign in the garden that Angie supports (in conjunction with D10/environmental committee). They are willing to pay for the new

sign. D10 will remain on the sign, and our commitment will continue. The Debbie Smith garden is more intensive. Our group will continue to support both.

- **Organix Solutions (organixsolutions.com)** - Teri Alberico

Should we work with the city on this?

Post cards are out for the new garbage system, there is a lawsuit in the works to deal with differing trash volume. There are still discussions as to how the organics works.

This item will be pulled from the agenda for now, but will return as we are closer.

Eureka used to pick up organics for commercial sites, but no longer does.

- **Lake Como aeration information signage** - Teri Alberico

Michael is looking into contacting the DNR about the signs.

- **Sky Rise Bronze Bee sculpture sign** - Dawn Lamm

Dawn needed studio quality photo for the sign

- **Worldwide “City Nature Challenge”** - Susan Jane Cheney

Update on the April 28 event at the CWOC

- **Como Community Seed Library** - Dawn Lamm

Update on the May 5 event: Went very well, 60 or more people attended. Presentations were informative, including a bee tour.

- **Churchill Gardens** - Bonnie, Sandy and Erin

Update on May 19 spring cleanup:

- South garden curb cut not at a good location – has this been raised with public works?

- North garden drain has issues – can the drain be examined/fixed?

** Michael and Mike M will make inquiries

- **Rain Barrel workshop** - Mike MacDonald

Update on the May 19 event: Good event, 40 barrels ordered, 41 paid for. Everything is settled at this point.

- **Como Park Tree Trek Sunday Series** on June 3 at 1:30 pm outside the Pavilion

We will meet on the waterfall side. No real assistance needed. Tim Morgan will be leading.

- **Second storm sewer mural installation** on June 16 (if rain, the June 23)

- **District 10 cosponsorship with CRWD on the rain garden analysis**

June 23 from 9 am to noon at the streetcar station - *still need more assistance*. There are around 15 people who are signed up, and we need more. If you are interested, there will be a sign up on the website, with links from facebook, next door, etc.

- **Miscellaneous Stuff**

- Reaching outside the Environmental committee for community involvement

- \$400 discretionary budget

- Participation in district council meetings with mayor’s office - Erin, Laura, Cari, Bill D and Mike – no news . . . still waiting.

- Building Resilience to Heat Waves and Extreme Precipitation workshop

Update on the May 12 event

- 2040 St. Paul comprehensive plan ([Draft of Plan](#))

Open houses on June 9 (10:30 am at Rhondo Community Library)

and June 12 (5 pm at Arlington Hills Community Center)

- **2018 committee initiatives and project planning**

Encourage replacement of pesticides, herbicides and other chemicals in lawn and garden maintenance: Through awareness and education, advocate a reduction of environmentally harmful pesticides, herbicides, and fertilizers and promote ecologically friendly alternatives.

There is a U of M professor that was looking at a grant to do a campaign similar to the curbside clean up. Perhaps she could help us; Mike I has her contact information. Teri is willing to join this committee, Eric is also in.

Initiate improved recycling options in parks and other public spaces: Work with Parks and Rec and other organizations to improve community and visitor awareness and correct participation in recycling in parks and public spaces through education and process improvements.

**** Eric Odney is looking into this, Michael will get him information on contacts in the city/county. Teri is also involved.**

Explore options to fight the growing chloride threat to Como Lake: Work with the golf course management, Parks and Rec and the CRWD to improve water conservation and filtration.

Possible: Dawn

Pursue improved leaf-clearing initiatives to fight the growing nutrient threat to Como Lake: Leaf sweeping, collection and street sweeping in the fall to optimize the timing, method and prioritization within D10

**** We had Ellen Bailes at tonight's meeting, Mike M will be looking into how the WD's role overlaps. Adena will also join this group.**

Establish a neighborhood "pollinator friendly" garden tour

Erin can be on this committee. We have also Dawn in mind to take a leadership role due to her vast pollinator knowledge, Mike M may also join. There is probably a file from Val Cunningham in the D10 office that could be a good start.

Also possibly in the works: an information session around updates on the long-term monitoring of Como Lake.

COMMUNITY SECTION – a time for anyone's input or concerns

PARTNER UPDATES

- **Como Connect** - Bill Devroy, Julie Wegscheid, Dawn Lamm and Mike Ireland
- **Como Woodland Outdoor Classroom** - Teri Heyer and Susan Jane Cheney
- **Como Park Pathfinding subcommittee** - Teri, Andrew and Michael

They meet this Saturday to plan when the surveys will be given at the park. Translation of the survey is nearly completed. Once the translations are done, they are ready to go.

- **The Mapping Tool** (comopark.info) - Andrew Gustin
- **Churchill Gardens** - Erin
- **Como Organic Compost Subcommittee** – Michael

New bins, smaller, easier to get in and out. There can be more pick-ups as well.

- **Capital Region Watershed District** - Mike MacDonald
- **Como Active Citizen Network** - Janna Caywood
- **Como Lake Pollinator Garden** - Angie Sechler
- **Como Community Seed Library** - Dawn Lamm
- **Clean Energy Resource Team** – Bill Devroy
- **Master composter/recycling program** - Teri Alberico
- **Extend the Greenway** - Mike Ireland
- **Transition Twin Cities** - leveraging resources and people

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **June 9** 8 am to 1 pm: *St. Paul City Wide Drop Off* at the fairgrounds
- **June 16** *Storm Grate Mural painting* at the east parking lot on Lake Como (rain date is June 23)
- **June 23** 9 am to noon: *CRWD Rain Garden Analysis Workshop* at the station

ADJOURNMENT

- **Next Meeting:** June 27 at 7 pm (last Wednesday of each month)

Land Use Committee - District 10 Como Community Council – 6/6/2018 - Agenda

1. Call to order 7:05pm Present: Rebecca, Maggie, Cody, Michael K., residents
2. Amend/Adopt Agenda - **Approved**
3. Land Use Voting Procedures
 1. If you live in D10, you are a voting member of Land Use according to our bylaws. Or, if you are an explicit representative of a business. Cards will specify who is a voting member of D10.
4. Hmong Festival Sound Variance
 1. Michael spoke about the variance request. **Motion to approve the variance request - Approved**
5. Gabe's Sound Variance
 1. **Motion to approve the variance request - Approved**
6. SHSA
 1. Presented to Land Use to highlight where TGIS does not fit with neighborhood plan, summarize current TCGIS/Neighborhood Relations
 2. Spoke about the D10 neighborhood plan and sections (HLU1, HLU 4.1, 4.1.1, 4.1.2.a, 4.1.8], other goals) where they feel it conflicts with TCGIS' expansion plans
 3. Spoke about character of Warrendale neighborhood - mostly SFH, some rental housing, historic significant buildings from 1983 survey, some businesses
 4. Talked about current challenges between community and TCGIS
 1. Need to satisfy parking demands - one spot per employee
 2. Traffic and bed safety concerns, w.r.t busing for residents — safe routes for schools
 3. Preserve St. Andrews structure
 4. Improved communication between TCGIS and residents thru Land Use Committee as facilitator
 5. QUESTIONS/COMMENTS
 1. I would hate to see historic buildings torn down, it's part of what makes St Paul great. This neighborhood is beautiful
 2. The Catholic Church sold the building and if they wanted to designate it as historic they would have before they sold it. The building is not sufficient for what the kids need in the school. The building is falling apart.
 3. (Maggie) 1. Is the goal of SHSA to give it a historic designation?

(Yes.) When attempting to get the historic designation, it's difficult, and what other historic designations have been done other than the 1983 version? (Contacting three highly recommended experts on evaluation of designation and filling out the nomination forms - still searching for funding)

4. Few things are as clear in the comprehensive plan and district council plan as the evaluation of buildings as potentially historic designations
5. Language in the DC comprehensive plan was geared towards homes and not businesses and churches. Also just a note that we are advisory and cannot compel the council to do anything.
6. Sharing two things from Nic Ludwig: 1. Acknowledging there has been ineffective communication between school and residents, there is a focus to share concerns and ideas with the community. 2. There have been efforts to incorporate as much of the building as possible to address the deficiencies and TCGIS is looking into what they can possibly do. 3. TCGIS has reached out to the city of St Paul with the safe routes to school program to address traffic problems
7. We as D10 would like to explore ways to come up with funding to help get an outside perspective to establish a baseline (potential COPP grant of like \$2k)
8. Brought up Energy Park/Allina/Best Western building in the early 90s that was preserved but renovated
9. TCGIS has reached out to person in charge of Safe Routes to Schools last year, survey had been done recently and city had no interest in redoing it at the time. Also Como Pool people said no you can't use the parking lot. This was last year though. Also w/r/t busing, they comply with the > 2 miles condition for buses, and they're adding a fourth bus. About half of students who ride the bus are outside of SP school district and not required to bus.
10. With respect to above, need to come up with a plan and sitting down with conversation to come up with the Safe Routes to Schools. If there's a building variance request, there would need to be a traffic strategy and Safe Routes to Schools would be a part of that.
11. It may be a good idea to use the COPP grant to get a preservation-minded architect to take a look.

7. Ongoing Business

1. Lexington Crosswalk updates
 1. Board approved the updated plan which is now on the website.
2. State Fair Overlay District

1. June 25 exploratory meeting to address potential solutions the parking overlay districts
3. Hmong Festival Parking
 1. Exploring a parking overlay district for not this year's, but next year's festival
4. Como Dog Park
 1. Scheduled next dog park meeting Tuesday the 12th at Delicata at 6:30.
5. Como by the Lake stop sign/pedestrian crossing
 1. Striped pedestrian crossings, but that's not enough, need to get more people involved. Looking into getting pedestrian lights like what's at Lexington, but looking for stop signs at Nagasaki. They did a traffic count recently, results not available to Land Use yet.
 2. Will reach out to city to do a Stop For Me Event.
8. Coming events
 1. City-wide Drop off – June 9th
 2. Special Info sessions on local parking/roadway striping – June 25th
 3. Adjourn - 8:47pm

District 10 Como Community Council
Neighborhood Relations, Safety, and Outreach

Tuesday June 5th COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, June 5, 2018 @ 7:00pm

Como Streetcar Station

I. OPENING

A. Call to order

B. Introductions

Board members present: Laura Busian, Olivia Morawiecki, Haley Fruen (absent: Dunette Combs); Mike Ireland

Community members: Tom Fruen, Jennifer Grilliot, Sarah Wein, Linda Kopecky, Rick King, John Meyer

Staff: Michael Kuchta

C. Approval of Minutes from 5/1/2018 NRSO Committee Meeting

D. Approval of Agenda for 6/5/2018 NRSO Committee Meeting

E. Summary of 5/15/2018 D10 Board Meeting (Laura, Haley, Mike and Michael)

1. Construction of Lexington Ave pedestrian crossing won't occur until late July at earliest
2. D10 declined to support either side for the "Save St. Andrews Church" campaign

II. ADMINISTRATIVE

A. Minute Recorder

1. Volunteer needed - Sarah

III. OLD BUSINESS

A. 2018 Event Schedule Update

1. Citywide Drop-Off @ State Fair Grounds – Saturday, June 9 (8:00am – 1:00pm)
 - Still signing up volunteers
2. Como Neighborhood Garage Sale – Saturday, June 16
 - GIS Support – map of garage sale sites
 - Only 20 households have signed up as compared to 50 last year
3. Ice Cream Social – Friday, July 13 (5:30pm – 8:00pm)
 - Michael shared checklist.
 - Still need ice cream! Pursuing through Job Corps Center and Sweet Science
 - Lots of things still to do – Laura will send out a volunteer sign-up sheet and ask members to contribute lawn games/activities
 - Michael will send an invited to elected officials and candidates
 - We have a good list of community organization tables
4. National Night Out – Tuesday, August 7
 - Starter Kit will contain: D10 table topper, brochures, lemonade/iced tea. Haley, Jennifer, and Melissa will look more at pricing and get back to us at next meeting
 - Michael just needs to know what we want

- Make the table tents generic so we can use them at other events
5. Community Social (Haley)
 - Couldn't do this in June.
 - Want to organize this for the fall since we have lots of summer events. Possibly Sept. 16?
 - Do this at Fire Pits, playground/picnic area of Como, at Tilden, or in Sub-district 4?
 6. Neighborhood Parade (Jennifer)
 - Jennifer met with Como Park Booster Club. Homecoming is Sat. Sept. 29th (game is 1pm). They want to start parade in morning (10-11ish) at the pavilion and march to the field. They want to keep it small this year, so we won't partake, just offer support through event promotion
 - Their sports teams do a lot of fundraising; we could have them help with set-up/take-down at our events, maybe have a table at the ice cream social so they could promote the school and Homecoming activities?
- B. Current Initiatives
1. Community Policing (Jennifer)
 - Take home points:
 - Don't believe everything you hear on the news regarding policing
 - Citizens can report negative interactions with police through an anonymous online reporting tool
 - They are improving their diversity on the force
 2. Healthy Aging Partnership (Michael)
 - Update – 5/29/2018 meeting (Michael and Rick King)
 - Location is at Falcon Heights Church.
 - Mission: tune in to the needs of the community by:
 - What services are available?
 - What gaps exist to aid aging in place?
 - Group wants to pick one area (e.g. transportation) and then focus on that for improvement
 - Next meeting June 26th 3-4pm
 - Lisa Kane is helping organize
 - Good support for the district and city's comprehensive plan!
- C. Long-Term Initiatives
1. Equity
 - All 17 District Councils created a proposal to divide the equity fund money equally
 - Approved by the city council in April and the money is now available
 - Will be discussing this at D10 board retreat in June
 - NRSO has already started talking about this
 - Can use money for food!
 2. The Next Generation
 - How to tie into kids in the neighborhood and get them more involved in their community planning
 - D1 has a youth council as a subset of the community council – their

organizer will speak at next D10 meeting

3. Welcome Kit
 - Michael is making progress on the items to include, but we need to make decisions on WHAT to include
 - Probably need to have this included in the next meeting or as a separate work meeting to move forward on this

IV. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Hamline Pedestrian Crossing Over Railroad Tracks (John Mayer)
 1. Want to re-invigorate the plan for a pedestrian/bike bridge over the tracks at Hamline to connect to Energy Park community
 2. D10 supported this as an initiative in 2015 community plan
 3. This could now be more feasible because it can be a grassroots movement of the community, and there will be more funding for projects like this within the city's bike/ped plan
 4. We can really focus in on safety, since currently lots of students use the holes in the fence at this location to cross the tracks
 5. John will bring information to the next McClaren Hills Association meeting; report back to NRSO
- B. Pedestrian Flags (Michael)
 1. Repair, replacement, and installation completed by Deb before she left
 2. Flag locations now on Pathways Map
 3. All supplies and instructions for making more now reside in the Streetcar station

V. NEXT MEETING

- A. Tuesday, July 3 @ 7:00pm. May need to change because of holiday, Laura's availability