



**District 10 Community Council Board Meeting
Historic Street Car Station
1224 Lexington Parkway, St. Paul, MN 55108
Tuesday, June 21, 2016
7:00 PM**

(DRAFT) MINUTES Respectively submitted by Tim Post, Secretary. These minutes are not official until approved.

I. **Call to Order:** Chairperson Ryan Flynn called the meeting to order at 7:08pm.

II. **Board Introductions:**

Present: Erin Dooley, Mike Ireland, Tim Post, Ryan Flynn, Kim Moon, Brandon Heffron, Joao Medeiros, Debra Pursley, Melissa Liu, Monzong Cha

Absent: Amy Perna, Jon Heyer, David Sorenson, Linda Hinderscheit, Jess Banks, Melissa Finnegan, Kevin Dahm

Staff Present: Michael Kuchta

III. **Review, Amend, Approval of Agenda:**

Motion: *Approve the agenda (Moon-Dooley)*

IV. **COMMUNITY SECTION:**

A. Board Chair Report: Ryan Flynn reported:

- The neighborhood garage sale on May 14 attracted 47 paid participants, netting \$676.65 for D10.
- The May 19 "Stop For Me" pedestrian safety event at Lexington Ave and E. Como Lake Dr resulted in 15 driver citations, but driver compliance was higher than expected.
- The May 21 Seed and Seedling exchange went well, and had 90 participants.
- The June 2 Tenant Forum was cancelled after only one person pre-registered. The June 7 Landlord Forum drew 17 participants.
- The Ice Cream Social during ComoFest is coming up on July 15.
- The Community Clean-Up is planned for October 8 at the Minnesota State Fair.
- The Amazon.com Smiles account is set up, allowing residents to designate D10 receive .5 percent of their total purchase.

B. Treasurer's report: Amy Perna was unable to attend the June 21 meeting, and will send out an update in the next board packet.

C. Special Presentations:

David Grzan, President and CEO, of Charter Midway gave the board an update on the effort to turn the old Shalom Home on Midway Parkway into an assisted living and memory care facility. Grzan said finding financing for the project is proving difficult, but is confident something will come together soon. Several residents expressed concern over what they see as increased illegal activity, such as trespassing, on the property. Grzan said a new security company was hired on June 16, and hopefully its staff will be able to end keep a closer eye on such incidents. Grzan promised to update the board once he meets with security officials. D10 residents are asked to report any suspicious activity at the site.

Sarah Matala told the board she's working to turn the old Snelling Ave fire station into a private residence.

William Coleman II, director of the Humphrey Job Corps Center, updated the board on several recent changes at the center. Coleman said the center has been given direction to create a closed campus in order to keep students safe. The center is considering fencing between the buildings, but not around the campus. Coleman is happy to take calls from neighbors on concerns they might have, or to inquire about student volunteers from the center who could help out in the neighborhood.

D. Other Community Concerns: A resident emailed D10 to ask that the board consider limiting recreational fires to three per year, per resident. The Executive Committee discussed during its June 13 meeting and determined it's an issue for the Land Use Committee.

V. **BOARD BUSINESS SECTION:**

A. Review/Amend/Approve Minutes and Financial Statements:

Motion: *Approve April and May meeting minutes. (Pursley-Heffron) Passed.*

Motion: *Approve tonight's financial statements. (Moon-Liu) Passed.*

B. Staff Report: Michael Kuchta reminded the board that ComoFest is coming up. This year the event will be over four weekends and in different parts of the community. He reports the organics recycling site is mostly ready and should be operating within a few weeks. Kuchta told the board that the majority of calls and emails sent to D10 are in reference to traffic concerns. The Neighborhood Relations committee is considering signs that residents can place on their lawns reminding motorists to drive safely in the D10 neighborhood.

C. Committee Updates:

a. Environment Committee: Chair Erin Dooley reports the committee is considering inviting a member of the Como Regional Park Advisory Committee to check in with the

Environmental Committee on any crossover needs. The committee is also looking into the issue of community gardens.

b. Land Use: Chair Kim Moon reports the committee will meet next on July 5. In August, meetings will be moved back to Mondays.

c. Neighborhood Relations: Chair Kevin Dahm wasn't able to attend the June 21 meeting. Michael Kuchta reports the Ice Cream Social is taking up much of the committee's time, and that members are looking into traffic issues.

d. Executive Committee: Ryan Flynn reported that the Maryland Corridor project doesn't appear to be going forward, and the Como/Front/Dale Vitality Project has been scaled down to mainly cosmetic changes to the intersection. The board continues to work to get committee chairs and executive leaders together for a leadership meeting. Some changes have been made to committee assignments. Flynn encourages members to attend meetings, and hopes other community members get involved in committees. Flynn reports Joao Medeiros is going through D10's bylaws and will have recommendations on any changes to procedure in the future. Work continues on D10's status as a fiscal agent the Capitol Regional Watershed District.

Flynn reports a significant number of complaints to D10 regarding Memorial Day weekend's Soundset music festival at the Fairgrounds. Complaints centered on the daylong concert's volume, profanities from performers, and crowds in the neighborhood. The executive committee requested a letter be sent to State Fair management regarding the complaints. During board discussion it was amended to include the neighborhood local and state elected representatives among the recipients.

MOTION: *The District 10 Board authorizes Chair Flynn to send a letter to State Fair management conveying the impact the May 29 Soundset Festival had on neighborhood residents and quality of life, and send a copy of the letter to the neighborhood's elected local and state representatives. The Board authorizes executive director Michael Kuchta to represent District 10 at a debrief meeting with State Fair management scheduled for June 30. And the executive director will report to the board the full results of that meeting and recommends, as appropriate further in initiative to pursue with staff or elected officials at the local or state level. Motion passes.*

The executive committee recommended a policy regarding rental of D10's four street barricades: residents pay \$25 to D10, and receive \$20 back when the barricades are returned. Board members discussed and amended, changing the charge to \$50 to reflect the actual cost of the barricades, with \$45 going back to the resident when the barricades are returned.

MOTION: *District 10 will make available to community members use of four street barricades and caution tape to block off streets and alleys for block parties or other events. The barricades will be lent to community members who have a valid City of St. Paul event permit, will be lent on a first come, first served basis, and will require a \$50*

deposit, with \$45 being refunded upon the timely return of the barricades. Motion carries.

D. New business: None.

VI. Adjourn:

Motion to adjourn was made at 9:20 p.m. Passed.



Joint Meeting
District 10 Environmental Committee
Como Composts Subcommittee
1224 Lexington Parkway N, Saint Paul, MN 55108
Wednesday June 22, 2016 7:00 PM
Minutes

1. Call to order: Environmental Committee Chair Erin Dooley called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.
2. Committee Introductions:
Attendees: Erin Dooley (chair), Michael Kuchta (staff), Bill Sylvester, Bill Devroy, Nilla Sjoberg, Monzong Cha, Frank Dolejsi
Guests: Terry Chaney, Neighborhood Energy Connection; Sandra Peterson, Maren Swenson, and Bonnie Youngquist, Churchill/Horton triangle gardens
Members and guests introduced themselves and gave a brief summary of what drew them to the committee
3. Approval of Agenda: Approved as presented
4. Approval of Minutes: Minutes of the April 27 and May 25 meetings were approved with the following additions:
 - Attendance at the May 25 meeting: Erin Dooley, Mike MacDonald, Frank Dolejsi, Bill Sylvester, Jean Strehlow, Bill Devroy, Michael Kuchta (staff)
5. Pollinator and Traffic Triangle Gardens:
Erin explained that she would like to increase communication and cooperation among the committee and the various community gardens that residents maintain.

Sandra gave a brief history of the Churchill Triangle garden (at Horton, Churchill and Van Slyke), which neighbors created and have maintained for 20 years. She and Bonnie have been involved for 15 years. Maren pointed out that the triangle are part of Frederick Olmsted's original designs for Como Park, and are an asset for the neighborhood and for those passing through. With the expansion of the garden, it is possible more volunteers may be needed from the community at large.

With street reconstruction, the Capitol Region Watershed District is requiring the city to install features to minimize runoff and address water quality issues. Both the Churchill triangle and the larger Horton triangle to the north will become filtration gardens, in which the city will dig down 9 feet, remove clay, and install more-porous soil and other filtration features. Neighbors have been working with Mark Granlund in particular, as well as other representatives from Public Works, Ramsey County Conservation District, Watershed District, St. Paul Forestry, and each other to promote and design a garden, instead of a lawn or simple rain garden, at the surface so both triangles can be gathering places and be more attractive. There has been a lot of give and take about trees, plants, design, and boulders in the gardens. In addition, neighbors are trying to move the bus stops on Van Slyke so they are in the triangles, and to obtain "art benches" (or at the

least, benches without advertising), so passengers have a more pleasant place to wait and walk. There also have been discussions with Public Art St. Paul about a possible pollinator installation, although that may be more appropriate for a new triangle being installed on the other end of Van Slyke.

Bill Devroy noted that his daughter has a degree in horticulture and may be able to supply design software and other assistance to help the neighbors.

6. Como Lake Cleanup:

Jacki Morrison is still planning to do cleanups on the second Saturday of each month, although District 10 and the Watershed District still have not been able to resolve language issues regarding oversight of the grant supporting the cleanups.

7. Neighborhood Energy Connection:

Outreach coordinator Terry Chaney gave an overview of NEC's work. Its biggest program is the Home Energy Squad, in which it partners with Xcel Energy. The program assesses homes and apartments for instant energy savings (such as new light bulbs, programmable thermostats, and weather stripping, which can pay for themselves in 1 year. The program also conducts energy audits to recommend more extensive structural changes, and advisory programs to help implement the audit recommendations. Residents who meet income guidelines can participate in the programs for free. He urged the district council to promote the program, and asked if we were willing to distribute packets as we distribute recycling bins. Committee members questioned why the program still uses CFL bulbs instead of LEDs, and why Home Energy Squad materials are available only in English.

NEC also operates the Hour Car program.

Bill Devroy pointed out the NEC has participated in D10's past Clean Energy Forums. He has compiled a lot of energy efficiency information that is intended to be added to the D10 website, but points out that communication always is a challenge. He also raised the federal PACE program, in which costs of upgrades are paid off through property tax assessments. It is primarily for commercial energy efficiency, but he believes it also may be available for large residential projects.

8. Como Composts Subcommittee:

Michael reported that a lot of the site preparation work is complete; we are now waiting for signs and the collection dumpster to be delivered. When that happens, site can open. There was discussion of whether to hold a "grand opening" ceremony with the county and others. We likely will be able to do a rollout of publicity before and at the Ice Cream Social, including handing out kitchen bins and starter kits. As part of the grant, we are required to do surveys attempting to track changes in behavior. Michael will circulate a draft of the survey to have available at the Ice Cream Social.

9. Environment Committee Work Plan Overview:

Erin noted that the current work plan is in the committee packet. Her intention is to review it in detail at the July meeting to assess where we are, if there are areas we need to keep working, need to move up in priority, or need to move back in the time frame.

10. Community issues: Monzong noted that she is interested in environmental justice issues.

Examples could be the concentration of metal industries in certain neighborhoods, and the impact that has on residents' health; and addressing concerns about cell phone signals and their impact on health. She suggested special events in which we

demonstrate how personal voltage is affected by our connections to technology, and how techniques such as earth healing can reduce those effects.

11. Updates from community partners:
There were no updates from representatives of the Capitol Region Watershed District, Como Woodland Outdoor Classroom, Como Active Citizen Network, or Citizens Acting for Rail Safety.
12. Adjournment
The meeting adjourned at 8:23 p.m.
13. Next meeting: July 27, 2016 (last Wednesday of the month)

**Como Community Council--District 10
Land Use Committee
Monday, July 5, 2016
Street Car Station**

MINUTES

Present: Kim Moon, Bill Sylvester, Linda Hinderscheit, and Michael Kuchta (staff)

Absent: Jon Heyer, Melissa Finnegan and David Sorenson

Call to Order: Kim Moon called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Adoption of Agenda and Approval of Minutes:

Motion: Approve tonight's agenda and the minutes of the 05/02/2016 meeting. (Moon-Hinderscheit) Passed.

Chair Report: Kim contacted DSI regarding Jim Fowler's concern regarding DSI not allowing him to place signs in his yard with the intent to advertise for space rental for the Fair. Kim's point was that Jim Fowler was advertising his property for rent, which is allowed under City regulations. DSI's response is that he is allowed two square feet of signage and not more.

Recreational Fires: Tammy Jenkins was present to discuss her concern regarding recreational fires. Tammy had forwarded published and research-based information about health and safety aspects of burning wood in populated areas. Kim suggested that he will talk to our city Councilmembers to gauge the level of their support. Other options are petitions or an online survey. Tammy and Kim will work on developing survey questions. Michael indicated that survey and background information need to be as neutral as possible. Michael also pointed out that a petition would be more powerful than a survey.

New Business: Michael has compiled a list on ongoing topics and action items for Land Use.

Adjourn: Motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m.

Next Meeting: The next meeting is Monday, August 1, 2016, at the Street Car Station.

Future meeting dates: 09/06*, 10/03, 11/01* and 12/05. Dates marked with * are Tuesdays (following a Monday holiday).

Minutes recorded by Linda R. Hinderscheit, Committee Member
These minutes are not official until approved.

District 10 Como Park Community Council

Neighborhood Relations/Safety/Operations (NRSO) Committee

Minutes – July 14, 2016 DRAFT

Members Present: Kevin Dahm, Melissa Liu, Debra Pursley, Michael Kuchta (staff)

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM
2. **Introductions of New Members:** None
3. **Review/Amend/Approve agenda:** There was no printed agenda. Kevin proposed discussing last-minute details of the Ice Cream Social, and a new committee meeting time. Melissa added the topic of race relations.
4. **Committee Business Section**
 - a. Ice Cream Social. Committee members worked through a long checklist of logistics as far as supplies; volunteer scheduling; placement of tables, games, bike racks, fire truck, and band; timing of bridge ceremony; signs; and last-minute responsibilities. We will track attendance by counting bowls and, if possible, using a hand clicker.
 - b. Kevin proposed moving the monthly meeting to the first Tuesday of the month, from 7-8:30 p.m. This will begin in August. He will notify all committee members using group email; Michael will change the day on the calendar and notify residents via the newsletter.
 - c. In light of the Philando Castile shooting and subsequent events, committee members discussed whether District 10 could play a role in starting a community conversation about race. This could be a way to open dialogue among community members who often don't intermingle, including our most active D10 residents, residents of color, and high school students. Several potential formats were presented and critiqued, including a town-hall-style meeting or forum, separate presentations from law enforcement and Black Lives Matters representatives; or equity awareness activities that could be the foundation for dialogue afterward. It was agreed that any activity would require a skilled facilitator. The discussion will continue.

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Next meeting scheduled for Tuesday Aug. 2, 7-8:30 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Michael Kuchta

**District 10 Como Community Council
Executive Committee Minutes
July 6, 2016, Historic Streetcar Station**

1. Call to Order

Present: Joao Medeiros, vice chair; Tim Post, secretary; Bill Sylvester, guest; Michael Kuchta, staff

Because of a lack of quorum, Joao pointed out that the committee could not conduct business. Beginning at 7:08 p.m., Michael gave updates where possible on agenda items.

2. There were no guest speakers

3. Events

Michael reviewed the following events:

- **ComoFest.** Events begin this week, with two events this weekend. The joint ComoFest/Ice Cream Social flier appeared in the July Park Bugle, and will appear in the July Como Midway Monitor, which is scheduled for delivery on July 13. The Monitor is also planning a feature article on ComoFest. Plans are falling into place for the Ice Cream Social on July 15; Joao urged recruiting volunteers from the Board.
- **Community Clean-Up** (Oct. 8 at Fairgrounds). The city is changing the official name to Citywide Drop-Off Events. The first two events in June had record participation.

4. Community

- Old Business
 - **Organic recycling drop-off site.** The District 10 site in Como Park is now officially open. On July 5, Michael installed signs and the county delivered the dumpster. The county still needs to install directional signs on main streets to direct people to the site. Como Composts volunteers will be passing out starter kits and conducting a survey at the Ice Cream Social.
 - **Soundset Festival.** Michael met June 30 with Fairgrounds management and festival organizers to share concerns raised by community members and delineated in our letter dated June 22. Among others present were Council Member Russ Stark, representatives from Falcon Heights and Lauderdale; the festival's private security company; and police from the State Fair, St. Paul, Metro Transit, Roseville, and St. Anthony. Festival organizers said that by several measures, the May 29 event was the most successful of the nine they have held. They would like to return. Fair manager Jerry Hammer said that unless the sound impact on the neighborhood could be significantly reduced, that will not happen. Possible solutions to sound, traffic congestion, parking, loitering, and other issues also were discussed, many of them in line with our suggestions.
 - **Sholom Home meeting.** David Grzan has sent emails committing to the meeting with neighbors and his security people that he promised at the June 21 board meeting. Four dates are being considered.
 - **Block Club leaders.** A meeting for existing block leaders, being held in conjunction with the Block Nurse Program, is scheduled for August 17.
 - **Barricade rental.** Since the board adopted the policy in June, 5 residents have reserved the barricades.
- New Business

- **Lawn signs.** We have created concepts for nine lawn signs addressing speeding and other traffic issues on neighborhood streets. There is an online survey in which residents are voting for their favorites. We will print the top two or three, using COPP funds. They will be distributed for a week or two at a time to residents who can organize 8-12 of their neighbors to post them. Signs will be rotated to different parts of the neighborhood.

5. Financials

- Old Business
 - **Fiscal Agency.** Joao reported he has not heard from the Watershed District's attorney, though the district's director sent an email urging the attorney to respond.
 - **Community Engagement Grant.** Michael filed the additional documentation requested by the city; signature pages are now being circulated among city departments.
 - **COPP Grants.** Both Ward 4 and Ward 5 grants were submitted before the June 30 deadline.
 - **Lease.** No update from Park District on our language proposals.

6. Communication

- No report

7. Staff Report

- The city hired a new community engagement director, Joe Mendyka. Michael met with him June 23.

8. Organizational Business

- Old Business. Evaluation of the retreat and trial election procedures tabled until July meeting.
- New Business
 - **Leadership meeting.** Michael and Ryan continue to seek a date where the officers and committee chairs all can meet.
 - **Como Regional Park Advisory Committee and Como Dockside Community Input Committee.** Michael has received reports from our representatives about their first meetings. These will be included in the July board packet.
 - **Potential speakers.** Michael will invite Melanie Davis from Lyngblomsten.

9. Other Business.

- Joao called the meeting to order at 7:49 p.m. There was still no quorum.

10. The meeting adjourned at 7:49 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Michael Kuchta