



District 10 Community Council Board Meeting
Historic Street Car Station
1224 Lexington Parkway, St. Paul, MN 55108
Tuesday, May 16, 2017
7:00 PM
MINUTES

I. Call to order

Chair Ryan Flynn called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm

II. Board introductions

Present: Kevin Dahm, Darius DeBoer Massoudi, Erin Dooley, Wesley Farrow, Ryan Flynn, Haley Fruen, Jon Heyer, Mike Ireland, Andrew Johnson, Melissa Liu, João Medeiros, Amy Perna, Tim Post, Debra Pursley, Adina Florea Weseman, Maggie Zimmerman

Absent: Cari Ness Nesje

Staff: Michael Kuchta

III. Review, amend agenda:

MOTION: *Approve the agenda. (Dahm/Liu) Passed*

IV. Community section

A. Special presentations Julia Wolfe with St. Paul-Ramsey County Public Health presented a report on aging in Ramsey County. The area faces big changes in the aging population in coming years, and Wolfe is working with area organizations to find ways to support people as they get older. She's studying the gaps and inequities older people face in employment, transportation finances, healthcare and other issues that often trace back to institutional racism.

Wolfe says she'd like to see communities, including D10, take an inventory of what services are available for older people, and improve on them. She's encouraged by some of the efforts she's seen in communities becoming dementia friendly, and adding housing, transportation, and other services for older people. She hopes other communities build on those efforts.

B. Community concerns D10 resident Joseph Massoudi DeBoer requested the Como Community Council board formally support temporary dwelling health care units in the City of St. Paul.

C. Board chair report Ryan Flynn reminds everyone that the community garage sale is coming up, as well as more Sunday Speaker events. The Como neighborhood social is on June 4 at Orchard Community Rec Center. July 14 kicks off Como Fest with an ice cream social, and a series of events following in July.

D. Treasurer's report Amy Perna reports that the 2016 grants are now fully closed out and D10 is in the black.

V. **Board Business Section**

A. Minutes and financial statements

MOTION: *Approve April meeting minutes and financial statements. (Heyer/Dooley) Passed (Abstention Massoudi from financial statements)*

B. Officers' report Ryan says members will receive an email soon on the board retreat, including planning for the agenda. There will be a presentation on parliamentary procedures. A location is being sought. Headway is being made on the new website. Most everything has been transferred to the new server. Once done, the board will offer a gift and thank you card to the volunteer who helped. Ryan says trees that have been clear-cut recently in D10 won't be replaced, unless there's more city funding. The council is considering transferring funding to clean out stumps and replace trees. Ryan recommends finding ways for the city to partner with neighbors who want to supplement funds to get bigger trees planed. Ryan spoke with Mike Hahm about the issue and will touch base with him again in the future when funding is set.

ACTION ITEM: *Appoint three members to chair committees: Kevin Dahm-Land Use, Melissa Liu-Neighborhood, Mike Ireland-Environment. PASSED*

C. Committee reports

Environment Mike Ireland said at the committee's last meeting on April 26 a member of the Neighborhood Energy Connection discussed their work on energy audits, and their upcoming merger with the Minneapolis Center for Energy and the Environment.

The idea of planting edible gardens or trees that produce fruit in D10 public spaces is an idea that's percolating in the neighborhood. Michael is looking into a gate issues at the compost site. The gate works, but it's crooked.

The next Sunday Series is May 21 with "Out of the Ordinary Gardens" at Orchard Rec Center, followed by the Como Seed Library Exchange. June 11 is the last Sunday Series, it will cover shallow lake ecology and will feature a presentation by the Capital Region Watershed District. Garden cleanups are coming at Churchill Gardens and the pollinator garden by Como Lake.

Land Use Kevin Dahm reports the committee's last meeting focused on the concerns of neighbors who live in the vicinity of the German Immersion School, because of noise and traffic issues. In an effort to repair the bridge between the school and its neighbors, the committee held a brainstorming session. Kevin's goal is to have something in place for next school year. The next Land Use meeting will feature a Shalom Home update; the facility's latest bid for funding from the city didn't work out. The committee will continue to discuss the German Immersion School issue. In June the committee will start fairground overlay conversations with city officials, with the goal of having a public meeting in August regarding parking during the State Fair.

MOTION: *The District 10 Community Council supports the majority opinions established by the recent Lexington Ave survey and is in support of their study, adoption and implementation by all concerned government agencies such as the City of St. Paul, St Paul Parks, Ramsey County and MNDOT. PASSED*

MOTION: *The District 10 Community Council is in favor of allowing Temporary Family Health Care Dwelling Units within the city of St. Paul and encourages the city to seek expansion of state funding to mitigate impact of such state policy on municipal budgets and community safety.*

PASSED

(Background: The ability of friends and family members to care for sick loved ones onsite outweighs negatives. As a community we would prefer St Paul to not opt out of this law passed by the MN Legislature.)

Neighborhood Melissa Liu says the committee heard from Tamara Larson, a prosecutor for the City of St. Paul at its May 2 meeting. Members spent time planning the Como Neighborhood Social for June 4.

MOTION: *District 10 will purchase pedestrian safety flags for key intersections identified by residents in past surveys.* **PASSED**

D. Staff report Michael Kuchta says Soundset is coming up on Memorial Day weekend, and the organizers have made a number of changes to address issues around noise, traffic, parking, transit, and trash. Michael recently discovered D10's insurance policy requires a rider for every event, so we'll need to do that for future events.

Michael continues to hear from neighbors in Subdistrict 1 about neighborhood traffic because of the construction on Snelling. He's talked with the city and MnDot, and number of things are being done to calm traffic, including barriers and increased enforcement. Some neighbors say they'd like to see speedbumps, perhaps temporary, installed.

The gardens have water meters on them. The community garden has a faulty hydrant, so more hoses are needed to get water to that space.

The mosaic street markers at Front and Chatsworth have been vandalized, Michael is working with public works and public art to find the funding stream to fix.

The upcoming garage sale has 40 people registered.

Michael has noted on the website that the mailer on the neighborhood cleanup gave the wrong date. It's October 7, not June 3.

E. New business Erin Dooley is traveling and will be absent from the next two meetings.

VI. Adjourn Meeting was adjourned at 9:20 pm by Ryan Flynn.

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

District 10
Como Community Council Officers Meeting
June 14, 2017

Ryan started the meeting at 7 p.m. Present: Ryan Flynn, chair; Joao Medeiros, vice-chair; Amy Perna, treasurer; Kevin Dahm, Land Use chair; Michael Kuchta, staff; David Grzan, guest

Como Park Senior Living. David Grzan gave an update on development of the former Sholom Home property at 1554 Midway Parkway. After the Saint Paul HRA turned down the application for conduit revenue bonds, developers had to seek different financing. Grzan believes a new source is in place, and it is just a matter of time before details are finalized. The plan remains the same: a mix of assisted living and memory care units, and a mix of private-pay residents and residents eligible for senior waiver. In the meantime, Graham Construction has finished asbestos abatement and additional work, so complete reconstruction could begin promptly.

Twin Cities German Immersion School. Kevin Dahm updated officers on what Land Use is doing to resolve issues between TCGIS and neighbors. He also discussed the motion Neighborhood Relations committee passed June 6 at the request of resident Kevin Anderson seeking an engineering study in support of a marked crosswalk and stop signs at Van Slyke and Como Aves. Dahm noted that city traffic engineer Elizabeth Stiffler appeared at the Land Use meeting June 7 and suggested that much of the requested data already exists, and does not meet the criteria for stop signs or a marked crosswalk. Dahm asked that the motion be referred to Land Use, so it can be discussed in the larger context of issues involved TCGIS. Officers discussed proper jurisdiction of this type of topic, and the need for topics to be specifically assigned to committees for clarity. There will be more discussion of proper procedure at the board retreat.

Events

- The **Neighborhood Garage Sale** on May 20 had 40 household participating, which is down 9-10 from 2016. Net revenue is \$575.43. The weekend had lousy weather. NRSO wants staff to survey participants for feedback.
- The **Sunday Series** panel on May 21 on “Out of the Ordinary Yards” attracted more than 65 people to Orchard Park. The Como Park Seed Exchange immediately afterward attracted an additional audience.
- The **Sunday Series** event June 11 on Como Lake attracted 41 to Como Dockside.
- The Neighborhood Social on June 4 attracted an estimated crowd of 275 to Orchard Park. The event had excellent weather, great volunteer support from board members, especially Haley Fruen, who took the lead in organizing. Costs roughly break even with the \$500 COPP grant. There have been suggestions to hold similar events in other parts of the neighborhood, such as Tilden Park.

- Plans are mostly falling in place for the **Ice Cream Social** on July 14. Music and kids entertainment is booked; tables and bike racks are rented; police, fire, and elected officials have been invited; and 8 community organizations have confirmed they will staff tables. Job Corps Center students will volunteer to serve ice cream the first shift; a sign up sheet for board members will be available at the June meeting. We will split the cost of rental table with the ComoFest Art Fair, which will use them the next morning.
- **ComoFest** has 9 events scheduled weekends from July 14-29. Publicity will include a flier in the Monitor, the ComoFest.org website, sandwich boards outside each event, posting events on Facebook and Next Door, articles in the Monitor and Park Bugle, and promotion in D10's weekly newsletter.
- Staff reported that the office handled more than 50 calls concerning the city's incorrect date in the **Citywide Drop Off** mailer. A reminder that our event at the Fairgrounds is Oct. 7
- **Public Art St. Paul** will install a "Bee High Rise" on park land near Nagasaki, Horton and W. Como Blvd. There will be a grand opening ceremony Aug. 16 at 6 p.m.

Community

- **Churchill Gardens** stewards are still trying to pull together a watering schedule for the summer, and monitoring if plants did not survive the winter. Replacements will be ordered if necessary, and covered by the Capitol Region Watershed District grant. CRWD wants to close the grant as soon as possible.
- An additional 275 feet of hose was purchased for the **Community Garden**, because the water department had to hook up to a different hydrant farther away. Garden fees should cover the additional expense.
- Sarah Arnold has completed the **Como/Snelling business district** study and will present her findings at the June 20 meeting. A copy will be sent in advance.
- Officers gave staff direction to pursue **Lexington Parkway** improvements with the necessary public officials and workers, in accordance with the neighborhood survey and motion passed by the board in May. Staff should keep officers and the Land Use chair in the loop as early and often as possible.
- Neighborhood Relations has created **safety flag kits** for hazardous crosswalks in the neighborhood. D10 has purchased and installed 6 kits; residents are being asked to sponsor more than a dozen additional intersections (cost is \$31.50). Joao reported his observations from the May 28 Stop for Me event at Como and Pascal.
- The City Council has delayed a vote on **Temporary Medical Dwelling Units** until July.
- Because of deadlines, officers endorsed Land Use motions to waive the 45-day waiting period for a **beer and wine license for Delicata** Pizza and Gelato, in the old Java Train / Como Park Grill space on Pascal; and for the usual **sound variance for the Hmong Freedom Festival** in McMurray Field

- July 1-2. Staff will send the necessary letters this week, but both actions will have to be ratified by the board on June 20.
- Officers and staff discussed **Soundset**; general consensus is that noise, disruptions and complaints are down from 2016. Staff is working with State Fair management to ensure that, in the future, one-sided parking restrictions are also posted to include streets south of Como to Wynne, and possibly east of Pascal to Albert
 - Staff reported that we have obtained a book of **Public Works policies** for pursuing various traffic calming tactics. He has share the policies as necessary with residents requesting stop signs, speed bumps, and installing a dead end at an alley.
 - The **old fire station** at 1290 Snelling is on the market, and we have received calls from a couple of potential buyers. It is likely that any new use will require rezoning from the existing multi-family designation. Land Use will handle if the time comes.

Communication

- We have delayed transfer of the website to AWS until after the June meeting. Staff will check for glitches and authorize the switch when comfortable it will work.

Financials

- Officers approved the 2017 work plan and authorized Staff to submit the full **City Engagement Grant** application. Staff has 5 months' worth of reimbursement packets ready to submit.
- Amy Perna reviewed discussion from the **grant and fund-raising session** that leadership held May 24. More discussion will take place at the board retreat. In general, priorities will be finding funding for outreach to rental communities, matching grants for tree replanting, and sponsoring community-building social events. Environment Committee is also seeking specific projects from its members and partners. Amy noted that individual fund-raising may be most cost-effective for an organization our size. Suggestions include collecting addresses from events, doing individual appeals in spring or summer when we are most active, and doing email appeals using PayPal.
- District 6 has agreed to partner with us to use our Ward 5 **COPP grants** for a business and market study of the Dale St. corridor from Maryland south to the RR tracks. Ward 4 has also agreed to let us use their COPP grant to extend that research west of Lexington. Staff is still getting cost details through Ward 5 staff.
- We have learned that we need to pay an extra premium for **liability insurance** each time we hold an event away from the Streetcar Station. In 2016, this will cost us \$400 extra, though \$300 will be covered by outside grants related to specific events.
- Because our Sunrise **charge card** has a \$1,000 limit, staff occasionally has to put additional charges on a personal card. Amy will investigate: again asking

Sunrise to raise the limit; or switching to a debit card, so charges are drawn from our checking account directly. Joao Medeiros will investigate whether a debit card violated financial policy requirements on multiple signatures being required for check transactions.

Organizational Business

- Ryan Flynn will announce **committee assignments** at the June 20 meeting.
- The **board retreat** will be Wednesday July 12 at John's Pizza Café on Dale and Como. We'll reserve the space from 6-9 p.m., and try to start business by 6:30 p.m. Topics will include a quick overview of board policies; a primer on parliamentary procedure; grants and fund-raising; and discussion of members' vision for D10 and what they hope to accomplish as a board member. Amy Perna will devise an ice-breaker.
- The **Como Regional Park Advisory Committee** is discussing our list of priorities. On June 13, they discussed assessing signs, directional markers, and paths from a pedestrian and cyclist point of view. One possibility of moving this forward is for D10 to create an ad-hoc committee or similar subcommittee to do initial research. Officers directed staff to talk with Environment Committee chair Mike Ireland about the process.
- The **June 20 board meeting** will include two presenters: Sarah Arnold on the Como/Snelling business district; and MnDOT's Mark Lindeberg on Snelling Ave. pedestrian and bicycle access. It will also include motions from Neighborhood Relations and Land Use.
- The **July 18 board meeting** will include a presentation by a representative from Sustain Ward 3 about the Ford site master plan.

The meeting ended at 9:30 p.m.

Notes by Michael Kuchta

District 10 Environmental Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, May 31, 7:00 pm

STANDARD ITEMS

Present:

Mike Ireland, Bill Sylvester, Michael Kuchta, Erin Dooley, Mehr Aslani, Dawn Lamm, Bill Niebur, Julie Wegscheid, Sarah B, Bill DeVroy, Susan Jane Chaney, Mike McDonald, Andrew Gustin, Courtney Ryan

1. **Call to order**
2. **Committee member and guest introductions**
3. **Approval of minutes**
4. **District 10 board meeting summary** – Adina, Erin, Maggie and Mike

INITIATIVES AND UPDATES

1. **May 21 Sunday Series “Out-of-the-Ordinary Yard” and Spring Seed Exchange post-event debriefing** - Dawn Lamm and Michael

The combo event drew approximately 65 people for the presentations. There were 5 different speakers. Everyone seemed to enjoy the variety.

The seed exchange was well attended, and covered in the Midway Monitor. There were almost no plants remaining at the end of the event. There was a rich exchange of seeds, stories, and knowledge; as well as a butternut seed share that had been in a family for over 100 years, along with the story of the seeds.

Feedback was quite positive.

The pairing of these events was synergistic.

The plants were separated from the other table presenters, which made this synergy more difficult.

The location was a bit awkward, but fine, now that we know the space. Logistics were a bit to overcome, as Orchard Rec doesn't have the same presentation infrastructure.

There is an upcoming sale at the Cub parking lot with many local/native/non-treated/GMO this Saturday, June 3rd 9-3.

2. **Neighborhood resources fair** - Dawn Lamm and Mike

Creating a convention of those who can help/volunteer to meet those who need help/volunteers. This could possibly be a Sunday Series event.

3. **Saint Paul Climate Action Planning presentations** - Mike
 - Environmental committee participation and Como community engagement
 - For more information, documents and videos of past events:

stpaul.gov/departments/mayors-office/mayors-priorities/sustainable-saint-paul/climate-action-planning

Kevin attended this event. St Paul is currently in the “Inventory Phase,” which is the second of four phases. It is completed, but not yet published.

There were several speakers, mainly focused on St Paul. The main focus of this presentation was transportation. Looking at where we are now and moving forward to 2050. In St Paul, we drive 5 million miles per day, leading to increased CO2. One of the speakers is willing to present to D10 to give either an overview or one of them as a stand-alone.

Mike will reach out to see what it would take to pull together one or more speakers.

4. Como Active Citizen’s summit meeting - Janna Caywood and Mike
Proposed dates: July 8, July 22 or August 5 from 3 to 6 pm.
Any potential community scheduling conflicts?
The target audience is curbside clean-up participants – sharing stories/brainstorming next steps/etc. An additional goal is to broaden the base of the group’s initiatives as they move forward.

5. Conclusion of this year’s Sunday Series

- **Working Together to Improve Como Lake** – June 11
 - Dockside’s third floor
 - Minnesota State Science Fair Awards presentation table – Erin
3 kids have responded that they will be there, 2 more are possible.

8. Miscellaneous Stuff - Mike

- MacGroveland Community Council’s “Water as Our Resource: 2017 Workshop Series”
 - June 22 “Stormwater Management in Your Backyard”
 - Macalester-Plymouth United Church, 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm
 - More information: macgrove.org/waterworkshops
- Community gardens’ May spring cleanup - Pollinator, East Gateway and Debby Smith gardens
All gardens are looking great, and are still works in progress.

6. “If what I was working on suddenly received some money, how I would propose it be used?” – Everyone

We are looking at grant writing as well as fundraising. How can we build the initiatives from each committee and/or new initiatives within a committee that we would like to fund.

- What are we not doing for lack of funding?
- What could we do more of/better if we had more funding?

There are several ideas including interactive mapping, enriching Como Woodland, QR coding to link different areas of D10 with other areas. All were invited to send ideas to Mike.

We will re-visit in June.

7. 2017 Environmental committee initiatives review – Everyone

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

Updates from community partners (if present)

- **Como Woodland Outdoor Classroom** - Teri Heier and Susan Jane Cheney

Update: There have been several events including Garlic Mustard pull in April and Como Field day in May, doing on-going investigations. Also an event with Wild Ones group. Next Meeting is Monday, June 19 – pot luck picnic in the woodland at the fireplace at 6 pm.

Humane Society may or may not be using the woodland for their camps.

- **Churchill Gardens** – Erin

There is a watering schedule in the works. We are watching for the Butterfly Plants to emerge. The watershed district is working on the signage.

- **Como Compost Subcommittee** – Michael Kutcha

The gates are a bit angled. The posts may have been hit and are costly to repair. The gates still work. Michael will be heading over to do some weed abatement.

- **Pollinator and Traffic Triangle Garden** – Maren Swenson, Sandra Peterson, and Bonnie Youngquist

- **Capital Region Watershed District** - Mike MacDonald

They are presenting at the Sunday Series on the 11th.

There are buoys on Como Lake to monitor conditions.

There is a new office, closer to Snelling Ave with demonstration plots, etc.

Cap Region is taking nominations for individuals/groups/etc. for this year's awards.

There is a nomination form on the website.

- **Como Active Citizen Network** - Janna Caywood
- **Como Lake Pollinator Garden** - Angie Sechler
- **Como Community Seed Library** - Dawn Lamm

- **Como Lake Cleanup** - Jacki Morrison
- **Clean Energy Resource Team** – Bill Devroy
- **“CARS” Update** - Cathy Velasquez
- **Transition Twin Cities** - leveraging resources and people within District 10

Additional Item: There will be a Public Art St Paul sponsored Bee High Rise at the intersection of Como and Horton, near the grove of trees.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- June 4 South Como Community Building Event – 4-6 pm
- July Como Fest on the weekends
- July 14 District 10 Ice Cream Social- 5:30-8
- Fall Como Community Parade (probably 2018)
- TBD Neighborhood resources fair

ADJURNMENT

Next Meeting: June 28 at 7:00 p.m. (last Wednesday of each month)

**Como Community Council--District 10
Land Use Committee
Wednesday June 7, 2017
Streetcar Station
MINUTES**

Present: Kevin Dahm, Jon Heyer, Andrew Johnson, Michael Kuchta (staff)

Absent: Darius Massoudi

Community: Bill Sylvester, Maggie Zimmerman, Kris Anderson, Doug Siekmann, Josh Dworak, Arturo Sanchez, Cathy Velasquez Eberhart, J. Harrington, Tim Nelson, Ralph Krantz, Brian Perry, Katherine Perry, Duane Jagiello, Matty O'Reilly, Ted Anderson, Patricia Wiget, Bill Leslie, Hans Lofgren, Kevin Anderson. Also, city staff members Jerome Benner and Elizabeth Stiffler.

Call to Order: Committee chair Kevin Dahm called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.

Agenda: M/S/C to adopt agenda (Heyer/Dahm)

Minutes: M/S/C to approve minutes from May 2017 meeting (Dahm/Johnson)

Agenda

Future meetings. The next two months' meetings will be rescheduled for Thursday July 13 and Monday Aug. 7, both at 7 p.m.

Staff report. Michael reported that:

- Officers will meet June 14 for an update on development of the former Shalom Home property
- Great River School is expanding and has requested a setback variance along Energy Park Drive
- The D10 office and Ward 4 office have received calls from potential purchasers of the old firehouse property at 1290 Snelling. Purchase may come with a request to rezone the property away from multi-family to more of a commercial use.

Rail Safety Legislation Update. Cathy Velasquez Eberhart gave an update on this year's legislative session. There was no progress on seeking more transparency on what railroads are shipping. A liability cap was enacted for freight railroads running in the Southwest light-rail corridor; that could be a dangerous precedent. The special safety assessment placed on railroads in 2014 was not renewed, so it expires June 30, 2017. The lack of information about the mechanical issue on a train near Como Park HS on June 1 is an example of why there should be a hotline for rail safety issues, so residents can have concerns and calls logged. **M/S/C that District 10 urge the City of Saint Paul to designate a primary contact point for for residents to register rail safety concerns.** (Dahm/Johnson)

Hmong Sports Festival Sound Variance. The Lao Family Foundation is seeking a sound variance for the annual festival. **M/S/C that District 10 supports a sound variance, in accordance with the conditions recommended by the Department of Safety and Inspections, for the 2017 Hmong Freedom Festival at McMurray Field July 1-2.** (Dahm/Sylvester)

1004 / 1008 Lexington Parkway. Brian and Katherine Perry spoke about a surveying issue they are having with the property they own at 1008 Lexington. Land records do not reflect accurate lot lines, although the surveying corner pins apparently do. The error in the paper records apparently has gone undetected for decades and shows the lot line is about 4 feet narrower than reality. The Perrys are trying to sell the house and cannot do so until the matter is corrected. Duane Jagiello, the owner of the adjacent property at 1004 Lexington, also spoke in favor of the resolution the Perrys are seeking. If the matter is resolved, it is possible that a setback variance may be required. **M/S/C for Committee to send a letter to Ramsey County Property Records and other departments as necessary, urging them to correct the**

paper error, accept the property lines as both property owners understand it, and approve technical variances necessary to resolve the boundary issue. (Johnson/Heyer)

Delicata restaurant alcohol license. Owner Matty O'Reilly spoke of plans for his new pizza and gelato restaurant in the former Java Train / Como Park Grill space at 1341 Pascal. He is seeking a beer-and-wine license, which is the same type of license Como Park Grill held. He gave his history of running restaurants, and said he is sensitive his new site is in a residential neighborhood. He expects to operate 11 a.m.-9 p.m. weekdays, and 11 a.m.-10 p.m. weekends. He hopes to open before the State Fair begins.
M/S/C that District 10 urge the City Council to waive the 45-day waiting period for a beer-and-wine license for Delicata Pizza and Gelato. (Sylvester/Heyer)

State Fair Overlay Districts. Jerome Benner, an inspector with the Department of Safety and Inspections, gave an overview of the vending and parking overlay districts that are in effect during the State Fair. He discussed timing, peddling, vendors, and enforcement. **M/S/C that District 10 send a letter urging the Department of Safety and Inspections and the Police Department's Parking Enforcement Unit to increase enforcement to ensure compliance with the terms of the vending and parking overlay districts during the State Fair. Additional enforcement is especially requested on evenings and weekends.** (Dahm/Sylvester)

Twin Cities German Immersion School. As a follow-up to April and May meetings, committee members continued discussion with neighbors over their concerns about the impact of school operations on nearby residents. The new superintendent of the school, Ted Anderson, also participated. He pledged that, now that he has been on the job a year and has a better understanding of the situation, school management will be much more communicative and responsive to neighbors.

- **Traffic.** Elizabeth Stiffler, from the city's department of traffic engineering, said that speed measurements since the road reconstruction show the average speed and 85th-percentile speed on Van Slyke continue to be below the posted limit of 30 mph, and that measurements taken in May 2017 show that only 8 percent of drivers exceed 30 mph. She said that traffic counts in 2013 show that Van Slyke is not eligible for a stop sign, as some residents have requested, and that the existing stop sign on Como Ave., and the existing marked crosswalk, are appropriate.
- **Parking and congestion.** Stiffler, Anderson, and residents also discussed the impact of staff parking on nearby streets, especially on Van Slyke, and the congestion impact at drop-off and pick-up time. Potential improvements include persuading staff to disperse where they park to additional parts of the neighborhood. In addition to dispersing among additional residential streets, staff could park in the parking bay on Horton Ave. in front of the Streetcar Station, or arrange to park in the Como Pool lot. As part of a Safe Routes to School Plan, the pool lot also could be used as a drop-off and pick-up site, which meets the goal of encouraging pupils to walk more. Stiffler said these would be better alternatives than establishing residential permit parking or 2-hour parking limits.
- **Playground and noise.** DSI has refused District 10's request to take a noise reading. Anderson says the school is looking at replacing the fence nearest to residences, and is open to replacing it with something that will reduce the impact of playground noise, including baffling. The potential of moving the smallest playground also was suggested. Residents and Anderson both expressed dissatisfaction with the crumbling rubber playground material, though Anderson questioned concerns about the material not being safe.

Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 9:28 p.m.

Minutes compiled by Michael Kuchta
These minutes are not official until approved.

NRSO Minutes, 06/06/2017

Present: Wesley Farrow, Haley Freun, Kevin Dahm, Mike Ireland, Jennifer Grilliot, Sarah Wein, Bill Sylvester, Kevin Anderson, Michael Mullins, Michael Kuchta (staff)

Safety Flag Update

- Cost to sponsor the flags \$31.50
- List of Crosswalks from survey
- Adopt crosswalk (care, clean, and make sure flags are there)

Kevin Anderson Pedestrian Safety Presentation

- Seeks stop signs and crosswalks on Van Slyke at Como Ave.
- Requires study from city
- Michael Mullins from TCGIS says school would support proposal

MOTION: District 10 Council to petition the City of Saint Paul initiate an engineering study to investigate and enact proposed changes to improve pedestrian safety at the interaction of VanSlyke Ave and Como Ave.

Social at Orchard Park June 4

- Estimated 250-300 in attendance
- Residents suggest similar events in other parts of neighborhood, such as Tilden Park
- Good feedback from residents in attendance and vendors
- Event seems to have stayed within \$500 budget from grant

Neighborhood Garage Sale May 20

- 40 registered, down from 2016
- Bad weather: rainy, cold
- Suggestions: Possible change of date for next year to coincide with Como Fest; refresh ideas for promotion and pricing
- Committee asked Michael to survey participants for feedback

Ice Cream Social July 14

- Will circulate volunteer sign-up sheet for Board Meeting
- \$1,225 Budget
- Need to rent 25 tables; park district will provide 100 additional chairs
- Renting bike racks from Loppet Foundation
- Need to determine where ice cream is coming from. (Possibilities: Buy at cost from Job Corps, Restaurant Depot, SuperValu, Land of Lakes) Mission Orthodox Church considering donation.
- Allergy-free ice cream also needed
- Musician Paul Seeba performing from 5:30-7:00
- Activities booked: Bubble Baron, face-painter, yard games
- Invite local elected officials

Fall Parade

- Plan for 2018. Work off ideas of People-Powered Parade or Parade of Species.