



District 10 Community Council Board Meeting
Historic Street Car Station
1224 Lexington Parkway, St. Paul, MN 55108
Tuesday, May 18, 2021 7:00 PM
MINUTES

In order to abide by pandemic restrictions on public gatherings, this meeting took place via video conferencing and telephone access.

DISTRICT 10 COMO COMMUNITY COUNCIL BOARD MEETING

I. Call to Order

A. Chair Jill Henricksen called the meeting to order at **7:02 pm**.

II. Introductions (name and neighborhood)

Board Present (online):

Benjamin Kowalsky-Grahek, Jenne Nelson, Maggie Zimmerman, Mike Ireland, Sarah Reuter, Dan Edgerton, Rachel Bowers, Jennifer Victor-Larsen, Rebecca Calvo, Jill Henricksen, Matt Brown, Chad Smith, Morgan Weinert, Melissa Brannon, Kevin Commerford, Alex Zikmund

Board Absent:

Olivia Mulvey Morawiecki

Staff Present (online):

Michael Kuchta, Jessica Willman

Community and Guests Present:

Betsy Wehrwein, Julie Jackson, Brad Griffith, Trista MatasCastillo, Marijo Schwiderski

III. Review, Amend Agenda

MOTION: Approve meeting agenda (**first, second, passed**)

IV. COMMUNITY SECTION

A. Presentation: County Commissioner Trista MatasCastillo on proposed Ramsey County HRA levy for affordable housing.

Ramsey County has been working to step into the housing realm. TM has worked in housing since 2008 and is an advocate for housing stability and affordable housing. Ramsey Co has been using pass-through federal funds to help the community but wanted to do more. Created an Economic Inclusion Plan. There is a huge housing crisis in Ramsey County, especially for folks making 30% AMI and below. Need for 15,000 units at the 30% AMI level. That's just for people who live here now and doesn't account for any change. That's a huge disparity. Over the summer, we saw many encampments. We set up shelters and sheltered

an additional 800 people. The lack of available, affordable housing is a huge source of this problem (though not the only issue).

Last year, we moved capital dollars that had been set aside for golf courses and invested that money (\$9mil) into housing. It's a start. We asked how do we invest in current housing that is affordable and might go up for sale? Invested in Minnesota Housing Fund. But at the current rate of development, it will take us 54 years to meet the current need for affordable housing.

Key takeaway in the Economic Inclusion Plan ([link here](#)) is that we could close the wealth gap between communities of color and white communities in one generation.

We spend millions of dollars a year in Ramsey County to address issues that happen because people don't have housing. Every single department in Ramsey said, if our clients/residents/customers/community members had housing, we could solve a lot of problems. We are the only county in the 11 county metro that has never levied for housing. We've never put our own money into housing. This is why we are behind the curve.

Housing and Redevelopment Authority (HRA) is taking this on. 19 cities that fall under Ramsey County. 2 cities had existing HRAs before the county created an HRA. North Saint Paul and Saint Paul need to pass support of the levy in order for Ramsey Co to do the work. The HRA levy would say that we can levy across the county if NSP and StP opt in, and we can spend that money in NSP and StP.

StP City Council is supportive and they will put it on the agenda next week. The NSP Council is not as supportive.

The average tax increase would be \$45 (on a home valued around \$250k). The increase would happen in 2022, and we'd reinvest in 2023. There are some homeowners who will be hard pressed by this investment, but we have to consider the costs we are already incurring on issues created by lack of housing plus the benefits of community stabilization.

Biggest need is at the 30% AMI, and current housing developers can't develop at that level without help from the county.

Question from Dan: can you give us an example of how this money would be reinvested?

TM: To take a real world example, we could have offered subsidies to Alatus for including 30% AMI units. About 50% of our tax revenue in Ramsey is from the City of StP, so we'd reinvest 50% back to StP and the rest to the 18 suburbs in Ramsey Co.

Question from Brad: Will there be a levy referendum on the ballot or can the City Councils authorize the levy?

TM: No referendum on the ballot; the councils of NSP and StP need to authorize. If StP opts in, we'll raise \$11.5 million. If not, only \$6 million.

Question from Betsy: How will BIPOC be able to buy homes in order to build wealth? Or are there other ways that folks can build wealth other than becoming homeowners?

TM: Yes and yes. Our job is to create tools for BIPOC to become homeowners and build wealth. Like supporting small businesses. Goal to create 500 new BIPOC owned businesses in Ramsey Co.

Comment from Melissa B: Application fees need to go too. Many low income families can't afford them over and over again just to keep getting denied.

TM: Agree 100%. It's not directly related to the levy but it's another issue that we need to work on with landlords and renters.

Question from Sarah: Is this levy a one-time thing, or will it grow over time?

TM: Levies snowball and get bigger, but the maximum growth it can be set at is less than 1%. \$11.5million is just a start. The American Rescue Plan money will be used to jumpstart housing. This one time funding will be used up before we can use any levy dollars.

Question from Jill: Will this contribute to a housing trust?

TM: This money will go directly to fund projects and not fund overhead but long term it will likely be in a trust. I also have a goal of creating a public land trust.

Question from Ben: Would developers come ask for money (with conditions on what to build)? Or do we go looking for developers?

TM: Yes to both. We have to be actively recruiting and helping developers to get on board. We've been doing work around Rice and Larpenteur and have recruited a developer to partner with the community and county. Ramsey County Means Business website recruits developers and business owners to do work like this.

Question from Jennifer VL: Are there existing funds that could be reallocated to this? i.e. from Econ Growth and Community Investment funds, etc? Low Income Housing Tax Credit- are there funds and developers who work with LIHTC?

TM: It's a both/and partnership. All of those tools help make the project affordable. If we say we will back a project because of 30% AMI, then developers are eligible for LIHTC. It's an extra incentive. The Biden Administration sounds like they will fund housing more fully, so those kinds of incentives might grow.

Question from Morgan: Thoughts on creation of creative housing options like Avivo Village? Or more supportive housing for folks with substance use/mental illness? Or is this strictly for creation of low income units without support?

TM: Yes, we're watching how this is going. We also have a tiny house project on Wheelock, on a church property. Everything is on the table.

Question from Dan: What can we do?

TM: Call your councilmembers and thank them for their leadership, since it sounds like they'll be supporting. Pay attention to policy around this moving forward, stay connected. Call or write to Trista anytime!

B. Community Concerns: (open floor) None.

V. BOARD BUSINESS SECTION

A. Special Election results

At Large: Kevin Commerford

Sub-District 3: Alex Zikmund

B. Financial Reports (Mike Ireland)

a. April Treasurer Update

Notable Revenue

No revenue received nor expected

Notable Expenses

Under the “Insurance” line is \$158.95. It is a credit card transaction at Menards for hoses and valves. It was misapplied by the accountant. Mike has requested the accountant correctly apply it in May’s reporting on the “Community Garden” line

The “Communications and Technology” line includes \$378 for our Constant Contact annual subscription and \$121.05 for March and April invoices for the executive director cell phone and hot spots reimbursements

Other Highlights

Our checking account balance as of April 30 was \$42,251.96

Michael has filed January through April reimbursement requests from our Community Engagement grant.

We have received \$7,173.54 for January and February, which will be applied to our May financial reporting

C. Approval of Board and Committee Minutes

- a. Moved: To approve the Board and Committee Minutes **MOTION: first, second, passed**

D. Board Chair and Officers Report (Jill Henricksen)

- a. Action Item: Committee assignments
- b. Moved: In accordance with the Bylaws (Article V Section 2e and Article IX Section 7), the Board ratifies the following committee assignments:
 - i. Environment: Chair: Jennifer Victor-Larsen. Members: Rachel Bowers, Dan Edgerton.
 - ii. Land Use: Chair: Maggie Zimmerman. Members: Rebecca Calvo, Ben Kowalsky-Grahek, Chad Smith, Matt Brown.
 - iii. Neighborhood Relations: Chair: Sarah Reuter. Members: Melissa Brannon, Morgan Weinert. **MOTION: first, second, passed**

E. Committee Updates

- a. Environment (Jennifer Victor-Larsen)
 - i. Action item: Como Steward Program
 - ii. Moved: Como Community Council endorses the creation of the Como Steward Program in collaboration with the City of St. Paul Parks and Recreation.
 - iii. Discussion: Mike: will the informal people be reached out to during implementation? Jennifer VL: No one will be excluded. It’s meant to organize how information is shared. If more than one group wants the same area, we won’t exclude anyone. Mike: What if someone has a specific garden? Jennifer VL: That’s a separate program- this is just a way to keep an eye on an area and help the Parks Dept care for the park and bring people together. **MOTION: passed.**
- b. Land Use (Maggie Zimmerman): Meetings are the first Wed of each month. Adam Robbins from the St. Paul DNR came to talk about urban wildlife regarding coyote and fox sightings. People were concerned about pets. To help the U track sightings and use data to inform responses versus perception, log sightings here:

tccfp.umn.edu. Recording of Adam's presentation:
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1GN9T5fqRzmDpHr6EuTil9QSc0vA9xuYv/view>

There have always been foxes and coyotes in the neighborhood; the city isn't going to take them out. Recommendation is to haze them- startle them away. One takeaway is that when we as a board see an uptick in concerns, we can be proactive and bring an educational opportunity to the neighborhood.

Other topics covered were the Alatus development and the HRA Levy.

Updates: Back to the 50s is back on, the weekend of June 18th-20th. Event at the Fairgrounds at the end of May; expect traffic. Sholom Home update: roof work, interior demo, structural work.

Next LU meeting is June 2nd. Expected to be virtual through the summer.

c. Neighborhood Relations (Sarah Reuter)

Discussion about the ice cream social:

Sarah: This could be an opportunity to change it up for one year, especially since we just redid our mission and values statements. Proposing four small ice cream socials in each subdistrict. Board members from that subdistrict would host and engage more deeply with the community. We could stick with the regular format. No matter what, we should incorporate door knocking to invite people to come and reintroduce ourselves to the neighborhood. Financially, we can do either option. We could encourage each subdistrict to have its own flair, like local bands could play. We haven't had a lot of events and we haven't had to staff the streetcar station, so let's get this on the calendar.

Question from Maggie: in the past, the ice cream socials have been big events with tabling, fun activities. If we do 4, are we scaling down the other activities?

Sarah: Yes. NRC would take the main lead, but we do want the subdistrict board members to find cool neighbors/activities. This is an opportunity for us to go to the community rather than waiting for people to come to us. We can also gather information from the table-ers to hand out.

Question from Rebecca: One advantage of the big event is that a lot of people walking by learned about the DC by happenstance. What is the time frame for these? What do we do in the event of bad weather? It could be logistically more challenging that each subdistrict could hold this in an equally accessible place, at a good time, in good weather, etc?

Sarah: For locations, parks within the subdistrict or a centrally located block. It's true that we might be missing out. But the counter to that is doorknocking and inviting people, and we could pass out fliers.

Question from Jennifer VL: The practicality of doorknocking is out of reach because we have something like 8,000 households. Could we do a flier? Most people don't know what subdistrict they are in. With a bigger event, there might be more interest for families because of activities like the Bubble Baron.

Sarah: The subdistricts and those board members would be responsible for those activities.

Question from Rachel: We are still in a pandemic. Is doorknocking appropriate?

Sarah: It could be appropriate for people to wear a mask, knock, and step back. As far as households, we'd be strategic within each subdistrict.

Question from Jennifer VL: Do we still have block leaders?

Michael: We have a list but their participation is unpredictable.

Question from Jennifer VL: What does strategic doorknocking look like?

Sarah: We know that renters are underrepresented. So we could do intentional outreach to renters (building managers). Schools and faith communities. Businesses and newspapers.

VOTING: Do we want subdistrict ice cream social, or one traditional ice cream social, currently scheduled for July 9th? **Board members voted in the chat for one traditional event.**

Other updates: NRC will be hosting a poetry reading and finalizing the mascot soon.

F. Staff Report (Michael Kuchta)

The new organics composting site has finally been approved by the county and city. It will not happen until July, but there will be a new and highly visible food scraps and organics recycling, composting site.

Michael will be in next week until Wednesday- and then officially scarce. <crying emoji>

G. New Business (board members)

- a. None.

H. Closed Session

- a. Action item: Temporarily hire Rebecca Calvo as interim executive director until a permanent executive director is hired and trained. Rebecca is able to start ASAP with availability through June and possibly through July.
- b. An amendment was made that she take a leave of absence from the board during this time.

MOTION to approve the amendment: first, second, passed.

- c. Amended action item: Temporarily hire Rebecca Calvo as interim executive director until a permanent executive director is hired and trained. Rebecca is able to start ASAP with availability through June and possibly through July. She will take a leave of absence from the board during this time.

MOTION to approve the action item as amended: first, second, passed.

VI. Adjourn

We were all tired, so collectively motioned to adjourn at 9:09pm!

Respectively submitted by Jennifer Nelson. These minutes are not official until approved.

Action Item

DATE:

May 13, 2021

FROM:

Jill Henricksen, chair

ITEM:

Committee assignments

ACTION REQUESTED:

In accordance with the Bylaws (Article V Section 2e and Article IX Section 7), the Board ratifies the following committee assignments:

- Environment: Chair: Jennifer Victor-Larsen. Members: Rachel Bowers, Dan Edgerton
- Land Use: Chair: Maggie Zimmerman. Members: Rebecca Calvo, Ben Kowalsky-Grahek, Chad Smith, Matt Brown
- Neighborhood Relations: Chair: Sarah Reuter. Members: Melissa Brannon, Morgan Weinert

BACKGROUND/RATIONALE:

Under the terms of the Bylaws, all Board members who are not officers must participate in one of the district council's standing committees. It is attendance by these Board members that determines whether or not a committee meeting achieves quorum. The chair appoints committee members with "the advice and consent of the Board."

IMPLEMENTATION:

In accordance with the Bylaws (Article IX Section 6), committee assignments take effect immediately and remain in effect until seven days after the 2022 annual meeting.

ISSUES UNRESOLVED OR YET TO BE DETERMINED:

This Action Item accounts for all board members officially serving a term as of May 13, 2021. As additional board seats are filled, the committee membership will be updated.

Action Item

DATE: April 20, 2021

FROM: Environment Committee

ITEM: Como Steward Program

ACTION REQUESTED:

Moved: Como Community Council endorses the creation of the Como Steward Program in collaboration with the City of St. Paul Parks and Recreation.

BACKGROUND/RATIONALE:

Community members regularly and informally care for Como Park in various ways. There has been interest in creating more formal organization and ongoing coordination around these efforts to keep Como cleaner, safer, and more welcoming beyond the scheduled clean up events. The St. Paul Parks and Recreation already has a Park Steward program across the city and as such is able and willing to support this program in Como Park.

IMPLEMENTATION:

The activities of park stewards will include trash clean up as well as working with city departments with regard to vandalism, tree debris, graffiti, security, and any other issues. Because the park is a large, regional park, the program will create multiple, smaller stewardship areas. This will allow people to build special relationships with and responsibility for areas of the park. Participants can be individuals or groups such as families, school, churches, or other groups. St. Paul Parks and Recreation will provide the services it does for their city-wide volunteer programs including volunteer management, tracking, some clean up materials, support of communication, resources, and end-of year surveys. The Como District 10 Council would be responsible for local promotion of the program, map assignments, communication, and coordination with Parks and Recreation.

ISSUES UNRESOLVED OR YET TO BE DETERMINED:

N/A

Committees

Como Community Council: Officers Meeting
June 8th, 2021 / Zoom 7:00 p.m.
Minutes

1. Events

- Como Lake Cleanup May 18 and DIY week update. Next event ideas
 - Environment Committee (Mike Ireland) and Capitol Region Watershed District (CRWD)
 - About 40 hours of work over the summer. Watershed District helps, more organizers this year. Looking to pass off organizational capacity.
 - 9 participants: 2 people had previously volunteered. 3 people had never done it but found out about it in the newsletter. 4 people learned about it from signs around Como Lake.
 - Contact form on website for May events. Get emails and information from Mike for what to send out to volunteers for future events, just have them email D10 and collect their contact information.
 - Watershed District Partner Grant \$4100 grant for supplies, food.
 - Kevin Commerford will be on Environment Committee
- Tree Trek on June 26
 - Environment Committee, Saint Paul Parks Department,
 - New signs, more on the way.
 - Susan Jane Cheney
- Ice Cream Social, July 9th 5:30-8pm. Board volunteer expectation
 - Michael Kuchta reserved the Streetcar Station.
 - Neighborhood Relations organizing: owl mascot, Raptor Center raptor, Ice Cream Social invitation on social media. Sent her the planning document from 2019.
 - How to organize events better between ED and committee chairs.
 - Board members are prepared for event. Need detailed list of what jobs people need to volunteer for - send out with email of June Board Packet on Friday 6/11.
- How will committees manage social distancing?
 - Ice Cream social is going to be difficult to maintain social distancing, but we are moving forward anyway as it is our largest yearly event and will be open and outside.
 - Will reach out to committee chairs to see what plans are regarding meetings being remote or in person inside/outside.
- NNO: board members use this as an opportunity to do outreach and recruitment for D10?
 - Teams of board members to go to registered block parties during NNO.
 - Patty Lammers will send us registered parties with addresses and estimated attendance.
 - Make clear why are reaching out to neighbors.
 - Talk about NNO during Board Meeting with NRC report.
 - NNO and capacity of Board (10-15 hours of work per month).
 - Better records of people who have volunteered for D10 and reach out.
- Citywide Drop-off event on September 18; 8am-1pm. Volunteer coordinators and lead senior pickup person
 - Board members should save the date. Everyone expected to volunteer a half day shift.
 - Amy Perna and Maggie Zimmerman involved in organizing, will be a scaled down event this year.

2. Community

??? Nothing to add.

3. Communication

- Website (draft site at <https://167d10cc.aeronauticvigilante.com>)
 - New ED will run with this.

4. Financials

General update

Mike has looked at it. Will contact accountant about discrepancies.

5. Organizational Business

- Board Meeting (June 15th)
 - Action items:
 - NRC: Rent Stabilization (ARWG)
 - HENS powerpoint presentation included with letter and action item.
 - Signatures to get on ballot are due on day of June Board meeting.
 - Campaigning for voter turnout, would present to Board after ballot item is approved.
- Other Business
 - Executive director interviews and status update
 - Six candidates, three interviews. Two follow-up interviews with writing samples and reference checks.
 - Shevek has accepted position! Starts Monday June 14.
 - Personnel policy update
 - Closed session at June Board Meeting to discuss ED search and job benefits.

Board Meeting July 20

Next Officers meeting July 13th at 7pm

- Future meetings: to Zoom or not to Zoom? Hybrid?
- Board orientation and board buddies update
- Nexus Community Engagement Institute heading into a Journey Mapping process
- Strategic planning
 - Values Statements
 - Organizational Goal Setting (on hold)
- Volunteer, job posting policy (on hold)
- Covid Preparedness Plan (on hold)
- From NR committee - Possible Sunday Series: BE SMART gun safety free gun locks (on hold)

6. Staff Report

7. Other Business

8. Confirm next meeting: Tuesday July 13, 7 p.m.

District 10 Environmental Committee Meeting Notes

Wednesday, June 7, 2021, 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. Zoom

Present - Mike Ireland, Rachel Bowers, Dawn and Bill Lamm, Jennifer Victor-Larsen

- Welcome and Introductions
- Amend/Adopt the Agenda - (No Quorum)
- **Minutes** rotation for 2021-22 – Jennifer will take notes this week, and table the topic for the next meeting
- **Como Lake Clean up Report** (May) & 2021 plan (Mike Ireland) *See attachment of report
 - Discussed the plan and use of remaining budget which is primarily organizers
 - Dates: Talked about trying a weekday and are targeting Thursday evening July 29 6-8:30, Tentatively October
- **Redesigned organics recycling area** (Mike) Mike signed off on the current agreement. It is the same as we have had to provide bags, etc,. The City and Ramsey County signed off. Things are moving forward. Should hopefully go quickly. Mike will add update to newsletter when additional details come.
- **Woodland Open House** – June 12.
- Tree Trek – info/overview June 26. Should be in newsletter, etc. Jennifer will confirm with Sarah Jane regarding promotion. See link for info below, under Upcoming Events.
- **Rain Barrel event grants available** - due June 18
No quorum to vote to move this forward so we'll bring it to the full board.
<https://www.capitolregionwd.org/grants/rain-barrel-workshop-grants/>
Effort includes the need to organize barrel purchase/pickup, would need to store them – possibly overnight, location for distribution, promotion and event staffing.
- **Urban Ag Project opportunity** - FYI, if committee members know of community groups that might be interested. Details below.
- **Ice Cream Social** – call for volunteers, bands and tables. Contact Sarah to volunteer, or if you know bands that might want to participate, if you are available day of to help set up and clean up.
- **Como Park Steward Program** (Jennifer Victor-Larsen): Map input, committee – will get final details from Tricia Whirle/Parks and then we'll promote and recognize participants on the map.

Parks Recommendation: We'll use this map as a base

<https://www.google.com/maps/d/u/0/viewer?mid=1motrqJp7rmiVcAtB32dhx0H5SXS0O-ZB&ll=44.97959281606198%2C-93.1400008380059&z=15>

For sections missing on the prior map, we'll use this (and consolidate the map)

<https://www.google.com/maps/u/0/edit?mid=1ubbyQeZgzCmmug5M9fNySkxani0JoXR5&usp=sharing>

**Feedback appreciated

- **UMN Holistic Health Farm's Urban Gardening event** tomorrow, June 10th. Dawn shared information. Flier attached
- **MN Seed** is getting active and working on iNaturalist project around CRWD area. Dawn shared information: First event will be June 22 at Horton Park drop in to sample botanical garden and how to document our own natural areas to help track plants. More information at NorthernGardner.org – projects “MN Seed”

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Woodland Classroom Open house – Saturday, June 12 (9:30-11:30)
- Citywide Drop off (Harding HS) – Saturday, June 12
- Virtual D10 Board Meeting, Tuesday, June 15, 7:00 p.m.
- Como Park Tree Trek – Saturday, June 26, 10-12 – http://www.district10comopark.org/tree_trek_identification_project.html
- Ice Cream Social – July 9th
- UMN Holistic Health Farm's Urban Gardening event: June 10th. Flier attached
- MN Seed event - June 22 at Horton Park (drop in) NorthernGardner.org – projects “MN Seed”

Next Committee Meeting Time

- Wednesday, July 14, 7:00 p.m.

Attachments:

Report for the May 18 Como Lake Cleanup event and the subsequent DIY weeklong event. (Mike Ireland)

To summarize at a high level the May 18 morning cleanup

- We had 9 participants totaling approximately 18 hours with a total weight picked up of 67 pounds
- Of the 9 participants, 2 were previous cleanup participants who read about this event in the D10 newsletter, 3 were new participants who also read about it in our newsletter and 4 knew about the cleanup from our signs posted around the lake for the previous week
- We signed up 3 people who now started receiving the D10 newsletter so they'll get more advanced notice than just the one week with the signs
- 3 people were doing the DIY weeklong event (one of these three did both events)
- One seasoned veteran (of course, it was Gordy) showed up to see how things were going. Even though he wasn't participating that day and was instead going to do the DIY event, Gordy nevertheless found few big, thick plastic contractor

bags filled with construction waste and also found a flat screen TV (missing the remote). This totaled 250 pounds. Since this amazing treasure would have permanently skewed the numbers, it was not included in the event totals but will be noted in the summary narrative

Several new ideas were suggested

- Purchase several fish net scoops on the end of adjustable-length poles. These could be used on land near the lakes shore and from kayaks and canoes
- Purchase adjustable-length grabbers
- Purchase two larger signs to place on the north and south path of the pavilion's parking lot sides. These would specifically direct people to the outside lower level dock area
- Purchase a smaller sign for the table we setup the supplies. This will better draw visual interest from people walking by and hopefully would generate even more conversations
- With all the dogs walking past, purchase some dog treats. We'll use the dogs to connect with the potential future cleanup participants

Ramsey County Opportunity for Urban Agriculture Projects & Community Engagement

Ramsey County is pleased to inform you of a contracting opportunity that might be of interest to your company. Here is a brief description:

Ramsey County seeks to increase a more equitable and resilient local food system through increased ability for urban agriculture. Increased access to local food is one way to improve the community's health while reducing chronic disease. It is anticipated that the resulting contract will be a maximum not to exceed of \$40,000 per contract for a period through June 30, 2022.

For more information, download our request for quote document (RFQ-PH555-22225-0-2020/KB) from [Demandstar.com](https://www.demandstar.com). Registering for DemandStar is free, and registration instructions are attached to this email. Responses are due on Friday, June 18, 2021 prior to 2:00 p.m. and can be sent via email to my attention.

UMN Holistic Health Farm Urban Farming spotlight – June 10 6:30-8:00



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA EXTENSION

MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN MINNESOTA: ENVIRONMENT + FOOD & AGRICULTURE + COMMUNITIES + FAMILIES + YOUTH



Join the TC Metro Growers Network for a **Growers Spotlight** . . .



Holistic Health Farm's Adventures in Urban Farming Creative Crop Cultivation in Small Spaces



Join **Tim Page** and **Cherry Flowers** on **June 10th** as these veteran urban horticulturists show us around their many research, marketing and production projects.

June 10th, 6:30 to 8:00 PM
1243 Hewitt Ave., St Paul, MN 55104



Tim and Cherry have tried almost everything related to Urban Agriculture – a little **permaculture** here, a little **hydroponics** there, a **high tunnel**, **Hugelkultur**, a super-efficient **herb spiral!** They have explored **value added** products, **companion planting**, **raised beds**, **alternative lawn**, and **pollinator** and **wildlife friendly** plantings.



Usual crops include ginger, turmeric and sugar cane. Projects in varying degrees of completion fill this small-scale hybrid market farm/home garden on a double lot in St Paul. **Julia Brokaw**, PhD Candidate, U of MN **Bee Lab**, will be on hand to provide information about a recent **native prairie** installation at the site.

Hold the Phone! .. We are going live! Actual on-farm meeting with, like, literally, real people!! Outdoors --social distancing and masks for unvaccinated still a good idea (get vaccinated!) Rain or shine.

Please come with your questions and experiences!

Past events: www.sfa-mn.org/tc-metro-growers-network-past-events

... and resources: www.sfa-mn.org/tc-growers-resources

Your participation makes a Network!



The TC Metro Growers Network is a collaboration of the University of MN Extension and the Sustainable Farming Association of MN



Network Coordinator Karl Hakanson
khakanso@umn.edu

www.sfa-mn.org/twin-cities-growers-network

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photos Holistic Health Farm – v5/24/21

District 10 Land Use Committee

04 JUNE 2021 / 19:00 / ZOOM

Attendees

[Maggie Zimmerman](#) (Chair), Chad Smith (Committee Member), [Benjamin Kowalsky-Grahek](#) (Committee Member, Note-Taker), Anne Thom (Community Member) [Suzanne Rhees](#) (Community Member), Matthew Brown (Committee Member)

Land Use Committee - District 10 Como Community Council – 6/2/2021 - Agenda

1. Call to order 7:00pm - Join meeting info below
2. Amend/Adopt Agenda
3. Land Use Voting Procedures Reminders
4. New Business
 - a. None
5. Old Business

a. Ramsey County HRA Levy Letter of Support

● Tabled from May 2021 Land Use meeting

6. Staff Reports (N/A)
7. Updates
 - Half-Time Rec License Conditions
 - Dock & Paddle Performance Evaluation
 - Como Harbor Reopening
8. Coming events

a. Next Board Meeting – June 15th @ 7pm – Virtual b. Next Land Use Meeting - July 7th @ 7pm - Virtual

9. Adjourn 9:00pm

Committee Business

Call to order at 7:07 pm.

Rebecca Calvo announcement: Rebecca will not be serving on the Land use Committee as she serves as Interim Executive Director.

Voting Procedures discussed.

Maggie Zimmerman moves to return the tabled item on the Ramsey County HRA Levy letter of support to the floor.

Benjamin Kowalsky-Grahek seconded the motion.

Passed.

Zimmerman moves to withdraw the motion.

Seconded by Chad Smith.

Withdrawn.

Zimmerman states that the letter is now moot, as the city council has already voted to support the HRA Levy.

Committee Updates

Halftime Rec Update

St Paul City DSI is refusing to enforce the license conditions as negotiated by the Neighborhood Council and the business owner.

Committee Chair Zimmerman roposed Hwa Jeong attend Land Use.

Dock and Paddle Update

Annual Performance Evaluation - Must engage the local district council as a business that has a contract with the City.

Tony Arvidson -Lancer

Committee Chair Zimmerman proposes to put out a call for volunteers to serve on the Performance Evaluation Board.

Como Harbor Update

Grand opening tomorrow morning with seal shows starting in the near future.

Anne Thom expressed concern that “free reservations” are not coming across to foster inclusion. People may assume that reservations will cost money and thus will not book a stay and thus the Zoo becomes inaccessible.

Rethinking I94 Update

I94 Stakeholder Meeting update - Timeline and Environmental Impact Studies

Citywide Dropoff Event 2021

Rescheduled for September 18th

Much more limited menu of what they will take.

Anne Thom: kids as volunteers question.

Chad Smith: Ice Cream Social

What is Land Use's Role?

Zimmerman: to volunteer to serve ice cream at the fair.

Community Discussion

Next Land Use Meeting is July 7th, 7pm.

Zimmerman asks to consider what specific agenda items will be time-critical for this meeting..

Como Neighborhood Dog Park Discussion

Anne Thom brought up the dog park project.

Site Discussed: Audubon Woods

Suzanne Rhees gave update on Anti-Racism Work Group

Discussion about Small Area Plan: adding new housing types to foster inclusion

Chad Smith discussed 671 California Property

Current tenant has received noise complaints from neighbors

Landlord has not responded to any complaints of noise by tenant

Tenant has claimed they will no longer use the space for purposes that caused the noise complaint.

Next board meeting is scheduled for June 15th.

Zimmerman moves to adjourn at 19:54

Seconded by Matt Brown

Passed.

Meeting adjured and 19:54