

# Minutes



District 10 Community Council Board Meeting  
Historic Street Car Station  
1224 Lexington Parkway, St. Paul, MN 55108  
**Tuesday, June 15, 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 **7:04** pm.

**II. Introductions** (name and neighborhood)

Board Present (online):

Benjamin Kowalsky-Grahek, Jenne Nelson, Mike Ireland, Dan Edgerton, Rachel Bowers, Jennifer Victor-Larsen, Jill Henricksen, Chad Smith, Kevin Commerford, Alex Zikmund, Olivia Mulvey Morawiecki, Matt Brown, Morgan Weinert, Sarah Reuter

Board Absent:

Melissa Brannon, Maggie Zimmerman

Staff Present (online):

Shevek McKee, Rebecca Calvo

Community and Guests Present: none.

Jennifer Victor-Larsen led a land acknowledgment to begin the meeting, referencing this text:

<https://www.bikemn.org/blog/570-indigenous-land-acknowledgement#:~:text=Paul%20have%20always%20been%20a,a%20crossroad%20for%20Indigenous%20peoples>.

“We want to acknowledge that we gather on the traditional land of the Dakota people and honor with gratitude the land itself and the people who have stewarded it throughout the generations, including the Ojibwe and other indigenous nations. We acknowledge that this land, which is named for the Dakota Tribe, is the traditional and ancestral homeland of the Dakota, Ojibwe, Ho-Chunk, Cheyenne, Oto, Iowa, and Sauk and Meskwaki people. We respect the enduring relationship that exists between many Indigenous peoples and their traditional homelands. There is some additional language that we may want to include: We respect the sovereign relationship between tribes, states, and the federal government, and we affirm District 10s commitment to a partnership with Native Nations and Urban Indian communities through research, advocacy, education, and community outreach activities.”

III. **Review, Amend Agenda**

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

IV. **COMMUNITY SECTION**

A. **Community Concerns: (open floor)**

- a. None

V. **BOARD BUSINESS SECTION**

A. Financial Reports (Mike Ireland)

May Treasurer Update

**Notable Revenue**

Received \$5,310.79 in reimbursements toward our Community Engagement grant. March and April reimbursements have been submitted and we are awaiting payment

**Notable Expenses**

In April's finances, it was noted that a \$158.95 Menards expense for community garden supplies was misapplied to the "Accounting" line. The accountant correctly applied it in May's reporting on the "Community Garden" line and reversed it on the "Accounting" line (\$287.65 invoice was paid for our standard accounting expense minus the \$158.95 reversal equals the final \$128.70 expense)

\$150 paid for annual tiling of the community garden

**Other Highlights**

Our checking account balance as of May 31 was \$42,709.24

B. Approval of Board and Committee Minutes

- a. Moved: To approve the Board and Committee Minutes

b. **MOTION: first, second, passed.**

C. Board Chair and Officers Report (Jill Henricksen)

- a. Recap of the ED hiring process and introduction of **Shevek McKee, new ED!**

b. **Olivia Morawiecki and Rebecca Calvo** are both stepping down from the board due to moving out of the neighborhood. We are grateful for their time and work on the board!

- c. We are looking for a board member to step up and help run the Ice Cream Social.

**Morgan and Ben** will co-lead!

D. Committee Updates

- a. Environment (Jennifer Victor-Larsen)

i. Action item from Jennifer Victor-Larsen: Rain Barrel Workshop

ii. Moved: District 10 Como Community Council authorizes Jennifer Victor-Larsen to apply for a Capitol Region Watershed District rain barrel grant listing the committee as the "Organization." This is a non-financial commitment with no other liability. The Council also endorses the committee's partnership in a resident-led community rain barrel workshop. The committee did not have a quorum to pass a motion to present this



- i. Some discussion of how this impacts quorum for the committees. Quorum means that there is a simple majority of assigned board members on each committee in attendance.
  - c. Some discussion about in person or zoom or hybrid meetings. In addition to safety, accessibility is a benefit of having the meetings with a zoom option.
- G. Closed Session
  - a. Executive Director job contract

**VI. Adjourn**

**Rebecca moved to adjourn at 8:51.**

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

Action Item

DATE:

June 5, 2021

FROM:

The Neighborhood Relations Committee and Anti-Racism Work Group

ITEM:

Endorsement of the Housing Equity Now St. Paul (HENS) Rent Stabilization Ballot Initiative

ACTION REQUESTED:

Moved: The District 10 Como Community Council endorses the rent stabilization ballot initiative led by HENS and approves sending the following letter

BACKGROUND/RATIONALE:

The majority of St. Paul households are renters. Housing Equity Now St. Paul is proposing implementation of a new policy of rent stabilization, which will limit annual rent increases to 3%. This well-researched policy, which accounts for a wide variety of stakeholders, including landlords, will help ensure that renters in our city have the same stability in housing costs that homeowners experience because their rent increases will be predictable and manageable. With 37% of households in our district occupied by renters, this ballot initiative benefits these community members and aligns with our vision statement that we hope to achieve: “a vibrant, diverse, *affordable* neighborhood.”

We also know that rent stabilization is an issue of racial equity: in St. Paul, 83% of Black households rent; 67% of Native households rent; 66% of Latinx households rent; 62% of Asian households rent; and 41% of white households rent. The Como neighborhood’s history of racial covenants has specifically barred people of color from home ownership in our neighborhood. Approving the following letter demonstrates our integrity to put the words of our vision statement into action by standing in solidarity with those in our neighborhood, especially BIPOC renters, who face the instability of constantly rising housing costs. In addition, our endorsement aligns our district council with four other councils and two City councilmembers\* who have already endorsed the ballot initiative. Furthermore, our endorsement extends our renters’ need for housing cost stability with the same needs of renters city-wide.

IMPLEMENTATION: This letter will be sent to HENS with copies to the seven district councils and two City councilmembers. Our endorsement will be added to these district council websites and, in turn, the same endorsements will be added to our website. Should additional district councils endorse the ballot initiative, our endorsement may also be added to their websites and ours, too.

ISSUES UNRESOLVED OR YET TO BE DETERMINED:

How we can best use our endorsement to effectively communicate to our community members who rent that we stand behind our vision statement and stand together in solidarity.

\* the Southeast Community Organization, West Side Community Organization, Frogtown Neighborhood Association, and West 7th/Fort Road Federation and City Councilmembers Mitra Jalali and Nelsie Yang

District 10 Como Community Council  
1224 Lexington Parkway North  
Saint Paul, MN 55103  
651.644.3889  
district10@district10comopark.org  
www.district10comopark.org

June 16, 2021

Dear Housing Equity Now St. Paul,

The District 10 Como Community Council joins our City Councilmember Mitra Jalali, Ward 6 City Councilmember Nelsie Yang, and fellow district councils West Side Community Organization, Southeast Community Organization, the Frogtown Neighborhood Association, and the West 7th/Fort Road Federation in endorsing the rent stabilization ballot initiative led by Housing Equity Now St. Paul.

In the Como community, we have been learning about the long history of racial covenants, redlining, white demonstrations, and zoning restrictions that have prevented people of color from renting and owning property in our neighborhood and in many neighborhoods in Saint Paul. Taking steps to address these historical and ongoing racially-based discriminatory practices is a priority for our Anti-Racism Work Group and our entire District Council.

Rent stabilization is a matter of racial and economic justice. In Saint Paul, 41% of white residents rent, while 83% of Black residents, 67% of Native residents, 66% of Latinx residents, and 62% of Asian residents do (Minnesota Housing Partnership). Rent stabilization offers renters the same stability that homeowners experience from having a mortgage: a consistent and reliable monthly housing cost for a whole year, with annual adjustments for property taxes. Keeping people in their homes and communities will help us combat the housing crisis in St. Paul that is impacting young children all the way up to our most senior residents, and is disproportionately impacting communities of color.

Endorsing rent stabilization is an important way for Como community homeowners to be in solidarity with Como community renters, especially BIPOC renters, and it sends an important message that we value our renter neighbors. Our new vision statement specifically calls out a desire for Como to be affordable, and making sure that all residents have stable housing costs is a way for us to move closer to that vision.

Sincerely,



Jill Henricksen  
District 10 Como Community Council chair

CC: the Southeast Community Organization, West Side Community Organization, Frogtown  
2Neighborhood Association, and West 7th/Fort Road Federation and City Councilmembers Mitra  
Jalali and Nelsie Yang



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Sincerely,

*Jill Henricksen*

Jill Henricksen

District 10 Como Community Council chair

CC: the Southeast Community Organization, West Side Community Organization, Frogtown 2Neighborhood Association, and West 7th/Fort Road Federation and City Councilmembers Mitra Jalali and Nelsie Yang

# **Committees**

**Como Community Council: Officers Meeting  
July 13th, 2021 / Streetcar Station 7:00 p.m.  
Notes**

Attendance: Shevek McKee, Jill Henriksen, Jennifer Nelson, Mike Ireland

### 1. Events

- Tree Trek on June 26- updates on how this went?
  - o 15 people came, went over time a bit
  - o Possible fall tree trek Oct 2?
- Ice Cream Social, July 9<sup>th</sup> 5:30-8pm- updates on how this went?
  - o Ice Cream social went well. Will coordinate more with Shakespeare in the future.
  - o 3 people signed up for ARWG
  - o About 10-16 people signed up for newsletter
  - o 20 or so Food Scraps bins given out
  - o 625 Kiwanis malts given out
- NNO: any new info here? Or updates from NRC about how board members could use this as an opportunity to do outreach and recruitment for D10?
  - o National Night Out - opportunity for the District council to do more, difficult with the way planning works through SPPD.
  - o Giving fliers to one or two groups who have called.
  - o Do something at one of the apartment buildings where there might not be a planned event?
  - o D10 hosting a NNO could be problematic with connection to police?
- Next Como Lake Cleanup will be the evening of July 29
  - o Cleanup might not happen. Event at Dock and Paddle that night. Would be the first weeknight clean-up. Trisha Worthing (Parks and Rec), volunteer coordinator, has some concerns about cleanup being a disturbance to some?
  - o Usually do 3-4 clean-ups a year (past 4 years), competitive scheduling.
- Citywide Drop-off event on September 18; 8am-1pm. Volunteer coordinators and lead senior pickup person
  - o All board members are expected to volunteer at this. There will be a variety of shifts.
    - Maggie, Amy, and Shevek will be coordinating. Looking for a board member to step up.
    - Betsy Wehrwein might be interested?

### 2. Community

### 3. Communication

- Website (draft site at <https://167d10cc.aeronauticvigilante.com>)
  - o Shevek has reached out to Joshua and Grady who have done the previous website work. Will be some effort to get in shape

### 4. Financials

- Potential budget allowance for DEI consultant (from ARWG)
  - o Budget line item for a DEI consultant?

### 5. Organizational Business

- Board Meeting (July 20th)
  - o How to count paper and online voting with dual control (review election guidelines)
  - o Results of special election to be announced
  - o Request from Environmental committee to move their monthly meeting to the second Tuesday of the month. Can the officer schedule accommodate moving our meeting to the second Wednesday?
    - Yes, Officer meeting and Environment meeting will swap.
  - o Action items:

- Neighborhood Relations will have an action item requesting D10 to sponsor and participate in a backpack collection drive
- Other Business
  - o Amending by-laws to allow board to select or appoint officer roles and to limit special elections with other board-driven processes to fill seats vacated mid-term
    - Let's lay out a plan for this. ([Excerpts from other districts](#))
      - Recruit a group of board members at July meeting to amend bylaws to allow board members to elect officers and fill vacancies. And what do "officer" board seats become reserved for. Renters and Youth. Have a bylaw change proposal ready for August Board Meeting, where notice will be given for change in September.
  - o Clarifying roles for this meeting- preparing the agenda and taking the minutes
    - Shevek will do the Officer agendas and minutes going forward.
  - o Clarifying process for labeling events as D10 sponsored
    - Action item process should be followed when possible for events. There may be ways to make the process more streamlined or user friendly.
    - Neighborhood relations was working on a philanthropic partnership action item to be able to have nimble and timely partnerships that could be a single action item that's valid for the year.
  - o Personnel policy updates
    - Let's lay out a plan for this.
      - Jill has gone through the employee handbook, lots of redundancies and outdated things. Officers will go through changes by the August board meeting.
  - o Board buddy update (has Kevin been assigned a buddy?)
    - Jill is Kevin's buddy.
  - o Strategic planning
    - ARWG strategy
      - 6-8 month ARWG internal evaluation, will come up with organizational and committee recommendations.
      - Does Cat Beltman have any resources for internal equity review? Organizational assessment templates.
    - Values Statements
    - Organizational Goal Setting (on hold)
  - o Volunteer, job posting policy (on hold)
  - o Covid Preparedness Plan (on hold)
  - o From NR committee - Possible Sunday Series: BE SMART gun safety free gun locks (on hold)
  - o FYI - Aug. Land Use meeting moved to July 26 AT Como Dockside

## 6. Staff Report

- o How's everything going, Shevek?
  - Right Track Plus Intern Application Deadline 7/16
    - <http://www.ramseycounty.us/righttrackplus>
    - 20hrs/wk Aug. 9-Nov. 19
  - Hybrid Meetings, when and how?
    - A couple potential options
      - [COOLPO 360 Video Conference](#) - \$650
      - [Meeting OWL Pro 360](#) - \$920
        - Maggie and Jenne N both have experience with OWL
  - Streetcar Sundays
    - Waiting to hear from city on "unpausing", we should get ready.
  - D10 stance on working with police?
    - Does the D10 Board have an official stance on working with the police so staff isn't repeatedly making calls on when or if they invite police to conversations, share information, or partner.

- Examples:
  - National Night Out
  - Stop for Me events
  - Ice Cream Social Como Connect
  - Monthly Western District Meetings
  - Weekly Crime Reports
  - Invitations to regular meetings
- This is something the ARWG or future potential equity committee could take on.
- o Special election
  - Updates on candidate filings, ballots, etc

32. Confirm next meeting: Tuesday August 10, 7 p.m.

# District 10 Environment Committee meeting notes, 7/14/2021, 7 pm, Zoom call

Wednesday, July 14, 2021

7:08 PM

Attendees: Jennifer Victor-Larsen, Mike Ireland, Rashel Bowers, Gordon Wrobel, Dan Edgerton, Tom Lucy, Dawn Lamm, Bill Niebur, Shevek McKee

## STANDARD ITEMS

- Welcome and Introductions
- Amend/Adopt the Agenda

## COMMUNITY SECTION

- Community participants bring topics & concerns

## NEW BUSINESS & UPDATES

- Minutes rotation for 2021-22
- Discuss time/day change for this committee meeting (2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday or 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday)
- Como Park Steward Program: Overview, registration, timeline, Q&A - Jennifer VL
- Rain barrel event update (grant applied, no barrels available, DIY w/Tool Library?) – Jennifer VL
- Topics for future presentations - tabled for now

## PRESENTATION

- Speaker: Thomas Lucy – SPFE Climate Action

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- Next Lake Clean Up ?
- St. Paul Drop off events:
- August 21 – Washington Technology HS (9-1)
- Sept 18 – MN State Fairgrounds (8-1)

## Next Committee Meeting Time

- Tuesday, August 10, 7:00 p.m.

Start 7:04 pm, Adjourn 8:34 pm

Skipped intro's - we all know each other.

No agenda amendments. Dan Edgerton asked for a discussion of environmental justice to be on future agenda.

Minutes approved unanimously.

No community topics.

Dan Edgerton and Rachel Bowers will alternate taking minutes.

Voted unanimously to move meeting day to 2nd Tuesday of month.

**Como Park Steward Program:** Kind of an adopt-a-park type program. Working with Capitol Region Watershed District, City Parks & Recreation Department. Will create app showing sections of park that could be adopted. CRWD interested in measuring volume and/or weight of trash picked up. We could try to incorporate history, tree trek, public art into the program. Lots of ideas tossed out there. Want to

make it very welcoming, inclusionary of all people. Looking for a subgroup to figure out details, move the program forward. Subgroup: Dawn and Bill, Rachel, Jennifer.

**Lake Cleanup:** Tentatively 7/29, 6 pm. Behind schedule in planning, prep. Mike is very busy, could use some help. Will rent kayaks, canoes. Gordy, Jennifer, Dan can assist Mike at the event. Need to figure out how to publicize the event. Have people register on the website. Will also try to recruit lake walkers that evening. Provide some refreshments. Maybe have some simple contest or raffle - hold this idea for a future Saturday cleanup event. Try to get people to post on social media. Mike, Jennifer, Gordy, and Dan will meet on Friday at 3 pm to plan the event.

**Rain Barrel Event Update:** No barrels are available, so no event at this time. There's an ongoing shortage of rain barrels. If any ideas for a DIY, please pass those along to Jennifer. Otherwise, she'll ask if we could carry over the grant until next year. Or else we'll apply again next year.

**Como Community Garden:** There was a conflict between a gardener and the garden coordinator involving garden plot boundaries and use of herbicides/pesticides. Became a volatile interaction between the two, with raised voices, inappropriate language. Jennifer was brought in because D10 has a coordination role. Neighborhood Relations has been involved in the past. Needs to go to D10 officers to look into further and decide on our role and response.

**Saint Paul Federation of Educators (SPFE) Climate Action, Tom Lucy:** Working group of SPFE is trying to create action to combat climate change. One key issue they're trying to move forward on: trying to get Saint Paul Public Schools to embrace use of solar energy. SPPS has been slow to move on this. The group is trying to educate union members and students about climate change and use of solar energy. They're also talking to candidates for school board, making sure they're knowledgeable about the issue. They created a petition for SPPS to use solar power. Currently have about 950 signers among Saint Paul teachers, students, residents. Will make a renewed push in the fall. His goals for tonight's meeting: to share the info with us, have us consider signing the petition, consider bringing this to the D10 board to share the petition with residents. He's not looking for a letter of support at this time, but maybe in the future.

Following discussion, the committee felt we support this issue but need more information on who the work group is, what they're doing, what they'll do with the petition. We decided to go back to Tom for him to provide more background info, ideally available online.



**District 10 Como Community Council  
Neighborhood Relations Committee**

**COMMITTEE MEETING** *Tuesday, July 6, 2021 @ 7:00pm Online*

**I. OPENING 7:00- 7:10**

A. Call to order and introductions,

- Attendance: Shevek McKee, Sarah Reuter, Morgan Weinert, Mike Ireland, Kevin Commerford.

B. Add to the agenda

Updates:

- 70 People at Como Homo event
  - Spawned a bbq at someone's house
  - Annual event?

1. Ice Cream social, prep and run through - We discussed the social and the upcoming event, and what still needs to get done
2. Community Concerns
  - a. August Backpack drive- have an action item in support of this event
    - i. Community Contact for this:  
Through First Covenant Church  
Roxanna Hoda - [roxanna.hoda@gmail.com](mailto:roxanna.hoda@gmail.com)
  - b. Next meeting, August 3, is national night out. Is that a conflict we need to consider?
    - i. No meeting? Encourage board members to attend their local events.
  - c. Sarah looking for co-chair to help through summer b/c life

**NEXT MEETING**

Tuesday, August 3, 2021 @ 7:00pm - Online

## PUBLIC ART PROJECT MEETING (6/24/2021)

### TASKS BEFORE JULY 22ND MEETING

#### Pre-work

- Dan will talk to Mike Hahm about the idea and what the process would be
- If that doesn't work, Janet can talk to Public Works to ask about process
- Sarah will talk to gardeners at the Frankson Garden about the idea

#### Next Up

- If it seems like a possibility, Jill and Sarah will work on wording for the site marker
- Once that's done, Marcia will talk to 106 group about pricing/where we could purchase it
- Jill will work on a budget for the artists and writing up a call for artists in the community
- Shevek will reach out to his contact at the library who worked with Forecast

#### Fundraising

- Jill will work on a fundraising blurb

\*Note - the Bugle/Monitor content goes out on the 9th of each month for the next month's issue, so if we are able to get a fundraising blurb together by the 9th, it can go out in the August issue.

## Frankson Garden (1349 Midway Parkway)

### WHAT/IDEAS

- Create a marker telling about Frankson History
  - To Do:
    - Look at budget for historical marker
    - **Marcia will talk to 106 Group**
    - **Jill & Sarah work on wording**
    - **Talk with people who currently garden there - Sarah**
- Have a community event/performance around the unveiling
  - Ideas: Food trucks, performance piece, social/educational piece (could extend to something in the streetcar?)
  - To Do:
    - Put out a call for performers (specifically in the BIPOC community)
      - Pay them well - we are allies and part of our alliship is paying well (we can talk about that in fundraising also)
      - **Get a budget/call for artist - Jill**
      - Collaboration?
        - Springboard - very busy, we can post on job board
        - **Forecast - Shevek reach out to his contact**
        - Creative Enterprise Zone

- Saint Paul Public Art Sarah tried without luck
- Look at blocking off the street in that area

## GROUNDWORK

- Start a talk with the parks department
  - What are our limitations in that area?
  - **Dan will talk to Mike Hahm t- see what the process is**
  - **Janet can talk to Public Works - see what the process is**

## FUNDRAISING

\*Note - the Bugle ads go out on the 9th of each month for the next month's issue, so if we are able to get a fundraising blurb together by the 9th, it can go out in the August issue.

- BBQ/Outreaches
- Door knocking
- Bugle/Monitor
- Good Neighbor Project
- Website - QR codes
- What would it say?
  - **Write up a blurb for fundraising - Jill**
  - Need money to address the issues of redlining and covenants and racial injustice in our area. Specifically Frankson gardens - get the owners of the Frankson house involved.

## OTHER IDEAS:

Liked the idea of a mural

- Streetcar Sundays
  - Opening it up for artist/performance arts
  - Have an exhibit installed for Sundays
- Mapping prejudice colab
- Mural

NEXT MEETING - July 22nd 5pm

## CHAT

17:32:57 From sarah reuter to Everyone : I'm starting to like the idea of a dance or performance around the site

17:37:23 From sarah reuter to Everyone : I think it would be great to have a historical marker placed at the garden

18:02:02 From sarah reuter to Everyone : <https://www.tudance.org/>

18:03:59 From sarah reuter to Everyone : <https://www.balletcolaboratory.org/about>

District 10 Como Community Council  
Anti-Racism Work Group Agenda and Notes  
6/30/21

- 1) 7:00-7:05: Welcome
- 2) 7:05-7:15: Introductions (in the chat)
- 3) 7:15-7:30: Old Business
  - a) HENS letter update (Jennifer N)
    - i) The full D10 board voted with one abstention to support the rent stabilization ballot initiative.
  - b) HENS support efforts (Jessica)
    - i) Jessica spoke with Tram; goal was 10k signatures, got over 9100. Process of certification is happening now. Recommendation from HENS to help register people to vote. D12 Equity Committee is talking about voter registration. Some voter reg will happen at the ICS.
    - ii) Jennifer N works for ISAIAH, which has trainings on rent stabilization and voter outreach happening in July and August. Connect with her if you want to be involved! [jennifer.rose.nelson@gmail.com](mailto:jennifer.rose.nelson@gmail.com)
    - iii) Patrick did some research, found an article from Atlanta with statistics on patterns of eviction via the county assessor's office. Any local org that might want to partner on doing archival research on this kind of housing equity?
      - (1) Check in with Mapping Prejudice folks at U of M and St. Kate's. Southern MN Regional Legal Services- nonprofit law firm that works with low income tenants. **Jill** will mention this in her Ramsey Co meeting. Wilder Foundation. HOME Line is another tenant rights organization.
  - c) ARWG Table at the Ice Cream Social on July 9 (Jill and Dan)
    - i) Malts from Kiwanis this year! Tables with resources, community partners. Jill is setting up the ARWG table. She'll have a map of racial covenants via Mapping Prejudice to display. Will also share HENS support and involvement, and have a sign up. **Friday July 9th 5:30-8 at the Streetcar Station**. There will be an owl! **Suzanne R** can help staff the table.
  - d) Update on the Public Art Project. Taking shape to focus on the Frankson House, step one could be about Frankson and the legacy of racial covenants. This would be a place to start and could be followed up with other larger projects. Still in the exploratory stage. Recommend that we stay in touch with Springboard. **Adine** has a contact there. Interested folks should get in touch with Jessica: [organizer@district10comopark.org](mailto:organizer@district10comopark.org). **There will be another meeting on the 22nd at 5pm.**
- 4) 7:30-7:45: New Business
  - a) Discuss some potential ARWG recommendations for the Environment Committee.
    - i) Line 3
    - ii) Xcel plant in Becker, opposition efforts led by SP350. Xcel changed their plans to not build that plant- is this a PR move or a substantive win for the environment?

- iii) Mayor Carter started a Climate Justice Advisory Board in 2020- potential partner for Environment Committee?
  - iv) Shevek's recommendation is to make this more localized, see what our EC is already doing and try to make those things more equitable. Could we invite more BIPOC engagement with the community garden and the compost site? Composting for multi-family buildings?
  - v) **Jennifer N** will ask EC to come up with some activities that they'd like to collaborate with ARWG on to make those activities more equitable.
  - vi) Jessica's work at D12- D12 was getting complaints about litter around a shelter for people who are unhoused, the equity committee used that opportunity to work with the environment committee to make sure that this is a relationship-building exercise.
  - vii) Any talk about tree planting, replacing the lost ash trees? Mapping areas of the city that are underplanted? See Midway Peace Park.
- b) Discuss creation of a BIPOC Advisory Group.
- i) We won't know if BIPOC are interested in participating in this group or an advisory group unless we ask. Could we put something in the newsletter?
  - ii) Downtown DC hired Lissa Jones-Lofgren as a consultant. Another route could be to hire a professional in this field to help us with outreach and provide perspective that we don't have.
  - iii) **Jennifer N** will add it to the D10 officers' meeting agenda.
  - iv) Some orgs offer stipends to participants.
  - v) Start with personal conversations, one-on-one with neighbors.
  - vi) Lynn's daughter, who was born in India, is doing a lot of DEI work at her job. Paying someone is a way of valuing what's being offered. She's tired of being asked to educate white people.
  - vii) Jessica- the community councils don't have strong reputations of continuing to show up for POC. Showing up for our POC neighbors is one way to build trust, we can't expect POC neighbors to show up here when we haven't earned that trust. Not sure we have the right to ask our POC neighbors to advise us for free.
  - viii) Another consideration- the divide between homeowners and renters.
  - ix) With a consultant, focus on the local community.
  - x) This group could do some prospecting and grant writing. Could a subgroup take this up?
- c) Volunteer(s) for food delivery to Como by the Lakes (2-3 hours on Friday).
- i) From Olivia's email: I'm also wondering if someone from the board would be interested in helping with food box distribution at the Como by the Lake Senior Apartment building (901 Como Blvd) on Friday afternoons for the remainder of the summer. This is about a 2-3 hour commitment every Friday afternoon. Food

District 10 Como Community Council  
Anti-Racism Work Group Agenda and Notes  
6/30/21

boxes are provided by The Sanneh Foundation and are picked up on Fridays between 1pm-2pm at Conway Rec Center in St. Paul and brought to the building where they are passed out to seniors. On Average 15-20 low income seniors depend on this weekly food distribution to combat food insecurity and the increasing cost of living.

- ii) Let Jessica know if you are interested.
  - iii) Last week Sue Brogger from Como Park Lutheran contacted **Shevek** about food distribution. He'll circle back with her.
- 5) 7:45-8:10: Subgroups breakout (Community Education, Housing, Public Art)
- a) Check in about any discussion and actions happening between meetings
  - b) Discuss what your subgroup can tackle between now and the July meeting
  - c) Be prepared to share your work and plans
- 6) 8:10-8:30: Subgroups share out
- 7) Items for July meeting's agenda:
- a) Report out about ice cream social,
  - b) Jill will report on what Ramsey Co is doing,
  - c) hear from EC about how we can support their work,
  - d) progress on public art,
  - e) Sustain St. Paul group (Suzanne and Janet are attending), St. Paul has been slow to get their single family study off the ground so the group has been in waiting mode, Jill will get an update from Luis Pereira
  - f) Budget capacity for DEI consultant report-out
  - g) Voter registration and education re: rent stabilization
  - h) Next meeting is July 28th at 7pm!

**Access Information:** Anti-Racism Work Group

[https://zoom.us/join/zoom/register/tJlqduirrT4iGNwyzk\\_G-eaVWNSGJjxCn6tI](https://zoom.us/join/zoom/register/tJlqduirrT4iGNwyzk_G-eaVWNSGJjxCn6tI)