

Minutes

Tuesday, June 21, 2022

D10 Como Community Council Board Meeting



This meeting will take place **hybrid** at the Como Streetcar Station (1224 Lexington Pkwy) and also via video conferencing and telephone access, access details below.

I. Call to Order - 7:00pm (Board Chair, Jenne Nelson)

II. Land Acknowledgement

A. “We are standing on the ancestral lands of the Dakota People. We want to acknowledge the Ojibwe, the Ho Chunk, and the other nations of people who also called this place home. We pay respects to their elders past and present. Please take a moment to consider the treaties made by the tribal nations that entitle non-Native people to live and work on traditional Native lands. Consider the many legacies of violence, displacement, migration, and settlement that bring us together here today. And please join us in uncovering such truths at any and all public events.” - *Excerpt from the acknowledgement given in the [USDAC Honor Native Land Guide](#) - edited to reflect MN tribes.*

III. Introductions (name and neighborhood) ([Sub-district Map](#))

Board Members Present: Jenne Nelson, Dan Edgerton, Lizzy Cantley, Jeremy Rappaport, Chad Smith, Maggie Zimmerman, Mark Machacek, Benjamin Kowalsky-Grahek, Jennifer Victor-Larsen, Matt Keliher, Abby Gold, Sarah Reuter, Morgan Weinert

Community Members Present: Amy Kirkpatrick, KC Ahlberg, Tom and Liz, Candy Lange, Bob, Romauld Alexander

Staff Members Present: Shevek McKee

IV. Community

A. Community Input (open floor)

Discussion regarding noise levels across the lake from Como Pavilion: Multiple neighbors shared their frustrations with noise levels from music at the Como Pavilion. Community members indicate volumes seem louder under the current operator than past operators. The loudest events are typically private groups that use their own sound equipment. Decibel limitations and variances were discussed. Shevek indicates there is an upcoming meeting between Lancer (pavilion’s operator) and city staff to address some issues, including this.

■ **Relevant resources:**

- [St. Paul Amplified Sound Ordinance \(item d\)](#)
- [Report a noise complaint](#)

V. Board Business

A. Consent Agenda

Items listed under the Consent Agenda are enacted by one motion, items can be removed for individual discussion and vote by request

- Agenda

- May/June Board and Committee Minutes
(Non-Financial Action Items from Committees):
Motion to approve the Consent Agenda by Jenne Nelson. **Seconded** by Morgan Weinert. **Motion passes.**

B. Sub-district 3 Board Vacancy

- Applicant: KC (Kristofor) Ahlberg – [Applicant Statement](#)
Discussion: KC Ahlberg introduced himself and shared his willingness to serve on the board.
Motion to confirm KC Ahlberg’s appointment to the open sub-district 3 seat by Abby Gold. **Seconded** by Dan Edgerton. **Motion passes.**

C. Action Items

- **Environment Committee - Event:** [Como Tree Trek](#)
Discussion: Benjamin Kowalsky-Grahek explained the action item on behalf of the Environment Committee. Board members praised the efforts of the late Chet Mirocha and his daughter Stephanie Mirocha in leading the Tree Trek over the years. The expenditure is a total of \$76.49.
Moved, that the Como Community Council supports and endorses Como Park Tree Treks on June 25 and October 1, 10am-Noon, led by Stephanie Mirocha, and that D10 will order three additional Tree Tags and QR code stickers for existing tags. **Motion passes.**
- **Voter Engagement Grant:** [Grant application action item](#)
Discussion: Jenne Nelson discussed a grant opportunity from the Minnesota Council of Nonprofits to promote voter registration and engagement. These efforts would be integrated into our upcoming events and ideally target renters and underserved populations.
Moved, that the Como Community Council authorizes staff, on behalf of the Como Community Council, to submit a Minnesota Council of Nonprofits Voter Engagement Grant application. **Seconded** by Matt Keliher. **Motion passes.**

D. Information

- **Volunteer Opportunities**
 - June 26, [Como Homo Hangout](#)
 - June 28, 6-9pm [Como Lake Clean-Up](#) (Tuesday)
 - July 8, 5:30-8pm [Ice Cream Social](#)
(incl. flyering the week before)
- **Staff Report** (*Shevek McKee, Executive Director*)
 - **New Zoom Meeting Links**
 - **Hybrid Tech training opportunities before July Meetings**
 - **CIB - Safety of Como Lake Paths in the running on [Preliminary Scoring](#)**
 - CIB public hearing at Downtown Library June 23, 3:30-5:30pm

E. Potential Change in Meeting Time/Date/Structure

Discussion: The board endeavors to be as efficient and mindful of staff time as possible and contemplates condensing the number of evenings with meetings from 5 to 3. The board would have two nights with back-to-back meetings and one night with a standalone meeting. Board members indicate that decreasing the number of evenings committed to meetings could increase member engagement and active involvement in community events.

Potential drawbacks were discussed, including needing increased time for certain detailed presentations, the risk of a long night for someone needing to attend both meetings in one night, and community member preferences. Board members agree to aim for an August implementation with an official vote in July. Informational flyers to be distributed at the ice cream social were discussed.

F. Closed Session

- Executive Director Review

VI. Adjourn – Adjourned at 9:10pm.

JOIN MEETING INFO

Zoom Meeting Link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81656456655?pwd=NERqazk0dUsxbndRRNm9INHVS0HIBQT09>

Meeting ID: 816 5645 6655 Passcode: 1234567

One tap mobile: +13017158592,,81656456655#,,,,*1234567#

Call in to meeting: +1 312 626 6799

UPCOMING EVENTS

- June 25, [Como Tree Trek](#) - **SOLD OUT**
- June 26, [Como Homo Hangout](#)
- June 28, 6-9pm [Como Lake Clean-Up](#) (Tuesday)
- July 8, 5:30-8pm [Ice Cream Social](#)
- July 26, 5:30-8pm [Como Lake Clean-Up](#) (Tuesday)
- More upcoming events at district10comopark.org/Events

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- July 5, 7pm - Neighborhood Relations Committee
- July 6, 7pm - Land Use Meeting
- July 12, 7pm - Environment Committee
- July 19, 7pm - D10 Board Meeting

D10 Como Community Council - Notes

Officer Meeting 07/22

July 13 2022 / 7:00 PM / Como Streetcar Station

Attendance:

Jenne Nelson, Chad Smith, Dan Edgerton, Matt Keliher, Shevek McKee

NEW BUSINESS

- **Board Meeting (July 19 - [Draft Agenda](#))**
 - **Guest:** City DC Coordinator Cat Beltmann 2022 Work Plan Update
 - Action Items
 - [BIPOC Board Training Stipend](#) (Jenne Nelson)
 - *Already approved via email July 1 (Included for confirmation/records)*
 - [D10 Trial Meeting Schedule Change](#) (Officers)
 - [Committee Assignment - KC Ahlberg](#) (Officers)
 - [Tilden Harvest Festival - Sept. 10, 3-5pm](#) (NRC)
 - [Community Garden Work Group](#) (Env)
 - Discussion Topic - Jessica will give update on Community Engagement Plan/Events
- **New Secretary recruiting** (Jenne)
 - Discussed potential candidates, the new schedule might open up someone's schedule, specifically a Land Use member.
 - Jenne will make some direct inquiries
- **VISTA meeting recap** (Jenne)
 - Shevek and Jenne met with Alec from Hamline Midway and a representative from HomeLine about a VISTA that could augment rental capacity. Potential partnership opportunities with Hamline Midway, St. Anthony Park, and/or Union Park.
 - Potential March 2023 timeline, a year commitment, but often a 3-5 year project.
 - A partnership w/ other district councils re: renter outreach may leverage to build more resources.
- Discussion on fundraising ideas and potential limitations.

OL' BUSINESS

- **Meeting Schedule Change**
 - Committees have been informed, announced at the ice cream social, will be in this week's newsletter
 - Haven't gotten any feedback, community members at committee say "let's try it"
 - Streetcar Station is booked for August dates to facilitate hybrid.
- **Officer Meetings**
 - Plan to stay on second Wednesdays (week before board meeting).

UPDATES

- **Financials**
 - Lawns to Legumes expenses coming up
 - Planning to spread out expenses w/ L2L reimbursements so that only so much is being expended from reserves at any given time.
 - May/June City Reimbursement Submitted (\$13,717.49)
 - Our accountant corrected a payroll mistake from 2020/21 so the Salary Expense ledger has a \$1500 credit in June report.
- **Community Garden**

- Committees determined to keep garden under purview of Environment Committee, but there's an action item for a Garden Work Group.
- Gardeners who were given notices made some effort to tend their plots, no plots were vacated.
- **Inquiries**
 - EV Car sharing and charging stations
 - New program that doesn't include most of D10 has launched, prompting some questions about expanding service and adding additional public charging stations. Shevek has been in touch with Evie/HourCar reps, Russ Stark, parking lot owners
 - Suggestion to reach out to apartment complexes to gauge interest.
 - Hamline Midway Library nomination at the Heritage Preservation Commission
 - Hamline Midway Coalition Development Committee is hosting SPPL and the person who submitted nomination at 7/14 meeting
 - Will share information and ways to submit input to the board and in the newsletter, input due by July 29.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- July 26, 6-9pm [Como Lake Clean-Up](#) (Tuesday)
- August 2, 9am-3pm [Como Blood Drive](#)
- August 13, 9am-1pm [Donate Good Stuff Eco-Fair](#)
- More upcoming events at district10comopark.org/Events

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- July 19, 7pm - D10 Board Meeting
- August 3, 6pm - Environment Committee
- August 3, 7:15pm - Neighborhood Relations Committee
- August 16, 6pm - Land Use Meeting
- August 16, 7:15pm - D10 Board Meeting

Committees

Neighborhood Relations Committee 07/22

July 5 2022 / 7:00 PM / [Zoom Link](#) - (Call-in info below)

Attendance: Abby Gold, Lizzy Cantley, Shevek McKee, Morgan Weinert, Sarah Reuter, Jessica Willman

-

AGENDA

- Call to Order
- Welcome And Introductions ([Digital Sign-In Sheet](#))
- Adopt The Agenda

COMMUNITY SECTION

Community participants can bring topics & concerns - no one in attendance

OLD BUSINESS

Como Homo

- About 70 people, lots of families, went well. Sara and Morgan were there
- Low key, Morgan said maybe one additional volunteer for hauling stuff would be nice for next year but other than that all was very chill
- Jessica mentioned adding a budget item for next year. Sarah and Morgan each spent about \$10 of personal money. Shevek agrees, lock it in that we are doing it next year and there should be a budget item

Ice Cream Social - July 8 4:30-8pm - finalize details

- Events -
 - Bubble Baron and Balloon are confirmed
 - Como Connect - Less tables than last year (covid and staffing issues), 12-13 tables this year. It should still fill things out and many tables have interactive things. Being strategic about where to place tables
 - Crafts - Lizzy and Jess (Sarah's neighbor) are heading this up. "Paint Your Como"
 - Como History Project will be there asking people to tell their stories. This includes St. Kate's people. Jessica will contact them to see what help they might need
 - Yard Games
 - Bands - 2 are confirmed
- Food - Jessica says this is good to go. Shevek agrees, he has personally seen it. Hoping next year getting Env. Comm. to partner with Kiwanis to do compostable cups. We mention it every year, but now it's time to make it an actionable step for next year
 - Lactose free option, popsicles (Sarah bought 100 last year and will again this year.)
- Volunteer assignments/tasks
 - Jessica sent out volunteer assignment email
 - Jessica has a map laid out of where everything is going to go. She will share it so more people know where things go in order to answer questions for volunteers

- Feels like we have just enough volunteers for what we need. A couple more might be needed for the craft table (added Max to this, so now just 1 more would be fine)
- MC - Morgan CONFIRMED (thankfully she enjoys being center of attention)
- Thoughts on allowing community members to get a chance to do their own mic portion.
 - Jessica will send doc to Morgan about what needs to be mentioned throughout the event and we can also ask sponsors if they would like a little time slot to be able to share their info/blurb content as well.
- Set up- We have a lot of volunteers scheduled for set up. 8 people are scheduled and more might pop up. Meet at streetcar station at 4pm.
 - Como Connect: bringing their own tables. Jessica and Sarah are putting table signs out ahead of time so volunteers can help unload and help guide people to where they will be.
 - Como Connect can start setting up at 4:30, more usually come around 4:45/5, Parking lot can be used for unloading but then they will move their car to save spots for guests
 - Craft set up - Lizzy
 - Jessica and Sarah to get brown paper towels, water will be in a drink jug. Can also use green buckets (this need to be rinsed out first)
 - Balloon and Bubble area - one table
 - Ice Cream and Como History point person - Shevek
- Clean up is pretty simple since it's held at the streetcar station. Putting away tables and supplies, trash clean up, etc
- Flyering - went well yesterday, got rid of one packet, more flyering tomorrow morning. For the most part the event is already really well known.
 - Supplies -
 - need wet wipes, or brown paper towels that are compostable. Sarah and Jessica will get brown paper towels (For craft table)
 - Yard Games - Anyone that has them, bring them.
 - Put out a call to other board members for yard games (sarah)
 - Bike racks, haven't done that this year. Paid (maybe half) for them last year and then the racks didn't show up. Last year the people were not responsive. Too late for doing it this year but have this on the agenda for next year. There is the bridge rails or locking bikes together. (Sarah threw it out there to maybe rope off an area or add a sign)
 - In need of extra tables for sitting? Yes, we had them last year and they were utilized. Morgan mentions also adding a sign so it's known the tables are there as a seating area.
 - Abby asked about need for electricity? Check in with Laura about what they might need for como history. Supplies and electricity needs for the music and MC

Morgan says that this feels a lot less stressful than last year and everyone acknowledges a HUGE THANK YOU to Jessica for her ongoing organizational skills!!!

NEW BUSINESS

● Preview Harvest Festival - **ACTION ITEM**

- Jessica has a vision... **HARVEST CARNIVAL**
 - Close to **Lyngblomsten** senior living. They seem excited that we are doing something in their neighborhood. This brought up the idea of Bingo and Lynblomsten has had a fundraising carnival event every year, they might be willing to share/loan supplies that they have used in the past.
 - Other Event Ideas:
 - Pie baking competition

- Book mobile (Lizzy)
 - Stickers with the owl mascot have been ordered (Shevek) they will be ready by this Event and could be passed out. Winner to be announced somehow.
 - Performances/Demonstrations (in lieu of bands)
 - Garden/Recipe demonstration (Abby, sauerkraut demo)
 - Abby - Public art St. Paul. Abby knows Ex. Director and thinks they might like to be involved. Abby will get in contact with them and bring up the idea of involving them in demonstration/performances
 - Bell museum
 - (Sarah) Como Zoo
 - (Abby) Store Egg Plant
 - Voter registration table. Election judges often will volunteer for this. (Jessica)
 - Carnival games
 - Parade?? Sarah's Idea: Maybe this is something we build into for future years
 - Long table community meal. (Abby brings of the Public Art St Paul sponsored event in Frogtown 8 years ago). This too might be a bigger, future goal. But we should still think about food options since this did seem to go over really well at the Pick Up and Party event
- Event will take place on Sept 10th @ Tilden Park and we agreed on a time of 3-5pm
- Jessica will make a task list to send out to see who is willing help with reaching out groups/people/businesses to get their interest in being involved.
- Jessica is working on funding for the event
- Do we want there to be a drive connected? **Lyngblomsten** might be looking for items such as a "prepare for winter things" to donate to them. (ex. Soduko books, slippers, coloring books, puzzles, etc)
- Shevek brings up that this location is closest to the Hamline/Midway St. Paul Library and they will be in the midst of renovation plans/process. They could be at the event to share progress updates, etc
- Shevek brings up connecting with Holden House
- Discussion of how this event happens the week after State Fair and this part of Como can have strong feelings about State Fair (Shevek)
 - State Fair might go really well, or it might not and we should be aware of how things went during the State Fair week and what this means for our event
 - Morgan - This could be a good event for a time to allow feedback after the State Fair, a chance for them to get things off their chest.
 - Land Use committee (Maggie and Jennifer V-L might be interested in this conversation). Maybe some kind of feedback form at the D10 table.
 - Abby asked about the feelings of that area since it's so close to the State Fair time. Might there be too much fatigue?
 - Sarah responded that because it's neighborhood oriented it might be nice rather than too much, but can't speak for all.
 - Shevek said that we are doing something FOR the community rather than TOO the community. If we are doing it TOO them and they perceive it as such, then maybe we're going about this the wrong way
- Lyngblomsten has a metro mobility bus and they are interested in allowing us to use it to help get people with less mobility to events. This is in the works because we are in need of a driver. Jessica will be putting a call out for this on social media soon. Might be able to happen by Harvest Festival time.

We are continuing to think more about long term/future goals and directions. Jessica is going to talk more at the July board meeting about the **cycle of community organizing**. Wants to have more discussion about this. This year we have been in the first phase of just building awareness and relationships but we need to start talking about building on this.

- **Como Community Garden “Jurisdiction”**

- Abby - she read through the notes of env committee and saw that Shevek was bringing up weeding issues and Abby wondered if maybe she should have been there. What would be best for communication?
- Shevek - this in the past has operated independent of the board. As Shevek learned his job, this was very much coming from people that didn't even know about the garden. Now Abby is on the board and is a volunteer coordinator for the Garden. It seems that there are more Gardeners on the neighborhood committee so maybe it better fits with NRC.
- Morgan - not in favor of adding more to the plate of NRC when there is already so much going on. Others do agree with this and think we should be spreading out the duties with other committees
- Sarah - Maybe NRC can help with hammering down contracting logistics and then passing it back on to env comm. Do this in partnership with other leadership at the garden (Judy & Rebecca)
- Shevek - We need D10 internal processes for managing the garden. Right now it's just Shevek figuring it out on his own while mentioning it to the env. committee. Maybe create a temporary sub committee to iron out D10 logistical protocol/process/guidelines. Also, we are going to have changes to our meeting schedule that might make it easier for people to attend both meetings (NRC and Env on same night)
- Abby mentioned an Ad hoc group that could meet when issues come up at the garden and report back to the env comm. They wouldn't need to meet monthly/on a regular basis. Just as issues arise.

Final Decision: Leave it in Env. Abby might be able to overlap meetings once the schedule changes. Shevek will need to have a conversation with the env committee and bring up the proposal to create a sub committee.

- **NRC Meeting Schedule**

Shevek - Last week Jenny Nelson board chair put out the proposal.

- Social media will be coming out. Something will be shared at the D10 table at the ice cream social
- **Aug 3rd Wednesday** will be the first changed meeting. This will stick through the end of the year and then reevaluate. **6-7:15 NRC NEW DAY OF WEEK & TIME (per Jenny's email)**
- Still will be Hybrid and this helps with set up/tear down logistics

- **Marydale Volunteers - September 24th**

North End community council will be doing their festival. Looking for board members to volunteer/go together/bring family etc Jessica is planning to volunteer.

Save this date and Jessica will bring it up again at another meeting after getting more information from North End about their needs.

UPDATES

- -

UPCOMING D10 EVENTS

- July 8, 5:30-8pm [Ice Cream Social](#)
- July 26, 6-9pm [Como Lake Clean-Up \(Tuesday\)](#)
- August 2, 9am-3pm [Como Blood Drive \(NEED one volunteer for the check in table from 12-3\)](#)
- August 13, 9am-1pm [Donate Good Stuff Eco-Fair](#)
- More upcoming events at district10comopark.org/Events

UPCOMING D10 MEETINGS

- July 6, 7pm - Land Use Meeting
- July 12, 7pm - Environment Committee
- July 19, 7pm - D10 Board Meeting
- August Meetings

- **CHANGED: August 3, 6:15pm - Neighborhood Relations Committee**
- August 3, 7pm - Land Use Meeting

Zoom Meeting Link (Recurring)

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81656456655?pwd=NERqazk0dUsxbndRNm9INHVS0HIBQT09>

Meeting ID: 816 5645 6655

Passcode: 1234567

One tap mobile: +13017158592,,81656456655#,,,,*1234567#

Call in to meeting: +1 312 626 6799

About D10 Committee Meetings

RESPECT: D10 meetings are open to ALL community members. Please respect other voices and opinions. Try to keep discussion input brief and leave space for those who aren't as comfortable speaking up at public meetings (if you've already spoken on a subject or asked a question, give others a chance before you speak again).

VIRTUAL/HYBRID: Technology has increased our reach to more people, but as we adjust to new features, it's important to keep other's experience in mind. Please use the raise hand feature or indicate in the chat if you'd like to speak, and know that those attending in person can't always see the chat comments. Our board and meeting leaders are all volunteers, and are still learning and adapting to new meeting tech as well, please bear with us as we work to improve our meetings!

MOTIONS: D10 uses Robert's Rules of order, often especially relaxed in committee meetings, but occasionally motions are brought to the floor, mostly for action items (below). Our bylaws state that D10 community members in attendance are members of committees, except disciplinary committees, with the right to make motions, vote, and speak in debate.

- Motions require a first ("I move to..."),
- A second ("I second the motion"),
- Then, following "any additional discussion", the motion is voted on.
- *Note: All community members in attendance may vote in D10 committees.*

ACTION ITEMS: These are an important part of our organization process, but can be confusing at first. Action Items (AIs) approved at committee meetings are sent to the full D10 board for approval. Board members may bring AIs to the board independently as well, but AIs approved by committees only require a second at board meetings. You can view many examples of past action items [here on Google Drive](#).

QUORUM: This is a term that refers to meeting attendance and whether a meeting is considered "official". [D10 bylaws](#) define quorum for committee meetings as "a majority of the D10 Board members" assigned to the committee. In practice, this becomes a mostly semantic matter, as we still hold a meeting even if quorum is not met, notes are still taken and submitted to the board. Motions and votes cannot be made, but Action Items could be submitted to the full board individually by any board members present.

MISC. GLOSSARY: D10 meetings often use acronyms or reference partner organizations and City departments, as well as ongoing projects that new attendees might not be familiar with. Below are links for common references, if there's anything you think should be added, please ask or email info@district10comopark.org.

- **D10 Sub-Districts**
- **DSI - St. Paul Department of Safety & Inspections**
- **St. Paul Public Works Department**
- **PED - St. Paul Planning & Economic Development Department**
- **St. Paul Parks & Recreation**

Land Use Committee 07/2022

July 6 2022 / 7:00 PM / [Zoom Link](#) - (Call-in info below)

Attendance:

Maggie Zimmerman, Chad Smith, Shevek McKee, Mark Machacek, Rich Fundakowski, Anne Thom, Dan Niziolek (Deputy Director, DSI)

AGENDA

- Call to Order
- Welcome And Introductions ([Digital Sign-In Sheet](#))
- Adopt The Agenda
 - Agenda adopted with no objections

COMMUNITY SECTION

Community participants can bring topics & concerns
None

NEW BUSINESS

- **Class N License Changes** *Guest: DSI Deputy Director Dan Niziolek*
 - [1 Page Summary Doc](#)
 - Discussion: Dan Niziolek presented on the city's three-year effort to streamline the licensing process for certain types of businesses, with the goal of making it less lengthy and onerous. Going forward, some business types will no longer need public notification for license renewal (see linked document). The city wants to make the process more positive-focused than negative-focused. D10 likes getting license renewal notifications, and Dan says the city can continue that practice regardless of any regulatory changes. Notably, DSI is working on a data system upgrade, which is currently largely paper-based and not as transparent or efficient as it could be.
- **Land Use Meeting Schedule**
 - Discussion: D10 is working on schedule changes that would free up time for board members to participate in more community events, which would reach and engage with more community members. Land Use tentatively would be scheduled on the same night as the full board meeting on the third Tuesday of the month. The need for flexibility and different scheduling for larger, more time-consuming issues was discussed. The committee indicated a willingness to try the new schedule.

OLD BUSINESS

- **Pavilion noise level mitigation**
 - Discussion: The music noise level concerns from last month's board meeting were briefly discussed. The key stakeholders with the city and pavilion operator seem willing to work together. Community members present tonight enjoy the music floating through the neighborhood.

UPDATES

- **Licenses & Variances**
 - **Class N License Application: 1015 Bandana Blvd - Parking Ramp (Private)**
 - **D&L Food and Gas** (626 Larpenteur Ave): Gas Station license is up for renewal July 28. (Ward 5)
 - **Como Zoo & Conservatory** (1225 Estabrook Dr.): Liquor license is up for renewal July 28. (Ward 5)

UPCOMING EVENTS

- July 8, 5:30-8pm [Ice Cream Social](#)
- July 26, 6-9pm [Como Lake Clean-Up](#) (Tuesday)
- August 2, 9am-3pm [Como Blood Drive](#)
- August 13, 9am-1pm [Donate Good Stuff Eco-Fair](#)
- More upcoming events at district10comopark.org/Events

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- July 12, 7pm - Environment Committee
- July 19, 7pm - D10 Board Meeting
- August Meetings TBD

Zoom Meeting Link (Recurring)

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81656456655?pwd=NERqazkOdUsxbndRNm9INHVS0HIBQT09>

Meeting ID: 816 5645 6655

Passcode: 1234567

One tap mobile: +13017158592,,81656456655#,,,*1234567#

Call in to meeting: +1 312 626 6799

Environment Committee 07/22

July 12 2022 / 7:00 PM / [Zoom Link](#) - (Call-in info below)

Attendance:

Benjamin Kowalsky-Grahek (Chair), Jeremy Rappaport (Committee Member), Gordon Wrobel (community member) Shevek McKee (Executive Director) Dan Edgerton, Jennifer Victor Larsen, Mike Ireland

Gavel in 7:05 PM

AGENDA

- Land Acknowledgement
- Welcome and Introductions ([Digital Sign-In Sheet](#))
- Adopt the Agenda (5-0)

COMMUNITY SECTION

Community participants can bring topics & concerns

OLD BUSINESS

- **June 18 Churchill Rain Gardens Maintenance Event** Feedback/Debrief
 - Alex McClain was there. Very successful event. Served as a passing of the torch. Sandra Peterson retiring. Bonnie Younquist and Joan Hyman and Allion Goetzman are interested in forming a leadership team 80.25 volunteer hours. Going to continue to track hours. Hydrant water meters hooked up.
- **June 28, 6pm - Como Lake Clean-Up -**
 - **Alex, JVL, Gordon, Mike Ireland were there. Watershed district came. First weeknight. 15 people came. 5 coordinators from capitol watershed**
 - **Logo Items (Banner? Tablecloth?) with Watershed and D10 logo on it to cover up the bench**
 - **QR Codes on the Cleanup Signs (10 around the lake) QR code that links to the signup**
 - **Need data entry typing names and emails into a spreadsheet.**
 - **Grody: consider that there was a big event the next weekend. Would be a good idea to schedule a cleanup AFTER the big events.**
 - **Consider a “pop-up” after 4th of July weekend**
 - **Shevek: Is there a tool list for the como Cleanup? When do we take an inventory?**
 - **Mike: Should have an inventory spreadsheet to make sure we get all items back**
- **July 26, 6pm - Como Lake Clean-Up**
 - Needs a scale for weighing debris (Mike Ireland to provide)
 - Have leftover snacks (bring granola bars/water)

- Dan offered to buy more supplies, Mike usually makes the determination after seeing how many people are going to attend.
- Mike and Dan to connect offline for an onboarding
- Dan volunteered to do the data entry (will send Dan the pdf tonight)
- Gordon: brought up the cleaning materials. Need to check on the state of the soap and hand sanitizer dispensers. Maybe need more white gloves?
- **Other Upcoming Clean-up Dates**
 - August?
 - October
 - Shevek says it is scheduled for the 8th
 - Benjamin Kowalsky-Grahek has volunteered to lead
- **Eco Fair (Aug 13) (Jennifer VL)**
 - Saturday August 13th. Donate Good Stuff is hosting a 5K in the morning. 7:30 fundraiser. Have been partnering with D12 and D10. Inspired by D12 st anthony park transition town emergence festival.
 - At the Picnic Pavilions down the hill from the frog pond by the ball fields
 - Focused on environment/sustainability.
 - Bridging will be doing donation collection.
 - Minnesota Tool Library
 - Environmental Organizations
 - Will need volunteers/creative volunteers
 - Need volunteers for booths
 - Photo Booth area (branded stuff)
 - Logistics (ushers?)
 - Hydration Station
 - Table for D10 Environment Committee
 - BKG volunteers to chair the table
 - Volunteer Calendar

NEW BUSINESS

- **Como Community Garden Processes - [Action Item Draft](#)**
 - **Introduced: BKG**
 - **Second: Mike Ireland**
 - **Passed 6-0**
- **Environment Committee Meeting Schedule**

UPDATES

- **Lawns to Legumes**

UPCOMING EVENTS

- July 26, 6-9pm [Como Lake Clean-Up](#) (Tuesday)
- August 2, 9am-3pm [Como Blood Drive](#)
- August 13, 9am-1pm [Donate Good Stuff Eco-Fair](#)
- More upcoming events at district10comopark.org/Events

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- July 19, 7pm - D10 Board Meeting
- August 3, 6pm - Environment Committee
- August 3, 7:15pm - Neighborhood Relations Committee
- August 16, 6pm - Land Use Meeting
- August 16, 7:15pm - D10 Board Meeting

Zoom Meeting Link (Recurring)

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81656456655?pwd=NERqazkOdUsxbndRNm9INHVSQHIBQT09>

Meeting ID: 816 5645 6655

Passcode: 1234567

One tap mobile: +13017158592,,81656456655#,,,,*1234567#

Call in to meeting: +1 312 626 6799

Action Items

Action Item

DATE:

July 1, 2022

FROM:

Jenne Nelson, Board Chair

ITEM:

BIPOC Board Training Stipend

ACTION REQUESTED:

Moved: The District 10 Como Community Council will approve up to three \$50 Visa gift cards to use as stipends for up to three Como residents to attend the Neighborhood Board Representation Leadership Training for Black, Indigenous and People of Color on July 14th, 2022.

BACKGROUND/RATIONALE:

The Como Community Council seeks to intentionally welcome BIPOC community members to engage with the board. In our 2022 budget, we created a line item for equity, to be used for initiatives related to increasing equity in our organization, such as trainings or educational opportunities for community and board members. Information on the CURA training is below:

Thursday, July 14, 2022, 5:30pm - 8:30pm via Zoom

The U o M Center for Urban & Regional Affairs' (CURA) Neighborhood Organizing and Leadership program is looking for Black, Indigenous and People of Color who want to create change and fight injustice in their community through neighborhood board membership.

The Neighborhood Board Representation Leadership Training for Black, Indigenous and People of Color will be Thursday, July 14, 2022, 5:30pm - 8:30pm via Zoom virtual meeting.

CURA believes neighborhood residents are the most powerful force against injustice in their community. The Neighborhood Board Representation Leadership Training for Black, Indigenous and People of Color values recruiting and supporting people to join their local neighborhood board to create change in their community and to transform the injustice of not having diverse voices and leadership in neighborhood groups. The program creates learning sessions and a support network for Black, Indigenous and People of Color to join their local neighborhood board and use their power to make their vision for their community a reality through organizing.

Who is this for?

The training is open to Black, Indigenous and People of Color who want to join their neighborhood board and create local change so they are prepared to run at their neighborhood association or district council annual meeting elections, or want to inquire about board vacancies in their community.

Providing a stipend to participants recognizes the value of their time.

IMPLEMENTATION:

Shevek McKee, District 10 Como Community Council Executive Director, will purchase the gift cards using the organization's credit card and deliver the cards to Como residents who attend CURA's Neighborhood Board Representation Leadership Training for Black, Indigenous, and People of Color.

ISSUES UNRESOLVED OR YET TO BE DETERMINED:

N/A

Action Item

DATE:

July 13, 2022

FROM:

Officers

ITEM:

D10 Meeting Schedule Change

ACTION REQUESTED:

Moved, the Como Community Council will change its regular meeting schedule for a trial period through the end of 2022, then consider changes based on gathered feedback.

BACKGROUND/RATIONALE:

Combining our meeting dates means it'll be easier for community members to attend multiple meetings and be part of more discussions. We'll have more focused agendas, and we'll have greater flexibility to hold working meetings on specific projects.

The board will have more time to spend in the community and host community-building events. We'll be able to consistently offer hybrid meetings for community members to attend in person or via zoom. We'll also have increased capacity to hold special meetings for topics that need more time.

The D10 bylaws Article VIII Sec. 1 indicate that "the Board shall meet on the third Tuesday of each month", and in Article IX Sec. 8 that "Committees shall meet at the call of the committee chairperson or as set in advance by a vote of the committee. The time and place of committees meetings shall be publicized in the same manner as other notice."

IMPLEMENTATION:

Starting in August, the Environment Committee and the Neighborhood Relations Committee will meet on the first Wednesday of each month.

- Environment Committee
 - 6 to 7:15pm
- Neighborhood Relations Committee
 - 7:15 to 8:30pm

The Land Use Committee and D10 Board Meeting will meet on the third Tuesday of each month.

- Land Use Committee
 - 6 to 7:15pm
- D10 Board
 - 7:15 to 8:30pm

This change has been discussed in committees and has been announced at our Ice Cream Social and through D10 communications channels.

In December, we'll gather community and board feedback on the new meeting schedule.

We'll make any necessary adjustments to the schedule starting in January and announce those changes to the community via our newsletter.

ISSUES UNRESOLVED OR YET TO BE DETERMINED:

N/A

Action Item

DATE:

July 13, 2022

FROM:

Officers

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:** Benjamin Kowalsky-Grahek. **Members:** Jennifer Victor-Larsen, Alex McLane, Jeremy C. Rappaport
- **Land Use: Chair:** Maggie Zimmerman. **Members:** Chad Smith, Jill Henricksen, Mark Machacek, **KC Ahlberg**
- **Neighborhood Relations: Chair:** Sarah Reuter. **Members:** Morgan Weinert, Lizzy Cantley, Abby L. Gold

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 2023 annual meeting.

ISSUES UNRESOLVED OR YET TO BE DETERMINED:

Action Item

DATE:

July 5, 2022

FROM:

Neighborhood Relations Committee

ITEM:

Subdistrict 1 Event - Harvest Festival - September 10 @ Tilden Park

ACTION REQUESTED:

Moved, the Como Community Council will support and endorse an event at Tilden Park on Saturday, September 10.

BACKGROUND/RATIONALE:

The Neighborhood Relations Committee developed a plan to hold a community event in each sub-district of the neighborhood in 2022. We've done events at North Dale Rec (SD3), Orchard Rec (SD4), and the Streetcar Station (SD2). This will be the final event in the engagement plan in Subdistrict 1.

IMPLEMENTATION:

Staff and board members will work with partner organizations to plan and promote the event. The event will include live music, tabling, family activities, and an opportunity to connect with community members, promote D10 and engage in conversations.

We will continue to solidify partnership details. District 10 will use the budget set aside for this to provide family activities, food, administrative time, design flyers, and contact vendors.

Board members are encouraged to participate in planning and volunteering at these events. Committees are encouraged to bring their work into the planning process, have a representative at the D10 table, and provide information about their committee and plans for interested community members.

This event was included in the approved 2022 budget for the following

- Activities: \$200
- Prizes: \$100 (donations if possible)
- Flyers: \$75

ISSUES UNRESOLVED OR YET TO BE DETERMINED:

- Volunteer needs: we will likely need at least 10 volunteers from District 10 including those who are at the D10 table.

Action Item

DATE:

July 12, 2022

FROM:

Environment Committee

ITEM:

Community Garden Work Group

ACTION REQUESTED:

Moved, the Como Community Council creates a work group on the Como Community Garden that D10 sponsors. This group will report to the Environment Committee. It will be staffed as necessary by the Executive Director.

The work group will recommend to the Committee and to the Board proposals for effective internal processes on garden rules and implementation.

BACKGROUND/RATIONALE:

D10 has served as sponsor of the garden since 2015 or 2016. There is a garden rules document that is fairly thorough, but how D10 handles rules enforcement and makes decisions on how and when to act has never been clearly established internally.

IMPLEMENTATION:

Interested board and community members will find a time to meet in August to set goals and an agenda. Once initial priorities have been met the group could reduce meeting frequency to 'as necessary'.

ISSUES UNRESOLVED OR YET TO BE DETERMINED:

- A chair or facilitator for the group's activities.

Additional Information



District 10 Como Community Council

1224 Lexington Parkway North

Saint Paul, MN, 55103

651.644.3889

district10@district10comopark.org

www.district10comopark.org

July 5, 2022

To: Kurt Schultz, Office of Financial Services

From: Shevek McKee, Executive Director

D10 Como Community Council Mid-Year Report

D10 has published a newsletter every week so far in 2022 (27), which include all class N license renewal notifications, many city engagement and event opportunities, as well as neighborhood notices and community events. Our newsletter has grown to over 1850 subscribers with over 1100 opens each week. Newsletters continue to be archived on the D10 website.

Our board and standing committees continue to meet monthly with remote access through Zoom. We had 402 total attendance at 35 meetings from January through June. We've held at least 15 additional meetings to plan our community events and our Lawns to Legumes project. In May, D10 purchased hybrid meeting technology to facilitate remote access while allowing us to return to in-person meetings. We've held several hybrid meetings, mostly inviting board members only for testing, and continue to work out logistics and volunteer training needs to help make the transition sustainable. Our meeting minutes continue to be available in a timely manner on our website.

In 2022, our Land Use committee has submitted 5 letters of support or comment to the city (addressing Orchard Variance, Redistricting feedback, Chelsea Heights Pedestrian Improvement Project support, Abogados STAR Grant, and Como B&B STAR Grant) and partnered with St. Paul PED and neighboring districts to host an engagement event in February about the 1-4 Housing Study Phase II, in addition to numerous localized community conversations on other topics (issues at Ted's Rec Bar, State Fair Safety, etc).

D10 has held 20 events in the first half of 2022 with a total attendance of over 800, and we're in the process of planning several more events, including our Ice Cream Social on July 8, which drew over 600 people last year. Past events include a winter clothing donation drive, a virtual return to our Sunday Series speaker events (5), 2 Community Blood Drives, Community Garage Sale, 3 Como Clean-Up events, 3 Lawns to Legumes Pollinator events, a Como Tree Trek, a Community Gardening event at Churchill Rain Gardens, 2 new community events (at North Dale Rec and Orchard Rec), and our 2nd annual Como Homo Hangout LGBTQ+ event!

Our plan to hold a community event in each of our 4 sub-districts has been moving forward, with two events under our belt so far. Darcy Rivers and the staff at North Dale Rec were wonderful partners for our April event, and we're hoping to continue building relationships with Blackhawk Soccer to do more events at Orchard Rec Center. We've been flyering the specific sub-district before each event, using maps that prioritize flyering at our rental buildings to engage with more renters who have been historically underrepresented in our work.

We've also continued to support and advance a number of ongoing community projects: Know Your Como community writer series (6 stories in 2022), Neighborhood History Project (we've begun recording oral histories in partnership w/ St. Kates), Community Garden (29 Gardeners in 25 plots), Lawns to Legumes (D10 has been awarded a grant to coordinate installation of up to 5 boulevard gardens, 4 bee lawns, a community pollinator garden, and a pocket prairie), Como Park Stewards, and the Como Neighborhood Honor Roll. We also continue to support the Ramsey County Food Scraps Organics Recycling program and 24/7 Beulah Lane facility.

So far in 2022, D10 has worked with the following partners (any omissions are not intentional): St. Paul Parks and Rec, North Dale Booster Club, Midway Garden Club, Churchill Garden Stewards, Front Hi-Rise, Lyngblomsten, American Red Cross, Como By The Lake, North Suburban Kiwanis, St. Catherine University, Como Seed Library, Capitol Region Watershed District, Como Woodland Outdoor Classroom, Twin Cities German Immersion School, Como Friends, Como Zoo and Conservatory, Ramsey County, and Blackhawk Soccer Club.

D10 has continued to have a 2-person staff: Executive Director Shevek McKee who works 35 hrs/wk and Community Organizer Jessica Willman who splits her time with D12 St. Anthony Park (10 hrs/wk at D10). Shevek has attended 10 EDCO inter-District Council staff meetings in 2022, including monthly, steering committee, and the new-in 2022 "City" meetings. From January to May, we also had two part time interns from Great River School.

In April we held a mostly remote annual meeting and election. We created an "annual report" document that our board members read at our April board meeting. Our election had 8 candidates for 7 seats and with votes cast by 73 people. We filled our new Renter board seat but our Senior (62+) seat remains vacant. Jenne Nelson, who had been serving as board secretary, was appointed to the board chair role, while the other three officer positions were filled by mid-term board members. Subsequently, we had one board member depart for personal commitment reasons. A community member applied for the seat and was appointed at our June board meeting. 16 of our 17 board seats are currently filled.

Thanks,

Shevek McKee
Executive Director
District 10 Como Community Council