

Minutes

Tuesday, July 19, 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 – Called to order at 7:04pm** (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)** ([Digital Sign-In Sheet](#) - [Sub-district Map](#)) - **7:00-7:05**

Board Members Present:

(Via Zoom) Ben Kowalsky-Grahek, Mark Machacek, Jennifer Victor-Larsen, Jill Henricksen, KC Ahlberg, Maggie Zimmerman, Sarah Reuter, Chad Smith
(In Person) Jenne Nelson, Dan Edgerton, Lizzy Cantley,

Community Members Present: (In Person) Chad Hermes

Staff Members Present: (In Person) Shevek McKee, (Via Zoom) Jessica Willman

IV. Community

A. **Community Input (open floor)**

Community participants welcome to bring topics to discuss

None

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
- June/July Board and Committee Minutes
- May/June 2022 Financials (Discussions Quarterly)
- (Non-Financial Action Items from Committees):
 - [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](#) (Neighborhood Rel. Committee)
 - [Community Garden Work Group](#) (Environment Committee)

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda by Jenne Nelson. **Seconded** by Dan Edgerton. **Motion passes.**

B. Information

■ Volunteer Opportunities

- July 26, 6-9pm [Como Lake Clean-Up](#) (Tuesday)
- August 2, 9am-3pm [Como Blood Drive](#) (Check-In Table Noon-3pm)
- August 13, 9am-1pm [Donate Good Stuff Eco-Fair](#) (Shifts on Calendar)

Discussion: Dan Edgerton and Mike Ireland will be working the upcoming lake clean-up. Dan encouraged board members to volunteer with set-up or clean-up. Shevek plugged the upcoming blood drive on August 2 and noted there were still openings to donate blood. Jennifer Victor-Larsen discussed Eco-Fair volunteer opportunities. More info on the Eco-Fair will be in subsequent weekly newsletters.

■ Staff Report (Shevek McKee, Executive Director)

- Hybrid Tech training opportunities at 5:30pm Aug. 3 & 16.
- [Mid-Year Report](#)
- [Board Job Board](#)

Discussion: Shevek reminded us that our new schedule starts in August and encouraged members to take advantage of the hybrid tech training opportunities. Shevek completed this year's mid-year report, highlighting our accomplishments and community engagement. The Job Board lists many openings – please volunteer! This continues to be an excellent resource for board members to get involved.

C. Discussion

■ Engagement Plan Update (Jessica Willman, D10 Community Organizer)

Discussion: Jessica presented an update on D10's community engagement efforts. The board aimed to create a calendar of events, create more events in all 4 sub districts, increase flyering, build more relationships with renters and businesses, and build connections between the board's committees. We have made excellent progress toward these goals. The organizational aspects of the board are on a strong upward trend, and we're already looking forward to 2023.

D. New Business/Closing

■ Hamline Midway Library

Discussion: Jenne Nelson provided background on the potential replacement of the Hamline Midway Library. The city plans to tear down the building and rebuild with modernization and accessibility in mind. However, some neighbors have nominated it to be added to the National Register to keep the current building and retrofit instead of rebuild. Anyone with input was encouraged to submit testimony prior to the August 1 Heritage Preservation Committee meeting.

■ State Fair Neighbor Safety Initiative

Discussion: Jennifer Victor-Larsen provided an update on efforts of State Fair neighbors to improve community safety during the fair. Connections have been and continue to be made with relevant authorities and more neighbors. Visibility and presence during the fair will be key, with the idea of neighbors being visible ambassadors of sorts, offering assistance at peak hours.

VI. Adjourn – Adjourned at 8:19pm

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

- 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](#)
- September 10, 3-5pm [Tilden Harvest Festival](#) (sd1 Event)
- September 17, 8am-1pm [Citywide Drop-Off @ Fairgrounds](#)
- More upcoming events at district10comopark.org/Events .

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- 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

D10 Como Community Council - Notes

Officer Meeting 08/'22

August 10 2022 / 7:00 PM / Zoom

Attendance:

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

NEW BUSINESS

- **Board Meeting (August 16 - [Draft Agenda](#))**
 - **Guest:** City DC Coordinator Cat Beltmann 2022 Work Plan Update
 - Action Items
 - [2022 Curb Cleanup](#) (Env)
 - Discussion Topic - 2023 Engagement Wishlist
- **Ideas for future discussion topics/guests?**
 - SEPT. - Fundraising/Grant Goals
 - Spring giving campaign?
 - Jenne hoping to connect w/ committees/leadership to solicit additional discussion topics
- **Great River School Interns - Project ideas?**
 - Oct through around May
 - Looking for a relatively large background project to always “fallback on” throughout the internship
 - We have some ideas but are open to what we’re missing.
 - Inventory clean-up supplies
 - Or all office supplies
 - Come up with check-out system
 - Finding local BIPOC owned businesses for our regular purchases?
 - Flesh out D10 Business Database
 - Volunteer recognition/Asset mapping
 - Thank you cards
- **Sharing Neighbor State Fair group safety ideas? (Jenne)**
 - Information from the neighbors group is up on the website
- **[Preliminary 2023 goals/scheduling/budgeting](#)**
 - Community Events?
 - Sunday Series
 - 4x Subdistrict events year 2 (incl. Ice Cream Social)
 - 3-5 lake cleanups
 - 2x Tree Trek
 - Garage Sale
 - Citywide Dropoff
 - Blood Drives
 - Yoga?
 - D10 Open Houses?
 - Renter cookouts?
 - Increased engagement?
 - Renters - HomeLine VISTA?
 - Board/Community Training?
 - Fundraising/Grant goals?
 - What else?
 - Capacity questions, what can we add, can new things be part of expanded sub-district events?
 - How is 2022 going, capacity wise? Are we taking on too much? Is the load being shared adequately?

OL' BUSINESS

- **Meeting Schedule Change**- how's it going so far?
 - NRC meeting was canceled (most regular attendees were out of town)
 - Env. meeting at 11 attendees, only Shevek at the Streetcar Station

UPDATES

- **Financials**
 - Starting to spend Lawns to Legumes Money
 - Sacred Spaces Gardens selected to install gardens, have already invoiced for Orchard Rec installation, 1 boulevard has been planted so far as well.
 - Got our May/June reimbursement, 3-week turnaround
 - Some other districts have been having more issues than we have
- **D10 Google Drive Overview**
 - Quicklinks:
 - [D10 Como Park](#) (*Root Folder - Restricted access links*)
 - [D10 Meetings](#)
 - [D10 Initiatives](#)
 - [D10 Organizational](#)
 - Shevek and Jessica both using this filing system for all new files
 - Some archived materials from office have been transferred to gDrive as well
 - Permissions can be altered as board changes, officers have full access, committee chairs have access to committee and initiative files, others have been given increased access as needed, much of it has full public "view" access as well.
- **CIB Update** - [Final Recommendation](#) sent to Mayor
 - Como Lake Paths Safety project among the projects recommended.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Sept. 10, 3-5pm [Tilden Harvest Festival](#) (sd1 Event)
- Sept. 17, 8am-1pm [Citywide Dropoff @ Fairgrounds](#)
- Oct. 1, 10am-Noon [Fall Como Tree Trek](#)
- Oct. 8, 9am-Noon [Lake Como Cleanup](#) (Saturday)
- More upcoming events at district10comopark.org/Events

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- August 16, 7:15pm - D10 Board Meeting
- Sept. 7, 6pm - Environment Committee
- Sept. 7, 7:15pm - Neighborhood Relations Committee
- Sept. 14, 7pm - Officer Meeting
- Sept. 20, 6pm - Land Use Meeting
- Sept. 20, 7:15pm - D10 Board Meeting

Committees

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES 03 AUGUST, 2022

ATTENDING:

Via Zoom:

Benjamin Kowalsky-Grahek Environment Committee Chair

Jessica Williams Community Organizer

Alex McLane Environment Committee Member

Jennifer Victor-Larsen Environment Committee Member

Jeremy Rappaport Environment Committee Member

Jacob and Claire – Community Members

Mike Ireland – District 10 Member Emeritus

Jon H - Community Member

Mike McDonald - Community Member

At Streetcar Station:

Shevek McKee Executive Director

Call to Order 6:05 PM

Land Acknowledgement

Welcome and Introductions (Digital Sign-In Sheet – Sub-district Map)

Adopt the Agenda

Passed unanimously

COMMUNITY SECTION

Jacob and Claire shared a link showing a plot of land. Triangular. Right in front of their house. 1/16th of an acre. Telephone storage? Grass grew to 2 or 2 ½ feet long. Plot is right across from Como on the Lake north of the train tracks near intersection of Como Ave, Como Pl and Nagasaki. Property listed as belonging to City of St Paul.

CRWD funds may be needed. Lawns to Legumes project? Jessica Williams: Grant will be in the demonstration neighborhood for now (which does not currently include this plot). Can reapply for a 2nd year. Stinson Park also applied for a garden. Phase 2 Lawns to legumes.

OLD BUSINESS

June 26, 6pm – Lake Como Cleanup – Feedback/Debrief

21 people came.

Rain held off.

70 lbs of trash pulled from the lake.

150 - 200 lbs total

Other Upcoming Cleanup Dates

August cleanup is not happening

October – Ben KG Lead

Ben KG promised bagels and cream cheeses.

Eco Fair (Aug 13) (Jennifer VL)

Activity: trash scavenger hunt. Bring tools. Complete a bingo sheet? Funded by Environment Committee. Gutter cleanup. Gutter adoption. Tree Trek. Have an interactive activity around.

Jeremy thought about a “fishing expedition”. Drop behind a partition. Put different types of trash to pull up garbage and figure out what to do with it.

Simulated Como Lake Cleanup Find “things in the lake” and put them in

Trash/Recycle/Compost. Leaderboard

Simulated Lake. Clothespins. Simulated Lake. Mike Ireland to commission this project and put it together. Will staff the game. Ben will take the table.

Fruit or food as prizes?

Need to record volunteer hours for Parks & Rec (waiver)

Sign in sheet for the newsletter

Jessica wants new ideas for doing things zero-waste.

JVL needs help with sign assembly.

Need someone creative to help with the 5K. Also needs help with photobooth. Need help to setup and staff the snack table. Biggest need is for unloading/loading help. Exhibitors being

arriving at 8am. Need 4 people for one hour. Saturday morning. Also need help with 5K

registration and timing. And then loading at the end of the event. BJK and Mike Ireland agreed to show up early to help.

NEW BUSINESS

Tree Trek – October 1 – 10am-Noon

Volunteer Opportunity: QR Stickers

Jeremy Rappaport to Volunteer

2022 Curb Cleanup (Action Item)

Motion Passed 6 aye 2 abstain

UPDATES

Lawns to Legumes

By end of August we will have 9 more installations in. Going very well. Over half applicants were from underrepresented groups.

Fairgrounds Citywide Drop-Off – Sept. 17, 8am-1pm ([Volunteer Sign-Up](#))

Mike Ireland and Shevek McKee updated on Citywide Drop off and repeated call for volunteers

Meeting adjourned 7:05 PM

Action Items

Action Item

DATE: August 3, 2022

FROM: Environment committee

ITEM: 2022 Como Curb Cleanup

ACTION REQUESTED:

The Como Community Council will support and endorse the Environment committee's partnership with the Capitol Region Watershed District (CRWD) on the 2022 Como Curb Cleanup.

BACKGROUND/RATIONALE:

In 2009 Janna Caywood formed the Como Active Citizen Network to improve Como Lake's water quality. The CACN initiated and has led the annual Como Curb Cleanup. The goal was to create a culture of curb cleaning by inviting neighbors to demonstrate the practice of weekly removal of leaf litter that accumulates in street gutters that border their property. This was done throughout leaf drop season (approximately October through November). Last year Janna stepped back and D10 took on communication and logistic responsibilities.

The curb cleanup is included in D10's 2022 CRWD Como Lake Cleanup Events grant and there is a stipend for coordinators and reimbursement for staff hours, as well as purchase of necessary supplies related to the cleanups.

IMPLEMENTATION:

- D10 staff creates a sign-up sheet and email invitation to participants from previous years.
- The Como Community Council promotes the curb cleanup with articles in the weekly newsletter, Facebook page and on the website as done in previous years.
- When the season ends, participants would be asked to submit the number of times they cleared their curb and the approximate number of feet. A calculation will determine the amount of phosphorus prevented from leaching into the Como Lake and the Mississippi River.

Staff/coordinator hours, and any necessary purchases related to the curb cleanup will be tracked for reporting in our annual CRWD cleanup grant.

ISSUES UNRESOLVED OR YET TO BE DETERMINED:

Details on the implementation.