

## NEPNA Meeting Minutes

9.13.2017

**Yellow** = highlighted points

**Green** = action items

### 1. Q & A with Yinghua Academy

- a. Joe Scartozzi recently moved from part time to full time and will be our point of contact for Yinghua.
- b. Joe is currently directing traffic around school ensuring that parents take the correct route and trying to ensure the impact the neighborhood is lessened.
- c. All of his contact information is available on their website  
[joe.scartozzi@yinghuaacademy.org](mailto:joe.scartozzi@yinghuaacademy.org)

### 2. Jamie Nelner and Jerry Peterson presented on the construction status of the recreation center and programming plans for the upcoming year.

- a. Construction is on target. The plumbing and electrical work were installed last week. The city hopes to have staff there in mid-November to order supplies, furniture etc.
- b. They discussed that the rec center should be open in the first quarter of 2018, hopefully January. With bare bones programming starting. They hope to create programming that meets community needs and would like input of the neighborhood to understand what is needed in our area ie: preschool, walking groups, senior activities, arts and music or teen programming. Jerry and Jamie discussed coming to our November meeting to hear from the neighborhood.

i. Laurie will send the invitation once the details of the annual meeting are set.

ii. They stated it may be a good idea to bring Dana, who knows more about the park and building construction as well

c. They hope to have full time staff on site with hours that are typical of city recreation centers (3 to 9 PM during the week and Saturday hours, noon to nine during the summer).

d. They stated that NENPA shouldn't pay for space to hold meetings at the rec center because we are in partnership with the City to better the community.

e. The city is pursuing lead certification for solar power, sustainability and environmentally friendly options. Center will have solar panels.

### 3. Concerns about the park:

a. Park being moved away from Yinghua and may be taken out prior to new park being built

i. Joe Scartozzi discussed Yinghua's concerns with the City removing the park as the children at the school really benefit having the park available.

ii. Jerry and Jamie advised that the old park will not be replaced prior to the new park being built. At this point, it is slated to be built in 2019 as there was not enough funding to complete the entire project this year.

- iii. Laurie discussed the neighborhood concerns that the park is not currently available to the neighborhood during recesses even though it is a neighborhood park, not a school park.
  - b. Concerns about parking were also discussed. Robin and Shonda asked if there would be more parking created for the rec center as they already find that parking around their house is limited with all the park activity
    - i. Jamie stated that the water park parking lot will be accessible.
    - ii. Jamie and Jerry took notes about the neighbor concerns and Jerry will provide more information to Laurie about the parking
    - iii. The neighbors thought maybe part of the mini-golf course could be used for parking if the mini-golf is removed. They were not sure what the plan is for mini-golf right now.
    - iv. Some of this space may be used for a skateboard park. The skateboarding community is working to fundraise.
- 4. Jerry and Jamie took concerns about construction workers cursing and yelling at the beginning of the project. The neighbors reported no current concerns.
- 5. The city promised the pathways through the park will be complete by the end of the month.

6. Max and John from Master's Property presented on the new construction to replace the daycare on Central Ave.

a. Max and John discussed they specialize in urban development with a focus on community needs. They want to bring "transformative things" to communities. They have a history of completing "difficult" projects.

b. The owner of the daycare came to Master's Property to work on the project.

c. Max and John provided rough sketch on what the project will be and asked for input from the neighborhood

i. It will be a daycare center, coffee shop, restaurant and 78 'market rate' rental units with one parking space per unit. The units will rent from about \$1000 for a studio to \$1500 for a two bedroom.

ii. Construction will start spring 2018 and was approved by the city.

iii. Master's Property also met with City Council Member, Kevin Reich, who supported this project stating that there is not enough new development in NEP and it will be a good amenity to the neighborhood

d. Pat raised concerns about the current condition of the property due to the overgrown vegetation and trash. They advised this should not be an issue with the new building as property management will be on site to retain upkeep.

e. Many neighbors raised concerns about the traffic and parking.

i. Masters Property reported that they completed a traffic study and that this building will add 7 to 15 cars on to Central per hour.

ii. Also, the median ratio for car ownership for their properties is .8 so they think there should be enough parking to not impact the neighborhood.

Most of the neighbors disagreed.

f. The neighbors also shared concerns about the cost of the rentals and the landscaping plans. Laurie suggested grass may be a better option to ensure easy maintenance. Katie also shared a reminder of the type of community NEP is and to remember that NE supports local business and sustainability.

#### 7. 18<sup>th</sup> Ave. Construction update

a. Katie provided update from City email digest and from Karina's email from the project manager

(City site: <http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/cip/2017/WCMS1P-147114> )

i. They are wrapping up most of the underground work this week.

1. New storm sewer completed
2. Minneapolis water is finishing their work on 18<sup>th</sup> and Lincoln
3. CenterPoint Energy completed removal of old storm drain
4. Electrical crews started installing foundations and conduit for signals on Monroe and Johnson

ii. With underground work completed, they will be able to complete road construction.

1. The contractor needs to prepare area from about Johnson to Fillmore for gravel

2. Concrete work could start on Monroe at the end of this week or early next week

iii. Karina asked if there were neighborhood questions to bring to the project manager

1. Pat asked if there was a traffic study completed prior to construction.

2. He also asked if the sidewalks will remain if they are adding a walking path to the road.

8. Annual meeting

- a. The Board agreed that the meeting should be held on November 14<sup>th</sup> at Sociable Ciderwerks as they agreed to host the meeting and provide beverages.

- b. Katie asked for neighbors to help plan the meeting. Please contact her at [kjkottenbrock@gmail.com](mailto:kjkottenbrock@gmail.com) if you are interested in participating.

9. Laurie handed out survey results from robust community engagement process and encouraged neighbors to complete the survey if they have not already.

10. The neighbors agreed that the Board should reach out to Park Board candidates and City Council candidates for the next meeting. Katie will reach out to them.

11. There were no additional comments and the meeting was adjourned.