

# NEPNA Monthly Meeting Minutes

03/10/2022

## Attendance:

Katie Kottenbrock

Sean French

Amanda Temple

Laurie Andersen

September Luitiens

Ravyn Gibbs

Nicolle Toth

David Grider

## Adopt-a-drain: Lane from the City of Minneapolis

Grassroots program that started in 2016 where you get a yard sign if you sign up and work to make the water cleaner and help the environment. Everything that goes into the drains goes directly into the Mississippi River untreated. This programs helps to remove the phosphorus from the water bodies which is really harmful to water and wildlife.

They have been advertising through door hangers but most of the residents had not received them.

They also provide a stenciling program where they provide all the equipment to stencil which mark them as adopted drains. All you need to provide is how many people are in your group and how many drains you stenciled.

COVID really made the work challenging but they saw a large uptick last year and 66 people signed up in NE Minneapolis and 9 neighborhood associations joined.

Neighbors talked about joining the adopt-a-drain program next spring and better promoting the tree trust program.

**Board approved January and February meeting minutes unanimously with no changes.**

## Community Participation plan:

Katie went over the CPP application and neighbors provided feedback on how to improve the application.

**Board approved CPP application unanimously.**

**Solar gardens:**

NEPNA met with LPNA, BNC, and Minneapolis Climate Action about a community solar garden that will be like an energy coop. NEPNA will write a letter of support to work with MCA to apply for the Partnership Engagement Fund through the City.

We have a meeting on Monday and anyone is welcome to join.

**Equitable Engagement Plan:**

Luna discussed how we reached out to the City about partnering with Minneapolis Climate Action and including this work in the EEF plan to directly target renters and people living below the poverty line. Luna discussed ideas about connecting further environmentally sustainable ideas such as energy audits and LED lights to neighbors.

Still need to do a survey to find out what target demographics need in order to move forward with EEF. Need to get work going b/c we're late already.

Katie brought up the idea of planning an event that focuses on EEF target groups with environment work that connects with the community solar garden.

**Open space for community comment:**

Mandy advertised virtual training from Augsburg focused on equity engagement work. The Forum on Workplace Inclusion which is a national event. Reach out to Mandy if you're interested.

Nicolle brought up that she was asked to register for NNO. Neighbors agreed that we should

September brought up the idea of partnering with NE Park Rec Center and doing an event with NE/SE soccer or another event that there are already people out in the park. Nicolle thought doing sports skill training from neighbors who have skills to share for free. September thought a spring social or Earth Day social. Laurie offered to reach out to Heidi at the Parks to ask for events and options to partner.

Katie asked that the secretary, Nicolle, will send out Doodle to schedule an Earth Day planning committee meeting.

September brought up concerns about Rec Center not being available to youth in the community and the need for more open gym time. Mandy thought it would be good to escalate to the City Councilor and to the Park Rep. Laurie will talk with Heidi about open gym times.

David asked if there were funds available through the CCE home grant program. Katie explained the program and offered to send program information via email.