

NEPNA Meeting Minutes

11/10/22

Attendance:

1. Sean French
2. Katie Kottenbrock
3. September Luitjens
4. Cedric Weatherspoon
5. Karen Grivna
6. Ravyn Gibbs
7. Kiren Gribna
8. Garret Bembenek
9. Scott Kick - GM lighthouse art space
10. Rob Ralph
11. Lydia Murphy-Ralph
12. Erica Myers - NE neighborhood support specialist
13. Luna McIntyre
14. John Andersen
15. Laurie Andersen
16. Jill Whitney
17. Erin McFerson

Board Diversity Survey:

Ayrca Myers - board representation survey every 2 years, 70 neighborhood boards, to see how we are doing with engaging our city. Anonymous survey about diversity given to board members, report will be published on their website.

Presentation from Lighthouse Immersion Arts:

Scott Kick - GM lighthouse art space. Canadian and Italian artists started during covid. Immersive, interactive, art experiences. Lease art space. Current partnership with Netflix for a Bridgerton show. Spoke to the parking issue. Next show in a Disney immersive 500,000 square feet of space. 236,000 guests. Trying to be a good neighbor. Scott is happy to address any issues or questions that we may have. Smart by lighthouse website. Figured out a new parking plan to address previous issues that were impacting the neighborhood. Would like to work to address any issues that come up. 300 people per Bridgerton show. 3/23 opening date for the Disney experience.

Rapid transit line presentation will be scheduled for next month.

Johnson Intersection Near Quarry Project

Luke Hanson & (Chris Kartheiser from City of Minneapolis - Intersection improvements, safety improvements. Intersection next to the quarry and freeway. Still in the design stages. Looking at updating the signal, turn sharpness. Metro Transit usability and safety.

18th ave trail on the action plan.

They will be updating us on progress as the plan progresses.

Hill to the west of the intersection may have hazardous materials underneath it from the quarry.

Looking at nearby connections as possibly in scope or for future projects or as possibly in scope.

Shared resource fund - talk about the merger.

Katie provided an overview of overall work and the landscape moving forward. Over the last few years NEPNA focused on creating robust spending plans, now we have to look into other options and look at new ways to continue our work. Had 5 presentations to discuss forming this new combined organization. 10k neighborhood network funds to cover various costs. (Possibly 15k depending on the city). Recommendation to move forward with the 4 corners collaboration.

Could we apply for additional funds that we aren't currently, public safety possible, youth programming, etc. - With the collaboration we can hire a full-time staffer to apply for grants related to these programs. We should look into other funding opportunities. Need volunteers to table and door knock to qualify for the Equitable Engagement fund. We are not currently fulfilling our current city funding obligations. Currently our chairs do the majority of the work as far as organization and paperwork. Merging could give capacity for county level grants.

We are the smallest neighborhood in the city. Our neighborhood merger application was the best submitted!

Merger should help with the committee work that we have tried to do.

Possible downside is that not every neighborhood will choose to merge, we would then have to reevaluate. Other groups could cause some different concerns, group dynamics, or other issues.

Will know in February what the decisions of the other neighborhoods will be before we move forward.

Luna motions, September 2nd. To pursue/move forward with the merger, motion passed unanimously.

Discussion about the future of NEPNA - fundings, neighborhood collaboration, barriers with projects. How we can get more funding from our county commissioner.

December Meeting:

Dec meeting will be on zoom. Two more presenters at the next meeting, Youngblood site developers, and CTUL informing about the issues they have had with this developer? Rapid transit line will be in January.

Adjourned at 8:11 PM