

South Uptown Neighborhood Association
April 21, 2020 Minutes

Attending: Jerome Chateau, Blue Delliquanti, Max Ellis, Jordan Gaal, Justin Gardiner, John Kostouros, Brad Klein

Absent: Sophie Snow

Call to Order & Introductions

- * The meeting was held using Zoom due to COVID19, and it was called to order at 7:04PM.
- * Board Members and attendees introduced themselves.

Agenda & Minutes

- * Motion, seconded to approve the proposed agenda and March 17 meeting minutes.
Approved.

Bryant Square Park, Jason Green

- Green reported that the park building and restrooms will remain closed for the foreseeable future. Most park programming is cancelled through the summer, but there may be a way to host day care this summer using social distancing techniques.
- More information is available at (612) 370-4907 or minneapolisparcs.org.

City Council Report, Council President Lisa Bender

- Bender discussed significant challenges facing Minneapolis in the coming weeks and months due to COVID19. The City's budget will be severely affected due to loss of sales and property tax revenue, all when demand for services will skyrocket. The Mayor and City Council recently approved \$3 million for emergency assistance, but that is expected to go quickly.
- There have been increases in the number of homeless camps throughout the City and how to keep people safe. The Governor's order restricts how cities can deal with such encampments.
- Most infections in Minneapolis and Hennepin County have been seen in congregate housing facilities. So far, it appears that COVID19 is not disproportionately affecting people of color in MN as has been seen in other states. However, testing remains very low to date.
- Minneapolis Public Schools is moving forward with plans to redesign district attendance boundaries in the coming month. Many South Uptown and 10th Ward parents have expressed concern about the process and proposal to change school pathways.

South Uptown Board Vacancy

- There is a vacant Board seat created when Cameron Delaney moved out of the neighborhood. Dylan McMahon submitted a Board application to fill the seat. Motion seconded to appoint McMahon to fill the Board vacancy. Approved.
- Gaal announced that he will be moving out of the neighborhood in late May. This means there is another vacancy opening up. Thanks Jordan for all your work over the last year!

Land Use & Transportation Committee, Scott Engel

- 3501 Hennepin Project: Engel reported that Minneapolis is once again accepting land use applications following a temporary moratorium in March. Lander Group has resubmitted their application for 3501 Hennepin, but it isn't clear whether it has been deemed complete. We will know soon whether it will go to the Planning Commission for review on either May 11 or June 1.
- Bryant Ave Reconstruction: Public Works has scheduled an online open house for May 12 at 7PM to describe the scope of the project. They will also present during the next South Uptown Neighborhood Meeting on May 19.
- An architect from BKV recently contacted South Uptown about a possible missed-use development along Lake St. in the neighborhood. No more details are available right now, but it may move forward in the coming weeks.

Neighborhood Revitalization Committee, Scott Engel

- Last month, Engel noted the intention to consider an NRP Plan Modification with the goal of streamlining the loan programs and making more funds available. The NR Committee is proposing a minor language change to NRP plan Strategy #3.3 Garage Improvement Loans. It would read "Engage South Uptown property owners to make improvements to garages" + "and other home improvements." Motion, seconded to approve the NRP Plan Modification as proposed. Approved.
- The comment period for the City's proposed "Neighborhoods 2020" scheme to fund neighborhood associations has been extended into July. It significantly cuts funding for most organizations including South Uptown. It also adds a lot of extra reporting and bureaucracy while expecting more from each neighborhood.

Treasurer's Report, Brad Klein/ Scott Engel

- * The financial report for March was available for review.
- * The Chili Fest raised \$2,057.88 and 30lbs of food for the Joyce Uptown Food Shelf.
- * In February South Uptown was awarded a \$10,000 Hennepin County grant to promote organics recycling. However, the grant was cancelled in March due to COVID19.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 8:15PM.