

South Uptown Neighborhood Association  
August 18, 2020 Online Meeting  
Draft Minutes

Attending: Jerome Chateau, Max Ellis, Justin Gardiner, Brad Klein, John Kostouros, Dylan McMahon, Sophie Snow

Call to Order & Introductions

\* The meeting was held using Zoom due to COVID19, and it was called to order at 7:04PM.

Agenda & Minutes

\* Motion, seconded to approve the proposed agenda and June 16 meeting minutes.  
Approved.

Bryant Square Park, Jason Green

- Green reported that Bryant Square has been very busy all summer with the wading pool, playground, basketball courts, play fields, and picnic tables being very popular. The Rec Center will not open this fall with Rec Plus child care moving to nearby parks like Kenwood.
- The Recreation Center is scheduled to get the restrooms renovated and air conditioning added in 2021.
- Last week a few tents showed up in the park, but they are now gone. MPRB staff worked with the residents to find other, more appropriate accommodations.
- More information is available at (612) 370-4907 or [minneapolisparks.org](http://minneapolisparks.org).

5<sup>th</sup> Precinct Crime Update, MPD Inspector Amelia Huffman

- Huffman is the leader of the 5<sup>th</sup> police precinct covering all of southwest Minneapolis from west of I35W and south of I394/ I94. She went through crime maps and statistics providing context to recent incidents. Over the last 13 years crime has fluctuated widely with a spike happening this spring and summer. There is a city-wide trend of more shootings, robberies, and car thefts that is mirrored in the 5<sup>th</sup> Precinct.
- Neighbors asked about recent incidents including three shootings over the weekend near B-de Maka Ska and in the Wedge neighborhood. Two of the shootings were likely related, but all remain under investigation. A reported assault on a 2-year old at BSP was deemed to be an action of a developmentally disabled person. His family was with him in the park and no charges were filed. Vandalism occurred to the 5<sup>th</sup> Precinct headquarters while patrols were out dealing with shootings, and patrols from other precincts were called in for support. Most of the damage has been cleaned up, but windows still need to be replaced.

10<sup>th</sup> Ward City Council Update, Council President Lisa Bender

- Bender discussed financial challenges facing Minneapolis due to COVID19 and events following the death of George Floyd. There has been a significant decrease in sales and entertainment taxes and other user fees causing a huge financial blow. The Mayor released his preliminary 2021 budget recently, and the City Council will revise it over the next several months. The City Council already voted to redirect \$1.5 million from MPD to violence prevention programs.
- Bender highlighted City and County efforts to address homelessness including additional shelters and permanent housing options.

- Bender noted past and present efforts by the City Council to fund violence prevention programs, move health and housing issues from the MPD per view, and implement community safety strategies.

#### South Uptown Annual Meeting- September 15, Max Ellis

- There are six Board of Directors seats on the ballot during the 9/15 South Uptown Annual Meeting. Four seats are two-year terms, and two seats are one-year terms because of recent Board vacancies. Ashley Bredeson, Westin Bodell, Jerome Chateau, Max Ellis, Brad Klein, and Savannah Simms were nominated as Board candidates. Additional nominations can be submitted via the online application form on the South Uptown website.
- Engel presented a resolution document detailing the need during COVID19 to host online meetings and adjust voting procedures. The organization's attorney recommended approving the resolution to clarify expectations. Motion, seconded to approve the resolution as presented. Approved.

The Livability & Engagement Committee discussed logistics of an online Annual Meeting and made the following recommendations regarding voting procedures: 1.) Accept nominations through the online application form with a deadline of Friday, September 11, 5PM.; 2.) Allow online voting from 8AM on Tuesday, September 15 until 8AM on Wednesday, September 16.; 3.) Utilize an online ballot, such as electionrunner.com, to conduct the Board election.; 4.) Do not allow Board nominations during the Annual Meeting, as described in South Uptown Bylaws, due to the complexity of adding candidates to the ballot in real time and start of voting at 8AM.; and 5.) Distribute online candidate profiles via social media using information from submitted Board applications. Motion, seconded to approve the voting procedures as presented. Approved. Besides elections, the featured guest speaker will be Northpond Partners talking about plans for renovating the shopping center formerly known as Calhoun Square.

#### Livability & Engagement Committee

- Three neighbors are looking to join the committee. Motion, seconded to appoint Jenna Egan, Julie Mischner, and Brian Moe to the group. Approved.
- The dolphin mosaic project was completed last week by artist Sharra Frank and neighborhood volunteers. It is beautiful and has received a lot of positive feedback from park users. It was made possible by South Uptown NRP funds and a grant from People for Parks.

#### Land Use & Transportation Committee, Scott Engel

- The LU&T Committee recommends appointing Julie Mischner to fill a vacant "alternate" member seat on the group. Motion, seconded to appoint Mischner to the LU&T Committee. Approved.
- The City Council denied South Uptown's appeal of the 3501 Hennepin project in July. The Lander Group now expects to start construction in spring 2021.
- Local Ventures is hoping to bring preliminary plans at 1301/ 1409 W. Lake Street to the Planning Commission Committee of the Whole (COW) sometime in September. The COW is an opportunity for developers to get informal feedback on their development concept before refining a project for an official land use application.

#### Treasurer's Report, Dylan McMahon/ Scott Engel

\* The financial report through July was available for review.

- \* McMahon presented a draft fiscal year 2021 budget for review. The organization is facing financial challenges due to COVID19 and City cuts to neighborhood funding. SUNA will need to repurpose NRP funds to make up the difference. The Carlson School has an opportunity for small nonprofits to work with graduate students on planning projects. South Uptown would seek guidance on community engagement and fundraising, and if chosen would begin working with students in February.
- \* Engel presented a draft, 3-year lease agreement with Ace in the City at 3501 Aldrich Ave S. The monthly rent would rise from \$350 to \$400 with an additional \$118 monthly utilities/maintenance fee. The office will increase in size from 130 to 175 square feet with a complete renovation of the space. He noted the need to start the lease on October 1, 2020 as construction continues. Motion, seconded to approve the lease agreement. Approved.

Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 8:32PM.