

South Uptown Neighborhood Association January 21, 2020 Meeting Minutes

Attending: Jerome Chateau, Cameron Delaney, Blue Delliquanti, Max Ellis, Jordan Gaal, Justin Gardiner, John Kostouros, Sophie Snow

Absent: Brad Klein

Call to Order & Introductions

- * The meeting was called to order at 7:03PM.
- * Board Members and attendees introduced themselves.

Agenda & Minutes

- * Motion, seconded to approve the proposed agenda and November 19 meeting minutes. Approved.

Bryant Square Park, Jason Green

- * The skating rink is open 7 days a week with a skate library in the recreation center.
- * For more information contact (612) 370-4907 or minneapolisparcs.org.

Calhoun Square, Alistair Perry (Northpond Partners) & Jesse Baerkahn (Graffio)

- Perry and Baerkahn were in attendance to discuss possible changes to the Calhoun Square shopping Center and surrounding property. Northpond has been listening to businesses and the community to get ideas for how to improve the property. They plan to focus on making the exterior of the structure more open transparent, and interesting for pedestrians and bicyclists. This could include cutting the building in half making a pedestrian connection from Hennepin to Girard mid-block. They hope to improve the tenant mix by recruiting more unique, local and regional businesses.
- The project team will continue to work over the winter to refine ideas for improvements focusing on the mall itself rather than the vacant lots on Lake St.
- More than 60 neighbors were in attendance and many provided input and asked questions. There was interest in making the mall more useful for neighbors such as adding a post office or package drop off facility. Other ideas included adding a farmer's market, food hall, and businesses catering to neighborhood needs.

South Uptown Board of Directors Retreat Follow Up, Max Ellis

- The Board met in December for a Retreat rather than hosting a regular Neighborhood Meeting. They discussed goals for the upcoming year, challenges for the organization, and shared a meal.
- Delliquanti volunteered to lead up Census outreach, and Gardiner is looking into lead testing of drinking water.

Committee Policy, Scott Engel

- The draft policy was available for review. It describes how Committee will function and identifies their members. This year's version allows for up to 2 additional "alternate" members who are allowed to vote in the absence of regular committee members. Motion, seconded to approve the Committee Policy as presented with the addition of Max Ellis, Brad Klein, and John Kostouros as members of the Personnel Committee. Approved.

Treasurer's Report, Brad Klein/ Scott Engel

- * The financial report for October through December was available for review.
- * The nonprofit arts organization Ace in the City has leased the basement of Aldrich Church where South Uptown has an office. They plan to completely renovate the space to house multiple nonprofits including South Uptown. The organization has temporarily vacate the office space during construction, but will return to a larger office with completely modern facilities next spring. In the meantime, Engel negotiated a Memorandum of Understanding with Aldrich Church describing how South Uptown will be able to store equipment and furniture, during construction as well as continue to use the address and phone,. The agreement details that South Uptown will pay \$50 per month to Aldrich Church until a lease agreement is negotiated with Ace in the City for the new office. Motion, seconded to approve the MOU as presented. Approved.
- * Engel noted that the City's Neighborhood & Community Relations Department has hired a consultant to assess past neighborhood funding programs and create a future program. He expressed concern about the process to date and how the consultant is describing past neighborhood association efforts. The South Uptown Neighborhood Revitalization Committee will discuss further during their meeting on February 4.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 8:35PM.