

Minutes of the Prospect Park Association Environment Committee Meeting

Tuesday, August 27, 2019

6:30 PM – 8:00 PM

2828 University Avenue SE, Minneapolis, MN 55414

In Attendance:

- Mary Britton
- Vera Marshall
- Steve Zimmer
- Tom Kilton
- Ken Hampton

Meeting Topics

Introductions

Update on Adopt-A-Drain - Mary

Kathleen and Jenny have stenciled drains in the neighborhood. Discussion on why cleaning street drains is needed to promote the health of the Mississippi. Mary shared thermometer graph we will use to track drain adoption.

Update on Neighborhood Cleanup, Clean Sweep & Litter Be Gone – Tom

Nellie and Jan of the PPA have put together a flier promoting the event. Tom will have fliers available at the annual board meeting on September 23rd for distribution.

For Litter Be Gone, Tom wants 2 teams of 4 people behind the compactor picking up trash in the street. Tom is concerned that there will not be enough volunteers. Mary offered to get something in the weekly notices at St. Francis Cabrini and PPUMC. Volunteer sign up link will be in the next newsletter.

The event will also have folks cleaning the drains where needed. Mary – I've adopted 4 or 5 drains and the bulk of what I pick up is leaves and sticks. There is some garbage mixed in, but not much. Tom – will look into whether or not the compactor can take bags of yard waste. That is the easiest way to get rid of it.

Note: Hours on PPA website should say 8:30 am – 12 noon, not 9 am to 12 noon. Tom has contacted Jan and Nellie about this.

Ongoing Changes to the Website Mary

Header has been changed to show picture of current committee members, flowers and drain sign. Mary is working on revamping the site using blogger, so that we can make updates as needed.

Current progress was shared with group. One addition will be information on how to recycle everything, to encourage folks to bookmark the page.

Introduction of topic – does the environment committee want to review new development proposals to determine if they meet LEED building standards? Mary

This was suggested by Del at the end of the last meeting. I have reached out to Cam Gordon (per Del's suggestion) to find out more information but have not heard back. General discussion was that we need more information on what exactly LEED building standards means before deciding either way. Vera thought there was only one standard. (Note: After the meeting, I checked and there are 4 different levels of standards. Please see <https://new.usgbc.org/leed>.) It was also felt that the committee should encourage LEED building standards, not mandate it.

Much more research and discussion needed. Topic tabled for now.

Wrap Up

- **Next Steps**
 - Mary to reach out to St. Francis Cabrini and PPUMC to publicize neighborhood cleanup.
 - New website to be finished prior to next meeting for review and comments. Note: once done, it will need to be handed off to Andy Mickel for attachment to the PPA website. This will probably not take place until October, based on Andy's schedule.
 - Tom will look into whether or not compactor can take yard waste in a bag.
- **Next PPA Environment Committee Date: September 24th, 6:30 pm**

Adjourn