

Listen, Learn, Ask and Transform how we do community work

CommunityBuilding Committee  
Minutes, May 19, 2021  
Recorder: Susan Larson-Fleming

Attending: Jerry Stein, Susan Larson-Fleming, Lynn Von Korff, Kyra Nygaard, Jenna Hoge, Amy Kaminsky, Kaaha Kaahiye, Vera Marshall, Ethan Boote, David Frank, Ben Tuthill

1. Welcome to guest Ethan Boote , Real Estate Manager for RETHOS, formerly the Preservation Alliance of Minnesota. Ethan is also a new Prospect Park resident.
2. Minutes were accepted. Agenda was amended to include discussion about committee meeting dates.
3. Glendale historic status update: June 22 is the date for the city council subcommittee meeting. If historic designation passes there it likely will pass the city council. Supporting letter put together by Kaaha is now being distributed. Individuals and organizations can use the letter as a template, modify the letter to suit their organization, add comments. Letters should reach Cam Gordon by June 22.
4. Renters group: Jenna noted that some landlords have attended meetings of the renters group. This has an effect on the dynamics of the meeting. Ben reported on progress of the TOPA proposal, which now includes support of public housing, a priority for our group. Conversations with other groups has led to an anti-displacement proposal. The TOPA groups is looking for support for their agenda, a five part document. This needs to go to PPA Board. First needs endorsement by the Community Building committee. Renters group meets on the first Wednesday of the month.

**Motion:** that Community Building endorse the TOPA agenda promoted by inquilinunidxs, which includes the following points:

1. Tenant Opportunity to Purchase Ordinance
2. Renter stabilizations charter amendment on the ballot
3. passage of Just Cause Eviction Protection Ordinance
4. passage of Pre-Eviction Notification/Right to Cure Ordinance
5. passage of resolution and MOU to rescind privatization of public housing through RAD and Section 18 Demolition and to keep public housing public.

The motion passed. Because the PPA Management group has already met, information about this proposal will be added to the agenda at the next PPA meeting. Ben and Jenna will present at the PPA Board meeting.

5. LP Photo Squad: Kyra reported that a new digital photo class, funded by the Park Board, will take place at Luxton. Eastside Neighborhood Services also want Kyra to conduct additional class at Luxton, funded by Eastside. Learning Dreams program will also be incorporated into these classes and expansion of offerings perhaps including theatre and mural design.

6. A new idea for our Community Building meetings: inviting representatives of other groups doing good work in the community. For today's meeting, we welcomed Ethan Boote, Real Estate Manager at RETHOS, formerly the Preservation Alliance of Minnesota. Ethan is also on the Minneapolis Heritage Preservation Commission and a resident of Prospect Park. Erin Hanafin Berg, from RETHOS connected Ethan with Ladan, who connected Ethan with Jerry. Ethan noted that Preservation Alliance changed its name in 2019 with the idea to get away from old ideas of preservation by activating the ethos of communities and to reimagine and rehabilitate, thus RETHOS. Contact him at [ethan@rethos.org](mailto:ethan@rethos.org)

7. Emergent Strategies discussion group had first session. Next meeting is June 5 at 1 pm. Assignment is to read through p. 121.

8. Jackson Project. Pratt PTO has allocated \$10,000 towards the project. MPS approval is needed before fundraising can begin. As the owner of the property, their approval is key. Funding from PPA will also be sought.

9. Next meeting: June 9, 4:30. After Ben led a discussion on the bloodthirsty and patriarchal origins of the current calendar system (all blame to the Caesars: Julius and Augustus), it was decided to settle on Community Building meetings on the second Wednesday to the month.