

Wednesday, February 11, 2026

## Prospect Park Association Environment and Resiliency Committee

---

### Meeting Minutes

Attendees:

*Steve Brackett (chair), Gabrielle Metzger, Ryan Woldt, Stuart Levesque, James Birr, Max Ostenso*

### 6:25pm Call to order

Introductions and discussion regarding areas of committee member's interests and committee focus for 2026.

#### The Social Environment

*National Night Out, Porch Days, etc.* How can we continue to engage with our local community. Connection and opportunities to connect build a strong social environment.

How can we connect with or represent all areas of PP?

*Citizen's Utility Board.*

Connecting people with resources, mutual aid, disconnect moratorium

*Renter's rights*

Where has the PPA focus on Renter's rights gone? Outreach to landlords regarding renter's guidebook.

*Making conservation cool*

How do we make the connection between personal choices, consumption, savings, climate impact and social acceptance and the capitalistic machine?

Breakdown of specific PP areas and encourage "traveling" porch days? Could events have bands, activities, or refreshments?

#### The Natural Environment

*Invasive species awareness.* Connect with Garden Club?

Educational outreach. Booth at Pratt Ice Cream Social?

*Seed swaps?*

*Tree education.*

Ash, elm, oak, care

*Continuing education regarding climate mitigation best practices for home owners, renters, and consumers in general*

#### Guide to our environment

The website has a lot of resources. Do people know about them? Could we create an easy to use guide to the community environment. QR codes on telephone poles? Zines?

Outreach and communications

Should this be it's own committee?

### **7:30 Adjourn**

New topics and ideas for future meetings:

*Always free tables, booths, little free library of everything?*

*Anybodygotta?* Encourage reaching out to the community for help, supplies, support as opposed to hiring or buying. Changing a tire, cup of sugar, building a garage? How can we utilize the connections made over the last few months for the good of our community and the environment. We're conditioned to think we must buy the answer, meanwhile we're surrounded by generous resource-full friends and neighbors many of whom are eager to help.

*Community Meeting Places.* More benches, seats, and welcoming shade trees for neighbors to have a rest or a conversation.

*PPZine???* What happened to zines? Many neighborhoods still publish a monthly paper free to all. What about a few newspaper stands around the community containing a regular small publication of events. This could highlight a business or community member for service to our environment.

#### Resources

1. Sign up for the PPelist

send an email to [ppelist@gmail.com](mailto:ppelist@gmail.com)

2. Check out the PPA web site (including the Environment and Resiliency committee site)

<https://prospectparkmpls.org/>

3. Get some inspiration from other neighborhood groups and orgs

*Kingfield Porchfest*

<https://kingfield.org/porchfest/>

*Lumberstash, a cool salvage/ lumber rehoming organization (shameless plug)*

<https://www.lumberstash.com/>

4. Listen to a podcast. *The Great Simplification with Nate Hagens*

Lots of inspiring interviews and thoughts. Many connections between society, economy and environment. Most recently I enjoyed listening to the podcast episode with Xiye Bastida where she shares her thoughts on changing not what we do to mitigate climate change, but how we think.

<https://www.thegreatsimplification.com/>

5. Coming... sometime: *The Grand Rounds Missing Link*

[https://www.minneapolisparcs.org/park-care-improvements/park-projects/current\\_projects/grand\\_rounds\\_missing\\_link/](https://www.minneapolisparcs.org/park-care-improvements/park-projects/current_projects/grand_rounds_missing_link/)