Minutes of March 23, 1998 Meeting

1. The 3/23/98 Prospect Park East River Road Improvement Association Inc. (PPERRIA) Board/Membership/Neighborhood (B/M/N) meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM at the Prospect Park United Methodist church by Susan Larson-Fleming, president. A quorum was present. There were no additions or corrections to the agenda, copies available at the meeting.

2. Motion, moved and seconded, passed without noes to accept the minutes of the PPERRIA B/M/N 2/23/98 minutes as published in the 3/98 PPERRIA Newsletter mailed to all members.

3. Announcements. Nicole Magnon and Officer Gary Hein, Minneapolis CCP/SAFE, circulated neighborhood crime statistics, the numbers are down except for burglaries. Most burglaries occurred in the Motley neighborhood in buildings that did not have their doors locked at the time of the burglary. “Take an extra few minutes and lock any doors as you go in and out.” There were comments on the confusing symbols for the different crime categories as shown on the black and white copy. It was recommended that PPERRIA contact those who compile the statistics and maps. There will be a SAFE cable TV show. Watch for announcements. Marie Rossa, Cabrini church administrator, talked about the discussions on the building of a parking lot on Cabrini’s property on Franklin Avenue SE between the church building and the railroad property. Talk is of a joint use by University Good Samaritan Home and Cabrini church. The church property is zoned residential. Several items need to be worked through before there will be an actual proposal, i.e., lease problems, alternate garden sites, and design consultations with the neighbors... At present no action by PPERRIA is needed. More to come. Lois Willand, Community Events Committee chair, circulated a community calendar (see 3/98 PPERRIA Newsletter). Also a sign up sheet that needs at least five persons who will see that there be “Summer 98 Community Concerts.” If interested call her at 378-9697. The best method of publicity, that gets people to attend, is posters and notices left at individual houses. Block watch members doing these two activities provide a general coverage of the neighborhood. Contact Lois at 378-9697, if there is an area for which you would be responsible. In general individuals who put up posters should member to remove them after the activity date. Susan Larson Fleming reminded committee chairs that a one-page committee report needs to be forwarded to her. Circulated were sign up sheets for the Pratt Ice Cream Social, a Village Green planting at Pratt and the neighborhood clean up. There will be the Coop Nursery School bake/rummage sale on 4/18/98 and a SEED general meeting on 5/6/98. Council Member Joan Cambell will be holding a neighborhood meeting concerning the installation of the sidewalk lights. Watch for announcements.

4. Motion, moved and seconded, passed without noes: “To release $10,000 for Southeast Seniors programming and staff from the PPERRIA/NRP Education C.1. Action Plan.” Susan Larson Fleming, Education Committee chair, presented the motion and indicated that this is the third and final portion of the funding for this section. Earlier portions were funded from PPERRIA/NRP Early Access funds.

5. Eleanor Montgomery, Transportation Committee chair, indicated that the Transportation Committee has reorganized. Of immediate concern is the discussion of a traffic calming proposal for the Bedford/Orlin corner. There has been an increase in the use of this intersection as part of a “short cut” to University Avenue SE and/or to Highway 280 and an increase in speed on the streets with a “running of stop signs.” This intersection has a number of stops for school busses. Watch for developments on this topic.

6. Susan Gottlieb, PPERRIA/NRP contractor, reported that there are copies of the results of the
“Prospect Park East River Road Neighborhood Plan for the Year 2020” prioritized at the 3/16/98 neighborhood meeting. Copies are at the Luxton Park house and the Pratt building. Call 331-2104 to request a copy. In rank order, receiving the most votes, the first ten were: Protect/improve homes and parks and ensure compatibility between housing areas and industrial/commercial development, develop attic space at Pratt for school/community education, bring freeway noise levels within state guidelines by September 1998, help to develop UNCOLA site by the end of 2000, have a variety of quality child care options in the neighborhood, including child care center, nanny network, sick child care, second shift care and home daycare provider network, establish primary school at Pratt and have secondary facility constructed or renovated nearby, possibly using ANC facilities as a lab high school in collaboration with the University of Minnesota, build quality townhouse on “Kampa” corner of Fourth street/Malcolm SE, provide/maintain landscaping for Pratt village Green, provide additional assistance for owners with sidewalk lighting assessments, replace asphalt pad at base of Tower Hill tower with cobblestone or bricks.

7. Dean Lund, Executive Committee member, reported that the Executive Committee has approved a process for the review and modification of the PPERRIA/NRP Action Plan. This is not to be a major revision of the Action Plan but rather to bring the first years experiences and developments into the plan. It is not the same as the neighborhood 2020 plan. The process has started and watch for many handouts, articles and announcements.

8. Mary Legris, I-94 Noise Abatement committee member, reviewed the recent committee meeting with local state elected officials and Minnesota Department of Transportation (MDOT) regarding existing I-94 road noise in the neighborhood. Good News! Surface treatments and extension of the noise wall in Luxton Park. No agreement on a wall for East River Terrace, but who knows? This is the first additional noise abatement after many, many years of neighborhood work.

9. Florence Littman, Zoning Committee chair, indicated that she was not aware of any “new” zoning issues and this tends to make her nervous. [“who knows what evil lurks in the hearts of city officials, developers...”] The U-YMCA proposed rebuilding at 1801 University Avenue SE in itself is of little controversy. What is of concern is the use of the special zoning change for the area. A larger issue is the University of Minnesota’s use of its property and its affect on the neighborhoods and the cities zoning and land use laws. The draft of the proposed Minneapolis new zoning code continues and it looks as if there will be little change in the residential uses, but changed will be the use of non-residential conditional uses rather than non-conforming use. This should provide a more useful “sunset” clause.

10. Susan Gottlieb reviewed the PPERRIA/NRP contract report as reported in the 3/98 PPERRIA Newsletter. As she will be compiling the community calendar contact her at 331-2104 to include your event or meeting.

11/12. No late breaking news or old/new business.

Motion for adjournment, moved and seconded, passed without noes.

Respectfully submitted, Daniel Patenaude, PPERRIA Secretary.

Comments and corrections to 117 Arthur Avenue SE or d-pate@tc.um.edu