

# March 2004 PERRIA Newsletter



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## PPERRIA Board/Membership Meeting Notice/Agenda

**The next PERRIA Meeting is Monday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 7-9 p.m.**  
at the Prospect Park United Methodist Church, Orlin and Malcolm Avenues Southeast

### Agenda

1. **Welcome**
2. **Waldorf Rock-Tenn** - cussion of energy source for their business
3. **Tower Hill Park** – Motion to approve plan for Historic Designation of Prospect Park District – Joe Ring/Susan Thrash
4. **Items for Consideration**
5. **New/Old Business**
6. **Adjourn**

# PPERRIA Save Pratt Meetings

The Minneapolis School Board announced the recommendation of Interim Superintendent David Jennings to close and/or merge school programs in 10 Minneapolis Public Schools on Monday, February 9, 2004. The announcement was initially announced by sending notices home with the students attending the schools that were proposed to be closed and/or merged. It was proposed that the school program at Pratt Community Education Center be merged with Tuttle School, with the future of the building undecided. The Pratt Parents and other interested community persons attended a meeting on February 11, at which representatives of the Minneapolis Public Schools Committee which developed the school closings plan presented the plan and listened to the reactions from the community. Many of the questions asked could not be answered by the panel.

In response to the proposed plan, an emergency meeting of PPERRIA was held on Sunday, February 15, 2004, at which time discussion was held discussing many ideas as to how the community could prevent what was seen as a disaster for the Prospect Park Community. A motion was made and passed authorizing PPERRIA to hire an attorney, to assess proceeding with a lawsuit against the School Board on the basis of the allocation of \$480,000 of Prospect Park's NRP funds for the reconfiguring of Pratt to accommodate the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade classrooms anticipated for the 2004-05 school year.

On Tuesday, February 17, 2004, the School Board met and discussed the school administration's plan, and decided to delay its decision until March 2, after public hearings were held. At a public hearing at Washburn High School on February 18, many Prospect Park community members, including many Glendale residents, appeared with signs urging the saving of Pratt, and many members testified as to why the Board should not proceed with the closing of the schools without further study, more information available to the public, and more input from the various communities affected.

At the School Board's meeting on February 24, 2004, the Board announced that it had reached a consensus that the schools would not be closed during the 2004-2005 school year, and that after disclosure of all of the facts surrounding the budget constraints, broad community input, and the hiring of a permanent superintendent, the Board would make decisions on reorganization by October 1, 2004.

A second emergency meeting of PPERRIA was held on Sunday, February 29 at which Jere Purple debriefed the group on the February 24 School Board Meeting. A motion was passed to establish a Save Pratt Task Force of PPERRIA to explore all possible avenues of research so that the community could be effective in extending the life of the Pratt Community Education Center and School into the far distant future. Scott Johnson agreed to chair the Task Force.

The following subcommittees were established, with the volunteer chairs as noted:

- (1) **Explore charter school options:** chair, Jeff Gottlieb
- (2) **Examine possibility of continuing the school as part of the Minneapolis Public School system:** chair, Darin Warling
- (3) **Study aspects of building management and become aware of teachers' concerns:** chair, Bruce Graff
- (4) **Demographic survey/study:** chair, Andrew Gaspard
- (5) **Marketing** (includes checking current procedures in operation at 807 Welcome Center): co-chairs, Abby Farr-Peterson and Steve Banks
- (6) **Historic designation of Pratt building:** co-chairs, Susan Thrash and Joe Ring
- (7) **Liaison between Pratt and District Parent Advisory Board:** Brooke Hart
- (8) **Liaison between Pratt and the greater Minneapolis public school community:** Jerry Stein
- (9) **Research on the foundations which might support Pratt** (for example the Gates Foundation and its interest in small schools): co-chairs, Gratia Reynolds and Patrick Egan
- (10) **Get the numbers on room usage and attendance at community ed and of other activities held at Pratt:** co-chairs, John Holmquist and Mary Alice Kopf

These committees will share their findings at the next meeting of the Task Force, scheduled for Sunday, April 4, 7:00 p.m. at Prospect Park United Methodist Church. Everyone is invited to attend (and to join the subcommittee of choice). -- Betts Zerby and Mary Alice Kopf

## **NRP I Survey Results Available**

A survey was conducted during the month of November, 2003 in the Prospect Park/East River Road Neighborhood. The survey was designed by students from the Carlson School of Management and was conducted in an effort to assess neighborhood reaction to Phase I of the NRP (Neighborhood Revitalization Program). A total of 75 responses were received as of the November 30<sup>th</sup> deadline. Respondents were generally satisfied with the role of NRP in the neighborhood. Of the projects rated in the study, the Pratt Community Education Center Renovation/Improvement was rated the highest. A summary of the results is available at several neighborhood locations: Pratt Community Education Center, Luxton Park, Tower Grocery, and Schneider Drug and is posted on the PPERRIA website <http://www.pperr.org>. It was also sent out via the neighborhood e-list. If you would like to subscribe to the e-list and receive current neighborhood news and events announcements, send an email to [jon.and.lois.willand@worldnet.att.net](mailto:jon.and.lois.willand@worldnet.att.net). -- Joyce Barta

## PPERRIA Committees and Chairs

Community Events	Lois Willand	378-9697
East River Gorge Park	Tom Kilton	339-3064
Education & Human Services	Susan Larson-Fleming	331-8819
Environment	Bill Kahn	378-5287
Executive	Steve Banks	321-9064
History Project	Betts Zerby	379-8095
Housing Redevelopment	Florence Littman Dean Lund	331-2970 378-2486
Housing Improvement	Andy Mickel	331-8396
Landscape	Mary Alice Kopf	379-7436
Membership	Dan Patenaude Karen Murdock	378-3038 340-1338
Tower Hill Park	Susan Thrash	379-4587
Transportation and Land Use	John Dewitt	338-1871
Zoning & Plan Review	Florence Littman Phil Anderson	331-2970 627-9471
Save Pratt Taskforce	Scott Johnson	369-2932

## March NRP/PPERRIA Contractor Activities

Reporting period: February 6, 2004 through March 5, 2004. Major activities and results:

Supported various PPERRIA committees and the Executive Committee	Maintained the neighborhood calendar & supported production of PPERRIA newsletter		
Worked to establish and strengthen Block Clubs	Worked to evaluate Phase I of NRP		
Worked with students, parents, and teachers at Pratt			
Expense for contractors' services:	Hours billed	Total expense	% of total Budget
Totals 02/07/04 to 03/05/04	<b>111.00</b>	<b>\$1,976.00</b>	<b>1.2%</b>
Totals 10/18/95 to 02/06/04	<b>9,183.35</b>	<b>\$154,208.34</b>	<b>91.1%</b>
Totals 10/18/95 to 03/05/04	<b>9,294.35</b>	<b>\$156,184.34</b>	<b>92.3%</b>

Total revised PPERRIA NRP budget for independent contractor services = \$181,623.46\*; **\$13,038.20\*** remains.

\* These revised amounts reflect additional funds reallocated to this strategy 11/27/00, 2/27/01, 6/25/01 and 7/22/02 and adds in funds from Safety & Security A.1. Block club coordination, PARC B.2. History editor and from Education A.1.a. Neighborhood learning center – Education committee worker and Neighborhood Education Worker, and \$15,000 from Education A.1.a Pratt Liaison (contract 12/3/03). *NOTE: Current NRP Contractors include Kari Simonson, Block Club Coordinator and Joyce Barta, Implementation Coordinator, whose contracts expire 4/30/04, and Janet Madzey-Akale, Education Worker, whose contract expires 6/15/04. PPERRIA Contractor is Paula Denman, whose contract expires 12/31/03.*

Total PPERRIA Funds Available for Buckthorn Removal per Exec. Committee 7/8/02: \$1,400.00;  
Total PPERRIA Staff Funds spent to date: \$168; Total Hard Costs spent to date: \$0; Total Remaining: \$1,232.00. -Joyce Barta

# Prospect Park East River Road Neighborhood Calendar

To include items in PPERRIA calendar, contact Joyce Barta at 378-9268 by **Thursday, April 8, 2004.**

<b>Date and Time</b>	<b>Event and Location</b>	<b>Whom to Contact</b>
Tuesday, 7:00 pm March 16	<b>(Tentative) Zoning &amp; Planning Committee meeting</b> at Prospect Park United Methodist Church	Florence Littman 331-2970
Tuesday, March 16	<b>JOY Outing</b>	Julia M-F business hrs MacKenzie-Cross 331-5823
Thursday, 6:00-8:00 pm March 18	<b>Pratt Council Meeting</b> at Pratt Community Center; childcare and rides available.	Gary Jordan, 673-9713
Saturday 9:30 am – noon March 20	<b>MCNC Forum</b> – Cumulative Effects of Air Pollution in Minneapolis' Upper Mississippi River Corridor at East Side Neighborhood Services	Mississippi 331-4738 Corridor <a href="mailto:mcnc@2z.net">mcnc@2z.net</a> Neighborhood Coalition
Monday, 7:00 pm March 22	<b>PPERRIA BOD &amp; Membership meeting</b> at Prospect Park United Methodist Church	Steve Banks 321-9064
Wednesday 6:30-8:30 pm March 24	<b>Garden Club meeting</b> location TBA	Mary Alice Kopf 378-7436
Sunday 7 pm April 4	<b>Save Pratt Task Force meeting</b> at Prospect Park United Methodist Church	
Monday 11:00-1:00 April 6	<b>JOY Book Club</b>	Julia M-F business hrs MacKenzie-Cross 331-5823
Wednesday, 7:30 pm April 7	<b>Luxton Park Council meeting</b> at Luxton Park building	Jim Widder 331-6129
Saturday 11am-1pm April 10	<b>Bunny Brunch at Luxton Park</b>	Kris Hammes 370-4925
Sunday Sunrise April 11	<b>Sunrise Service and Breakfast</b> at Prospect Park United Methodist Church	Becky Sechrist 378-2380
Monday 12:00-2:00 pm April 12	<b>JOY Pot Luck</b>	Julia M-F business hrs MacKenzie-Cross 331-5823
Monday, 7:00 pm April 12	<b>PPERRIA Executive Committee meeting</b> at Prospect Park United Methodist Church	Steve Banks 321-9064
Wednesday, 5:00 pm April 14	<b>Glendale Resident Organization meeting at 92 St. Mary's Ave.</b>	William Tweet 342-1952
Thursday, 6:00-8:00 pm April 15	<b>Pratt Council Meeting</b> at Pratt Community Center; childcare and rides available.	Gary Jordan, 673-9713

Saturday 9 am – noon April 17	<b>Mississippi River Cleanup</b> at East River Gorge	Tom Kilton 339-3064
<b>Date and Time</b>	<b>Event and Location</b>	<b>Whom to Contact</b>
Saturday 9:30 am - noon April 24	<b>MCNC Forum</b> – State of the upper Mississippi River in Minneapolis: Are We Effective Stewards? East Side Neighborhood Services 1700 2nd St NE	Mississippi Corridor 331-4738 <a href="mailto:mcnc@2z.net">mcnc@2z.net</a> Neighborhood Coalition
Monday, 7:00 pm April 26	<b>ANNUAL PPERRIA BOD &amp; Membership Meeting</b> at Prospect Park United Methodist Church	Steve Banks 321-9064

<b>Day and Time</b>	<b>Recurring Community Events</b>	<b>Whom to Contact</b>
Monday-Friday 10am-4pm	<b>Food, toys, art supplies, seasonal clothing, necessities</b> can be donated to Care & Share Food Shelf, 92 St. Mary's Ave.	Ginia Klamecki 331-7056 Shirley Davis 342-1952
Tuesdays 4 – 5pm 2 <sup>nd</sup> Mondays 11:00-11:25 2 <sup>nd</sup> Mondays 11:30-12:00	<b>Bookmobile</b> at Luxton Park <b>Bookmobile</b> at Univ. Good Samaritan Center <b>Bookmobile</b> at Pratt Community Center	Bookmobile 630-6630
Tuesdays 7:00 pm	<b>Community Choir</b> at PPUMC (Note: does not meet during the summer)	Curt Oliver 763-208-6556

**PPERRIA Web Site: <http://www.pperr.org>**

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Prospect Park East River  
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Minneapolis, MN 55414  
612/331-2970 (voice mail)

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