

October 2006 PPERRIA Newsletter



PPERRIA Board/Membership Meeting Notice/Agenda

**Monday, October 23rd, 5:30 Dinner,
Business Meeting 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
at the U Garden Restaurant ,
2725 University Avenue SE**

We're Invited for Dinner!

U Garden expansion is complete. The Ung family thanks PPERRIA for its support. PPERRIA Members are invited to a dinner buffet from 5:30-6:30 pm before the October 23rd PPERRIA Meeting.

Task Force to Survey PPERRIA at October Meeting

The University of Minnesota, the City of Minneapolis, and the member organizations of the Stadium Area Advisory Group are preparing a report on "the impact of the university on the surrounding community and the relationship of the community to the university." The report will be delivered to the MN legislature in January, 2007. It will include consensus recommendations from the University, the City of Minneapolis, and the Minneapolis neighborhoods adjacent to the University. A task force, which includes representatives from PPERRIA, has been created to oversee the development of the report.

The task force's vision is that the communities adjacent to campus will be vital, safe, attractive places where people want to live and want to invest their time, talents, and resources for the long term. It's also their vision that the University, the City, and the community organizations will have a process for working together to achieve this vision for the long term. In the interests of having the greatest possible impact with this report, the task force would like the report to focus on a short list of action-oriented recommendations. Although the report will include information on a number of factors, the task force has decided to focus the initial recommendations on the area of housing, because it is seen as a factor that drives neighborhood vitality.

Dan Cornejo has been hired as a consultant to assist with the report. We would like him to facilitate a discussion at the October PPERRIA meeting to get comments and feedback from Prospect Park residents about the neighborhood impact report and about how to ensure that the communities adjacent to campus are "vital, safe, and attractive" places. He'll be having similar conversations with other neighborhood organizations and business associations adjacent to campus. The comments from Prospect Park will help the University, the City, and the Stadium Area Advisory Group in the development of the report.

Thank you for this opportunity to talk with the residents of Prospect Park.

Congratulations Jere Purple!

Minneapolis Continuing Education Association's 2006 outstanding Advisory Council Member is Jere Purple of the Pratt Community Education Advisory Council. Jere has provided significant leadership for Pratt Community Education Center for over 35 years with a passion focused upon building a strong community and transforming lives.

President Joe Ring Regarding University Student Block Party

Recently PPERRIA received an e-mail wondering why the organization did not participate in the University Student Block Party here a few weeks ago, and as a community organization with a lot of history in trying to get students involved in this community they live in it is my feeling a response is necessary.

Going back almost three years now when I became president I made a commitment that every effort would be made to reach out to students to make them feel welcome to the PPERRIA organization. The Executive Committee of PPERRIA scheduled a Board Membership Meeting for September 2004 at the University Village student housing meeting room. An article was published in the University Daily with the help of reporter Kevin McCahill and with the help of the management company for the complex we posted flyers about the meeting. Not one student showed up.

Late last winter when the increase in crime in South East showed that it was concentrated around the student housing of University Village, Melrose and Jefferson Commons PPERRIA called for a meeting of all those parties involved. We had wide spread efforts to get the word out. The University Daily again stepped up to the plate and published three articles on crime in the area letting students know of the meeting, Plus we also did mailings and e-mails to get the word out. The turn out was great with representatives from the City Council, City police, City Crime Prevention Office, university police, and Community Affairs Office, the graduate and undergraduate student associations representatives and all of the property owners and their managers present. But with all that effort we had only two students showed up. That following Spring the management at the Melrose Student Complex hosted another crime meeting at their building with lots of free food and beverages with the normal notice by the Daily and e-mails by the student housing people and once again no students showed up.

In April of 2006 the St. Anthony Park Community Council was faced with concern for the safety and security of our two communities now that JPI / Hubbard project was going to go forward. After having discussions with me about this issue it was hoped that we could get the city of St. Paul to require a CPTED review (Crime Prevention Thru Environmental Design) of the project. The representatives of both the undergraduate and graduate organizations pledged they would help, but none came and the construction now goes forward without CPTED.

As president of PPERRIA I have been asked, and I have accepted, to be a member of the Scholarship Awards Committee for the Wedum Foundation, which owns University Village. The awards will be made on the bases of academics, community involvement and need. I am happy to do this as part of the PPERRIA continued support for students in our Southeast Community.

The members of PPERRIA have done all that they can to include any resident of Prospect Park East River Road to be part of our community and its organizations. This is illustrated by the fact that we have had many members and board members who have been students in the past, and if they wish to, we would like to have more in the future.

East River Mews Residents Seek Sound Wall

Residents of the East River Mews housing development have asked PPERRIA's support in attempting to get a the sound wall on the west side of Highway 94 extended from where it ends at approximately Yale Avenue SE to Franklin Avenue SE. The ask for support of the following Resolution:

WHEREAS:

The East River Mews multi-family housing development is the celebrated end result of many years of hard work by PPERRIA;

East River Mews is a very attractive addition to Prospect Park's housing stock, consisting of 38 townhomes and 15 condominiums in a 3 story building;

Noise from the heavy I-94 traffic has a negative impact on the quality of life of East River Mews residents. Unofficial decibel meter readings show some 60s, many 70s and some 80s. The highest was 84.6;

Each unit has at least on patio or deck attached which cannot be fully utilized because of the high level of noise outside.

As of this date, 3 townhomes and 3 condominiums remain unsold in spite of aggressive marketing since early spring;

The noise factor may very well depress resale prospects and values. That would not only be detrimental to homeowners but to the neighborhood as well;

The value of East River Mews must be preserved (incidentally, property taxes for 2006 total more than \$234,000);

A sound wall was constructed in 1997 to buffer the freeway noise on Yale Ave. SE between East River Road and the edge of what was then the Barber Oil site. MN DOT technicians measured a reduction in sound pollution of 10 decibels from 70 to 60. [from "Under the Witch's Hat," p. 119.];

Now that the highly contaminated Barber oil site has been cleaned up and new housing developed, there is a need to have the wall extended to Franklin Ave. SE;

THEREFORE

Be it resolved that Prospect Park East River Road Improvement Association endorses and actively supports the public financing and construction of an extension of an existing sound wall from the northwest corner of East River Mews to Franklin Ave. SE, and any other noise abatement measures. PPERRIA will, on behalf of the homeowners of East River Mews, notify public officials including State Representative, State Senator, Hennepin County Commissioner, Mayor of Minneapolis and Second Ward City Councilman of its support. PPERRIA will provide advice and lend strategic assistance to the East River Mews Homeowners Association in pursuit of its objective.

Minutes

PPERRIA Membership and Board of Directors Meeting
Monday, September 25, 2006, 7:15 p.m., PPUMC

1. President Joe Ring called the meeting of the Association to order at 7:15 p.m.
2. A motion to approve the agenda was made by Dick Henderson. Passed.
3. **Minutes:** Dick Poppele moved to approve the June minutes as corrected and the July minutes. Passed.

4. **Announcements:** Tamela Saulsberry, the owner of Curves for Women, invited members to visit her business on 4th St. Clay Lampert, the owner of the Citgo Gas station announced that the Minneapolis Planning staff had recommended denial of his request for variances to rebuild his gas station. Members were requested to send letter to Clay supporting his plans prior to the October 3 Planning Commission meeting..
5. **Clean Up Date:** Volunteers were requested to meet at Tom Kilton's house on Saturday, September 30 for the neighborhood cleanup. Young volunteers were requested.
6. **Redevelopment of site at University Ave. & Arthur Ave.:** Apurva Patel unveiled his plan to develop 167 condominium units on the site of the former Octopus (Regal) carwash and the Oswald building on the south side of University Avenue. Patel hopes to gain approval for his plan to build a 5 story building with 1, 2 and 3 bedroom units, hoping to attract University students, faculty and staff, as well as other residents. He will be seeking approval in a two step process that requires merely planning approval for the first phase, and rezoning of a single lot that is zoned residential which is in the planned parking area. The lot has no access to any street. The units will be in the \$140,000 to \$300,000 range. He announced that 25 units had already been reserved by buyers. Issues of access to the sidewalk and concerns of neighbors during construction were discussed.
7. **Board member/Secretary Election:** Because of two board members who have moved out of the neighborhood, and resigned their seats, the first alternate, Peter LaSha is now a board members, Florence Littman moved that Susan Larson-Fleming be elected as a new board member and Secretary. Passed.
8. **NRP Electors:** Susan Bardell and Jim Widder volunteered to be the electors to attend the meeting to elect neighborhood representatives to the NRP Policy Board.
9. **Luxton Air Conditioning:** Jim Widder, chairman of the Luxton Council, and Eric Cherland announced that it was highly likely that central air conditioning would be provided for Luxton by the Park Board. Mary Alice Kopf moved that PPERRIA inform the Park Board that it is strongly in support of air conditioning for the Luxton building.
10. **Library Support:** Joe Ring reported that he had represented PPERRIA at a public meeting expressing the opinion of the Executive Board that PPERRIA is not in favor of closing the Southeast Library. Members were requested to write letters to the Library Board, Mayor Rybak and Paul Ostrow urging them to provide funding to keep the neighborhood libraries open.
11. **Crime:** Joe Ring reported that the most recent crime figures show that crime this year has been about the same as it was in the neighborhood in 2005. Burglary is slightly up, thefts slightly down. The 2nd Precinct as a whole is up somewhat, while Prospect Park is maintaining.
12. **Profile Music:** Joe Ring reported that the issue of noise from activities at Profile Music would be pursued when representatives of the affected area made a request of PPERRIA for some action.
13. **Zoning Report:** Florence reported that the KSTP parking lot had been paved, and it was unknown whether KSTP planned to begin using its access to Bedford Street. No notice of the request was given to the neighborhood. The access was closed in 1997. She also reported that Raising Cain, a chicken fingers food vendor was going into the Stadium Village Mall. They sought our support for late hours. Florence moved to OK, if the Stadium Village Businessmen approved. Passed. A statement to be sent to the Public Works and Regulatory Services Committee in support of retaining the sidewalk café ordinance prohibiting sidewalk cafes at venues that serve liquor if they are within 200 feet of residential areas, and if more than 30 percent of their sales are liquor. The statement will also seek to have surrounding residents approval. Dean Lund moved approval. Passed.
14. **LRT Meeting:** A meeting was held at St. Francis Cabrini called by Cam Gordon regarding the proposed Light Rail Transit corridor on University Avenue at the request of PPERRIA. John DeWitt reported that attendance was sparse, and the meeting went well.
15. Dean Lund made a motion to adjourn. Passed without votes.

Respectfully submitted,
Elizabeth Zerby

Pratt Hires Volunteer Coordinator

With funding from Pratt Council and the Pratt Parent Teachers' Organization, and two anonymous donors, Pratt has now hired a ten-hour per week Volunteer Coordinator to work with and support University and community volunteers. Jakki Kydd-Fidelman has assumed these duties, and will also lay the groundwork for additional arts and other extra educational opportunities in the future. Welcome Jakki!

October NRP/PPERRIA Contractor Activities 9/08/06 – 10/06/06

Supported PPERRIA activities, NRP I, and NRP II			
Contractors' services:	Hours billed	Total expense	% of total Budget
09/08/06 to 10/06/06	24.25	\$ 485.00	0.2%
10/18/95 to 09/08/06	10,623.66	\$183,045.15	94.9%
10/18/95 to 10/06/06	10,647.91	\$183,530.15	95.1%

Total revised PPERRIA NRP Phase 1 budget for independent contractor services = \$206,426.89*;
\$9,389.22 remains.

PPERRIA Committees and Chairs

Community Events	Lois Willand	loiswilland@mn.rr.com	378-9697
East River Gorge Park	Tom Kilton	tom@tomkilton.com	339-3064
Education & Human Services	Susan Larson-Fleming	flemings@usfamily.net	331-8819
Environment			
Executive	Joe Ring	jring@visi.com	379-4587
History Project	Betts Zerby	ejzerby@yahoo.com	379-8095
Housing Redevelopment	Florence Littman Dean Lund	littm005@umn.edu djlund@usfamily.net	331-2970 378-2486
Housing Improvement	Andy Mickel	andym@pperr.net	331-8396
Landscape	Mary Alice Kopf	mollisk@earthlink.net	379-7436
Landscape subcommittee: Tree Health Project	Paula Denman	pjdenman@mn.rr.com	338-1871
Livability	Joe Ring	jring@visi.com	379-4587
Membership	Tom Kilton	tom@tomkilton.com	339-3064
Tower Hill Park	Susan Thrash	jring@visi.com	379-4587
Transportation and Land Use	John Dewitt Phil Anderson	jdewitt@mn.rr.com philanne@ties2.net	338-1871 627-9471
Zoning & Plan Review	Florence Littman Phil Anderson	littm005@umn.edu philanne@ties2.net	331-2970 627-9471

Prospect Park East River Road Neighborhood Calendar

To include items in PPERRIA calendar, contact Joyce Barta at 378-9268 by **Thursday, November 9, 2006.**

Date and Time	Event and Location	Whom to contact
Sat, Oct 14 10am -4pm Sun, Oct 15 1pm-4pm	Mostly Weaving Sale at 127 Melbourne	Joy Thompson 378-2397
Tuesday, October 17	JOY Outing Call for information.	Eric Cherland 370-4925
Tuesday, October 17	(Tentative) Zoning & Planning Committee meeting at Prospect Park United Methodist Church	Florence Littman 331-2970
Thursday, October 19	7:00 pm - 8:00 pm Pratt Council meeting at Pratt	Greg Bernstein 378-3489
Monday, October 23	7:00 pm PPERRIA Board of Directors & Membership meeting at U Garden Restaurant	Joe Ring 379-4587
Tuesday, October 31	6:00 pm - 8:00 pm Halloween Party and Haunted House at Luxton Park	Eric Cherland 370-4925
Wednesday, November 1	7:30 pm Luxton Park Council meeting at Luxton Park	Jim Widder 331-6129
Friday, November 3	11:00 am- 1:00 pm JOY Book Club at Luxton Park	Eric Cherland 370-4925
Wednesday, November 8	5:00 pm Glendale Resident Organization meeting at 92 St. Mary's Ave.	William Tweet 342-1952
Monday, November 13	11:30 am- 1:30 pm JOY Pot Luck at Luxton Park	Eric Cherland 370-4925
Monday, November 13	7:00 pm PPERRIA Executive Committee meeting at Prospect Park United Methodist Church	Joe Ring 379-4587
Thursday, November 16	6:00-8:00 pm Pratt Council meeting at Pratt	Greg Bernstein 378-3489
Tuesday, November 21	JOY Outing Call for information.	Eric Cherland 370-4925
Wednesday, November 21	7:00 pm (Tentative) Zoning & Planning Committee meeting at Prospect Park United Methodist Church	Florence Littman 331-2970
Monday, November 27	7:00 pm PPERRIA Board of Directors & Membership meeting at Prospect Park United Methodist Church	Joe Ring 379-4587

PERRIA Web Site: <http://www.pperr.org>

Prospect Park East River
Road
Improvement Association, Inc.
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Minneapolis, MN 55414
612/331-2970 (voice mail)

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