



## **CEDAR ISLES DEAN NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION BOARD MEETING MINUTES, January 12, 2011**

The January Board meeting was held at the Jones-Harrison Residence; Board members Art Higinbotham, Ed Bell, Judy Berge, Glenna Case, Ryan Fox, Ed Ferlauto, Stephen Goltry and Gail Lee were present.

### **Ward 7 Council Member Goodman's Report**

Council Members Lisa Goodman and Meg Tuthill decided to split their attendance at the CIDNA Board meeting. Lisa passed out the schedule for 2011. Meg will be in attendance at the February meeting. The schedule will be posted on our website ([www.cidna.org](http://www.cidna.org)).

The next Lunch with Lisa is schedule for Wednesday, January 26<sup>th</sup>, 11:30 a.m. at University of St. Thomas, Minneapolis Campus, Opus Hall, Room 202. The buffet lunch is \$10. The landscape architect selected for Peavey Plaza will be present for a focus group to get public input on the revitalization of the plaza.

Council Member Lisa Goodman distributed a map of Minneapolis showing the changes in property tax per neighborhood. The average increase for CIDNA's homes falls within the second highest category in the city.

Valuation notices were recently mailed to residents. If you disagree with the information listed, the appeal process is explained on the statement. There is a limited time within which you can appeal, so please take action immediately.

The 2010 Census is complete. Minnesota will retain all of its seats in Congress. The redistricting process will start with the state level, then the local level. CIDNA is welcome to participate in the redistricting process.

Lisa was asked to address the City's policy on variances. There has been no change in the policy for variance notifications. Homeowners who are requesting variances are not required to get approval from neighborhood boards but they are required to notify neighbors within 350' of the property address where the variance is being requested. Pending a decision by the state legislature, the City is not approving variances unless there is no other reasonable use of the property.

Lisa was asked to comment about the recent City Council ruling to restrict un-contracted NRP Phase II funding to 50% of allocation. Lisa's stated that the neighborhood should submit the entire Phase II plan with the full allocation to the City Council, but the Council will not let neighborhoods spend more than 50%. CIDNA will be allowed to spend all the remaining Phase I funds. CIDNA will receive \$14,000 per year through the new Neighborhood Community Relations (NCR) program for administration and community engagement.

## **NRP Committee Report**

Gail Lee and Ed Bell reported on the following activities of the NRP Committee:

- The Committee asked the Board to approve a modification of the Phase I plan to move \$25,000 from the street lighting strategy. \$10K will transfer to Events to cover 2010 expenses and \$15K to Implementation to fund the Coordinator and other implementation expenses. The Board unanimously approved the modification.
- The legality of The City's action restricting the Phase II funding is being questioned and the issue may be addressed by the state legislature. Because of the uncertainty, the committee is proceeding as if we have the full allocation. The NRP Policy Board is scheduled to approve CIDNA's plan on January 24, then it will go on to the City Council for approval in February. By the time we have completed the approval process, we should know more about the status of the funding.
- The Committee met with Non-Profits Assistance Fund regarding a portion of the Phase II housing dollars. Non-Profits Assistance Fund offers seed money to help Minneapolis non-profits with building projects. CIDNA would loan money to a specific affordable housing project(s). Loans would be a 3-5 year investment; at which point the principal plus 1% interest would be returned to the neighborhood. Nothing will move forward with this until the Phase II funding amounts are assured.
- The CIDNA allocation for NCR funding is \$14,363.97. The NRP Committee will work on the application process with the goal of submitting it to the CIDNA Board for review next month.
- Community Energy Workshop (CES). CIDNA is bringing CES to the neighborhood. CES is a program offered by a local non-profit with the goal of reducing home energy use. The program starts with a workshop to teach low-cost/no-cost ways for homeowners to reduce energy and save money. By attending the workshop, homeowners can schedule a customized home energy visit for a co-pay of \$30. Two energy experts will perform energy tests in your home (including a blower door test) and install energy saving material (such as CFLs, programmable thermostat) for no additional cost. The workshop date has been set for CIDNA: Tuesday, April 12<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 p.m. at Jones-Harrison. CIDNA residents may attend a workshop in another neighborhood if that date isn't convenient.
- The NRP Committee has set a standard meeting time of the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month at 3:30 p.m. at Lake Calhoun Executive Center, 3033 Excelsior Boulevard, Suite 100. The next meeting is Wednesday, January 26. All are welcome to attend.

## **Paint-A-Thon**

Art announced that Paint-A-Thon is accepting applications for painting homes in 2011. Eligible homeowners must be over the age of 60 or have a permanent physical disability, live in a single-family home and meet income limits. Application deadline is May 6<sup>th</sup>. Art asked the Board to spread the word to neighbors who may meet the eligibility requirements. A link to the information will be posted on our website.

## **Variance request**

The owners of the property at 3403 Saint Paul Avenue met with the Board to present their plans for building a single-family home on the vacant lot. Because of the unusual shape

of the property, the owners are seeking variances. The Board voted “no opposition” to the project (unanimous vote).

A public hearing will be held on Thursday, January 20, 4:30 p.m. in Room 317, City Hall. Interested parties are invited to attend and be heard. A notice of this hearing was mailed to property owners within 350’ of this property.

### **CIDNA Board meeting minutes**

The minutes from the December 2010 CIDNA Board meeting were unanimously approved. They will be posted on the website.

In an effort to have current and approved meeting minutes posted in the Hill and Lake Press, the meeting minutes will be routed electronically to Board members. Monica Smith will type the minutes and email them to Board members within 24 hours of the meeting. Board members are asked to review the minutes and reply to Monica with any suggested edits by the date specified. If the edits are of a substantive nature, the corrected minutes will be rerouted to Board members for approval. Non-response by Board members is considered approval. For this month, deadline for approval to Monica is Sunday, January 16<sup>th</sup> by 5 p.m. The minutes will be sent to Hill & Lake Press on Monday, January 17<sup>th</sup> for publication in the January 21<sup>st</sup> issue. In some months, the deadline for the paper will be too tight so alternative arrangements will be made.

### **Treasurer’s Report**

Ed Bell, Treasurer, reported that CIDNA had a bank balance of \$13,246.86 plus a \$150 deposit made today.

**Action:** Ed to present a quarterly report (quarter ending December 2010) at the February meeting.

### **Jones-Harrison Donation**

Gail Lee and Ed Bell proposed that CIDNA make a donation to Jones-Harrison. Discussion included making a donation of cash vs. equipment such as a defibrillator.

**Action:** Gail to speak with the director of Jones-Harrison to see if they have a particular need or would prefer a cash donation. Gail to report back to the Board at the February meeting.

### **Southwest LRT Update**

Art presented some changes to the draft resolution prepared by neighborhoods surrounding the proposed West Lake Street and 21<sup>st</sup> Street stations of the Southwest LRT. The Board unanimously approved the proposed revisions. Art will sign the document on behalf of CIDNA. Representatives of West Calhoun, Kenwood and Lowry Hill will also sign the document. The resolution will be sent to City Council, Hennepin County Commissioners and the Met Council.

Ed Ferlauto, Ryan Fox and Art attended a meeting with West Calhoun businesses regarding LRT. The businesses are seeking a traffic study. There is a proposal to have a study conducted this winter through mid-April by Civil Engineering students at the University of Minnesota. There is no cost for this study. The study could give information for further studies that will need to be conducted by Hennepin County. The next meeting of the West Calhoun businesses is January 31<sup>st</sup>, 4 p.m. at the Lake Calhoun Executive Center.

The Minneapolis Station Area Strategic Planning Document is now available for review online at [www.southwesttransitway.org](http://www.southwesttransitway.org). Pages 73-81 of the document relate to the 21<sup>st</sup> Street station. Pages 81-109 related to the West Lake Street station. If you have comments regarding the plan, please forward them to Art and he will pass them on.

Art shared a copy of a letter from Gail Dorfman stating that the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) has delayed reviewing the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) until April 2011. The letter also mentions that the Central Corridor project has not yet received its full funding from the FTA.

Art stated that Safety in the Park opposes moving the freight trains to the MN&S spur tracks.

The Board discussed that the Met Council will have a new chair, Susan Haigh. Her position on transit is not clear to date. Ed Ferlauto reported that there was an article today (1/12/11) on MinnPost.com outlining ten priorities for the new Met Council.

**Next meeting**

The next meeting of the CIDNA Board will be Wednesday, February 9, 6:30 p.m. at Jones-Harrison. Vice President Glenna Case will chair the meeting in Art's absence. Please send agenda items to Glenna in advance of the February meeting.

--Submitted by Monica Smith