



## **CEDAR ISLES DEAN NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION BOARD MEETING MINUTES, April 13, 2011**

The April Board meeting was held at the Jones-Harrison Residence. Board Members in attendance: Chair Art Higinbotham, Vice-Chair Glenna Case, Treasurer Ed Bell, Ed Ferlauto, Ryan Fox, Stephen Goltry, Gail Lee and David Shirley.

Board Chair Art Higinbotham called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

### **Announcements**

Ed Bell introduced Craig Westgate. Craig has lived in CIDNA for 11-years and is interested in serving on the CIDNA Board. Ed Bell made a motion recommending that Craig Westgate become a CIDNA Board member. The motion passes unanimously.

### **Ward 10 Council Member Meg Tuthill's Report**

Council Member Tuthill distributed the following:

- Pre-addressed postcards to Rep. Marion Greene and Sen. Scott Dibble asking the Legislature to merge two closed pension funds into the State retirement system.
- Flier titled: "Top 10 things to know about the Minneapolis budget."

Meg highlighted the following:

- The City's share of revenue from property tax collections isn't enough to pay for public safety.
- Less than half of a Minneapolis homeowner's property tax goes to the City.
- Minneapolis' budget has grown far less than the State budget since 2001.
- Payments for Minneapolis pension plans have been a major factor in property tax growth since 2003.
- Flier titled: "Local Government Aid, Property Taxes, & Sales Taxes."  
The legislature is proposing eliminating Local Government Aid for Minneapolis, St. Paul and Duluth by 2014. Cuts to state aid shift the burden of paying for public safety, public works and other core services onto property taxpayers.
- Brochure regarding permits/licenses for construction and renovation projects.

The City has allocated \$1 million dollars to fix pot holes. Call 311 to report area that need repair.

\$2.7 million of the frozen NRP Phase II funds will be returned to NRP for equitable distribution to neighborhoods. Meg feels that everyone knew that NRP was a 20-year program and now the priority for that funding should go toward property tax relief. Board members expressed concern about the City paying staff in two similar departments (NRP and now NCR).

Mobile food vendors have been approved for three parking lots in Uptown (TCF, Cowboy Slim's and Mosaic).

The City approved the Urban Agriculture plan. Hoofed animals will not be allowed in Minneapolis.

Piccadilly Circus will not be coming to Minneapolis because they did not submit complete permit applications by the deadline.

Council Members Tuthill and Goodman will speak at CIDNA's annual meeting in May. Art Higinbotham invited Meg to stay for the Capstone Project presentation of the traffic study.

Meg is working on a change to the ordinance for outdoor patios (regarding amplified music and occupancy issues).

Meg encouraged everyone to contact her office with questions and concerns. She holds a monthly meeting the second Tuesday of each month, from noon-1 p.m. at the 5<sup>th</sup> Precinct.

### **Steve Bonello, Owner of Clothes Mentor**

Steve Bonello introduced Clothes Mentor, a franchise women's clothing resale business that recently opened in Calhoun Village (former MGM Liquor location). Clothes Mentor pays cash on the spot for current women's fashions (they are not a consignment store). They are currently in the buying phase, once they have sufficient inventory, they will announce their grand opening (early June) and will begin selling clothes.

The Board welcomed the business to the neighborhood.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Ed Bell presented the Treasurer's report. The report was unanimously approved.

### **Annual Meeting**

The Annual Meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 11 with refreshments at 6 p.m. and the meeting at 6:30 p.m. Art will arrange for the refreshments. Elected officials speaking include Council Members Goodman and Tuthill, Mayor Rybak, Commissioner Dorfman, Rep. Marion Greene and Sen. Scott Dibble (if the legislation is not in session).

Also included on the agenda:

- University of Minnesota Capstone Project: Lake Street/Excelsior Blvd traffic study
- The Park Siding Park volunteer gardeners will speak to let residents know about the work they do to maintain the gardens and to recruit new volunteers for this season.
- Forcemain Sewer project update by a Metropolitan Council representative.
- Southwest LRT
- Election of new board members. There are four open seats on the CIDNA Board. Interested residents are encouraged to serve.

## **NRP Report**

- Gail Lee reported that the State legislature is considering bills that would reinstate remaining NRP funds to neighborhoods as in the originally outlined strategy for the transitioning of the program.
- CIDNA's Community Energy Services (CES) workshop received high praise from board members. There are currently 30 CIDNA households participating in the program. It isn't too late to participate--additional workshop dates are available in other neighborhoods. The \$30 home visit co-pay will be reimbursed to resident the month following their home visit.
- The NRP Committee is investigating options for the watering system at Park Siding Park.
- The Committee is currently working on partial implementation of the affordable housing loan strategy.

## **Southwest LRT Report**

The SW LRT CAC meeting for April 27<sup>th</sup> has been cancelled. The next meeting is June 22<sup>nd</sup>. The DEIS is expected some time in May. St. Louis Park and Edina oppose the relocation of freight rail and are holding public meetings next week.

## **Announcements**

- Art Higinbotham made the following announcements:
  - The Attorney General has accepted CIDNA's annual report.
  - Art received a letter from Jones-Harrison thanking CIDNA for the \$500 donation.
  - Public works is offering landscaping/beautification grants for graffiti prevention.
  - Art will remain on the CIDNA Board but will not continue as Chair after the Annual Meeting.
- Steve Goltry announced that the Park Board is conducting a survey of ideas for Theodore Wirth Park. Monica will include the information in the next e-newsletter.
- David Shirley reminded everyone that the Earth Day clean up is scheduled for Saturday, April 16 from 9:30 a.m. – noon at Cedar Lake and 25<sup>th</sup>. Residents are encouraged to participate.
- Glenna Case thanked the NRP Committee meeting for their work, particularly for bringing Community Energy Services to the neighborhood.

## **CIDNA Board meeting minutes**

The minutes from the March 2011 CIDNA Board Meeting were electronically approved last month to meet the publication date of the March issue of the Hill and Lake Press.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

## **Next meeting**

CIDNA Annual Meeting will be Wednesday, May 11, at Jones-Harrison, 6:00 p.m. social hour followed by the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

--Submitted by Monica Smith

