

Lexington-Hamline Community Council Board of Directors Meeting Minutes 6/26/2017 at 7pm

Present: Amy Lucas Riley, Sarah Murphy, Emmy Treichel, Paul Bakke, Sharon Fischlowitz, Jeremy Lostetter, Larissa Kiel, and Amy Gunderman, Johnell Hargis Kolve

Excused: Sam White, Ashley Rashid

1. Call to Order - Sharon **Meeting called to order at 7:05pm**
2. Saint Paul Police Department Presentation: **Guests from Western District: Pam McCreary and Patty Lammers**
 - Talked About how crime is going in our area: we live in a relatively low crime area
 - Talked about relationships between community and police- the tensions, but also what is being implemented to address these, i.e.
 - Event at Hallie Q center- Friday, June 30th 5pm to 7pm Community Engagement state of the neighborhoods NAACP is co-sponsoring;
 - Community Engagement Unit- This is not a new unit. It used to be Community Services. This group is working with youth. They have "Ambassadors" who are trained to work with youth and to engage them in the community and in activities. They try to get kids jobs. They are working on bringing them back to rec centers and focused back on sports. The group is made of civilians, not officers. They go to schools during the school year, make connections with kids and connections with parents.
 - Safe Summer nights: Thursday nights at a different park: free meals, bouncy houses and playing basketball - Next one in Western District at Hamline Park
 - National Night Out- Go to this, get to know your neighbors and your officers
 - Lex-Ham is in districts 106 and 126
 - Part 1 crimes- (see handout) Important to call. Report suspicious behavior. Burglaries will usually happen in a few numbers by a person and then they move on once squad cars appear in a neighborhood. If you see suspicious behavior, the Non-Emergency # 291-1111. Call to report it.
 - Pan-Handling law changed 3 to 5 years ago- happened because a pan-handler fought it. They have the legal right to ask for money. Aggressive pan-handling is not allowed. Can speak to you, can ask you. Not to stand into traffic. Stop giving money to stop pan-handling. Give to charity instead. Can pan-handle anywhere, except private property.

- Sharon: Are there other things you want us to think about as a Board as far as crime and crime prevention?
 - The more neighbors get to know each other the better.
 - Get serial numbers of items in your home and record them.
 - Limit crimes of opportunity. Don't leave garage doors open, leave items out, lock doors when you leave the house.
 - Vacation Watch- 651-266-5485- They will watch your house for 30 days. Will also give you tips for security ideas-Premise survey.
 - Turn on outside lighting. Dusk to Dawn lights can be used.
 - Ring pro doorbell can be useful (brought up by Paul.) It's a wifi camera and intercom that goes through an app on your phone You can see anyone that comes up to your house. BUT any type of security you do is useful.
 - How should we have packages delivered? Have packages delivered to a place where you know will be there for it.
 - Is there a rise in weapons fired along University- Shots fired in Saint Paul are up 65% City Wide. Young people are using guns to fight with each other. People have to start talking about who has a gun. Lot of guns have been recovered. Culture of using weapons has gone a bit crazy. Parents need to talk to kids about guns. Light rail walking from people using gun to rob. Gang and Gun Unit has more officers now. Nature of gangs has changed. Less organized and smaller. Much of the gang issues are related to drugs.

3. Approval of June 2017 Agenda, May 2017 Minutes, and March 2017 Minutes - Sharon

Motion to approve agenda- Emmy Seconded- Paul All in favor

Motion to approve May 2017 Minutes- Johnell Seconded-Emmy All in favor

No indication in the minutes that the addendum was approved

Motion to approve changes to March minutes- Emmy Seconded-Paul All in favor

Motion to approve March 2017- Larissa Seconded-Paul All in favor

4. Reports

a. Executive Director's Report - Amy (see written report)

- There is a meeting for initial engagement for improvements for 94. Specifically focused on Lexington- Monday July 24th, 8am to 4pm? (approx. time) Can anyone attend?

- Sharon called for Board to be more pro-active to help Amy with the workload over the next few months.

b. Treasurer's Report – Emmy

- Filed Federal 990. Had our review. It is very thorough.
- Fraternal insurance companies- have to give to non-profits. If you have anyone has insurance with Thrivent, you can request \$250 for any community activity. If we could get 20 people in our neighborhood to request these grants, we could raise \$5000 for Lex-Ham. Would we like this to go into Eavesdropper? Lucas suggested we can talk to neighbors during National Night Out.
- Lex-Ham notes to financial statement- Emmy wants to add something about civic pride and improving human relations. Generally improve community relationships

c. UPDC Reports

i. UPDC BOD - Jeremy

- Sent on the statement we approved to the city. At our last meeting, Dan (Chair of Union Park) said that we could change the wording to be “we” in letter accompanying the statement to say that Union Park agreed with the statement. Brought up the motion to include the word “we” and it was voted down by Union Park. Jeremy expressed his concerns and asked that they be included in the minutes. His request to include concerns in the minutes was refused by Union Park. We are keeping documentation of these interactions so that we can show that they agreed with our statement.

- Concerns: Will they represent us if there is an issue with a developer?

Johnell suggested that we include the statement in the Eavesdropper and our concerns

Union Park says that according to the City's preliminary look, statement should be approved.

Paul proposes that we send a letter to Dai Thao documenting what we did and the statement that was created from our surveys.

Union Park and Lex-Ham co-developed the surveys, had both logos- approved all the questions, they helped collect surveys and tallied half of the surveys' results. Results were presented to the full UPDC board at the April 5th meeting. They raised no objections to the results offered. Offered no alternate interpretation of the results.

Sarah thinks we could get other neighbors to express their dissatisfaction with how Union Park is representing us in this.

The Board thinks documentation of these events would be a good idea.

Are we tracking the next District Plan? 7 years from the start of it. Let's keep track of when this happens, again.

- There is a position on the UPDC that is vacant for Grid 6. Who could we recruit?

We are concerned that the Legacy Seat will go away. How do we plan for losing the Legacy Seat? Jeremy is the current Legacy Rep.

May need a pocket meeting to discuss this deeper.

Jeremy has invited Dan, the Chair of UPDC.

ii. Land Use and Economic Development - Paul

- Storage building rendering presented- AAA Midway Storage- Selby and Hamline - tearing down building and replacing with like usage
- 1984 Marshall Ave- single family home- it is zoned to be an apartment building- looking at becoming a 5 story apartment building with multi-story mechanized parking garage - this is only first introduction to Land Use, but it represents a possible change where this may start happening more.

d. Committee Reports

- i. Events - Lucas (see written report)
Share food drive info with Block Leaders and at the Ice Cream Social

ii. Outreach - Sarah

- Emerald Ash Borer Met with Task Force and talked about what can we do about Ash Borer. Also met with City Tree forestry department today. Lex-Ham could create a fund to help with Ash Tree treatment- is this something we want to do? Screening process based on need. What is the minimal amount of trees being treated? 20% of the trees should be treated. This could be a way of keeping the trees nice until we can replace and take down sick trees. City offered to give us names of other tree organizations

Motion to create a task force - Emmy

Seconded- Paul

All in favor

- Watershed Initiative: Lena Buggs will be at the Ice Cream Social to present information on Rain Gardens
- Do A Little Something: Our first Do A Little Something was approved! Seniors at Skyline that wanted exercise shoes

- iii. Finance - Emmy (see Community Fund Task Force)
- iv. Community Fund Task Force - Jeremy
Met with potential candidates and interviewing one more... reporting back when all interviews are finished.
- v. Personnel - Sharon
nothing to report
- vi. Executive - Sharon
Addressing Race - Visit from Alicia- Proposes that we contract with the YWCA to facilitate a workshop to help our community examine the role of race in our neighborhood and organization

Emmy asked: Could we do the Board and the Block Leaders?

Motion to contract with the YWCA -Emmy Seconded by Johnell All in favor

- 5. New Business
Pro Bono Legal Service - Wheels of Justice- Sharon suggested that this could be an organization for Lex-Ham to work with in some capacity
- 6. Adjourn meeting - Sharon

Motion to Adjourn- Paul Seconded - Jeremy

Next BOD Meeting Date: Monday, August 28th from 7-9pm (NO MEETING IN JULY)

Upcoming Events:

July 23rd from 1pm-3pm: Lex-Ham Ice Cream Social at Tot Lot

July 23rd - August 1st: Lex-Ham Food Drive

July 24th: MNDot Workshop on Lexington bridge over 94

July 31st from 4-7pm: Park Party at future park on Griggs (Co-Hosted with Union Park)

August 1st: National Night Out