

The Eavesdropper

The bridge between your home and your neighborhood



VOL. L • ISSUE I • JANUARY | FEBRUARY 2022

LEXINGTON-HAMLIN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

HOLIDAY CAROLERS BRING WARMTH, CHEER, AND JOY TO LEX HAM

It was the season for festive fun on December 23rd when our carolers took to the neighborhood to spread cheer and joy. Thank you to Emmy Treichel for hosting outdoors with lovely decorations, treats, and a warm fire. Another thank you to David Tzeuschler and Larissa Kiel for organizing the event. All those involved were glad to bring back this annual event as safely as possible this year. We hope you heard the music through the cold, winter air! •



Festive cheer and fun had by all at the annual caroling event

Community Calendar

- ▶ **Lex-Ham Community Council Board Meeting,**
 - MONDAY, JANUARY 31
 - MONDAY, FEBRUARY 28**7:00 – 9:00 PM**
Location TBD
- ▶ **Western District Monthly Meetings**
 - TUESDAY, JANUARY 18
 - TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 15**9:30 AM OR 6:30 PM**
Currently virtual, visit website for info.
- ▶ **Crime and Safety Committee Meeting**
 - FREQUENCY TO CHANGE, STAY TUNED**1168 Selby, lower level**

WINTER WARMTH DRIVE DELIVERS NEEDED ITEMS



Warm clothes, boots, and blankets ready for their new homes

Thank you to those who donated and helped organize the Winter Warmth Drive. Donations were dropped off in early January at Project REACH. Teams expressed gratitude for the generosity of our neighbors. Over 18 blankets, 6 pairs of children's boots, and 7 new children's winter coats were donated with other smaller items. A special thank you to Lucas Riley and Sadie Peterson to help collect and manage the donations. •

STAY IN TOUCH

Keep up with neighborhood announcements and events by following us on Facebook & Instagram and sign up to receive **email updates**. Join the Lex-Ham Enews list by visiting our website or emailing our office at lexham@lexham.org.



KEEP WARM WITH LEX-HAM HATS, NEW STYLES ON THE WAY!

Sporting our Lex-Ham gear is a fun way to support the neighborhood and stay stylishly warm.

You can purchase the winter hats, as well as new mesh-back baseball caps at **Yellowbird Coffeebar** for \$20.00.

New winter hat styles are on the way for winter 2022, so stay tuned! •



Looking cool and staying warm at the ice castles

HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM YOUR BOARD PRESIDENT

I want to wish all of you a Happy New Year. As we continue caring for our community members throughout the hardships of the evolving pandemic and the depths of winter, we also look forward to bright things to come in 2022-



New Neighbors Serving Our Organization: The Lex-Ham Board and staff are grateful for those who have previously served our organization. We thank former executive director, Amy Gundermann, for her many years of steadfast leadership and wish her the best in her new endeavors. We also said a fond farewell to several board directors in 2021. Those changes usher in 5 new board directors and our new executive director in 2022. We are fortunate for the continued energy and commitment invested in our community.

Annual Board Retreat: Our directors will spend time together for our annual retreat and first board meeting of the year on 1/30 and 1/31. It's dedicated time to get to know one another and plan for effectively carrying out our mission and new strategic plan in 2022. We look forward to sharing more about the retreat outcome in the next Eavesdropper issue.

Community Events in 2022: Building connection through events and service opportunities is a hallmark of Lex-Ham. We'll remain creative to safely engage in events and projects. We'll find ways to host the events enjoyed through the years, like the spaghetti dinner, ice cream social, annual meeting, blood drive, and others. They may need to look different as the pandemic evolves, but we will find ways for fun and meaningful connection. As always, we invite (and need) your ideas!

From Lex-Ham to the World: Metro Transit's new B line will start station planning, including two in Lex-Ham. On February 2, our neighbor Allianz Field is hosting an *outdoor* world cup qualifying match between the US Men's team and Honduras. Shortly afterwards comes the World Cup in Beijing, China. And with the indefinitely postponed development of the vacant site on Lexington and Fuller, we can dream that someday Lex-Ham may host the Winter Olympics, highlighted by our notorious MNDOT Snow Mountain (aka "Mt Sn-irt").

While we have a long winter ahead, remember that the days are now getting longer. We might choose to look at the pandemic in the same way. We know this won't last forever and that brighter, warmer days are ahead. And even right now, we might take a look outside and realize it's actually a beautiful sunny day today. Let's all do something to better our bodies, our minds, and our spirits. Bundle up and go on a walk, a run, do some yoga, eat healthier, drink less, read more, etc. And most importantly reach out to a neighbor, a family member, or a friend to check in and let them know they are loved and supported. We are here for each other. In 2022 our community will continue to find ways to be together, whether in-person or in spirit, and celebrate all the reasons that make Lex-Ham a great place to live.

Sincerely,

Jesse Hennum, President, Lexington-Hamline Community Council Board of Directors

WELCOME NEW BOARD DIRECTOR, TASHA SAMBS

We are thrilled to introduce another new board director, Tasha Sambs! Tasha and her family have been residents of the Lex-Ham neighborhood for seven years. Tasha loves to travel with her family, is passionate about gardening, cooking, baking, and reading. She has taught in St. Paul for 21 years and is the owner of Ferns & Foliage, a residential shade landscape & seasonal container business. She



looks forward to learning more about the Lex-Ham community and is excited to join the Board of Directors.

Welcome Tasha!

BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT: ACTIVE HEALTH CHIROPRACTIC

Active Health Chiropractic is new in the neighborhood. They gave the building on the corner of Selby & Syndicate a refresh with an updated storefront that includes fresh paint, windows, and exterior lighting. They moved from Selby & Victoria where they had been doing business for the past 12 years and specialize in the care of pregnant, postpartum, and pediatric clients. Also offered in the building is acupuncture, childbirth education classes, prenatal yoga, pelvic health workshops, and prenatal massage. They love seeing all their new neighbors walking dogs, riding bikes, and waving hello. •



Active Health Chiropractic Team

YOU ARE INVITED — TO GET INVOLVED!

Are you able to give a few hours a month to help make your neighborhood the best it can be? We are **actively recruiting for the Building Community Committee** that reports to our board of directors and helps carry out an important focus area of our strategic plan. The **goal** of Building Community within our strategic plan is to continue to foster inclusive engagement through community activities and service opportunities. We'd love to have you!



Call us to learn more or sign up online at www.lexham.org/getinvolved/committees

HOW DOES YOUR GARDEN GROW?

When you join the Lex-Ham Cooperative Garden, it grows with lots of neighborhood support and collaboration. Love gardening and fresh produce? Come grow with us! 2 spots are available for 2022. Contact Morgan for more info: morgankjappe@gmail.com



POEM BY GORDON PARKS HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT JOSEPH BALLARD AT OPENING OF MIDWAY PEACE PARK

Joseph is a student at Gordon Parks High School and shared this poem at the opening of the Midway Peace Park event in the fall of 2021. Joseph said, "It used to be a trash bin and with the help of the community and request for it, a park was set and made upon that area. The poem is supposed to represent what a community can do."

Community's Power

A community is a family
Bound by goals, not blood
By dreams, not color
By pain, and success

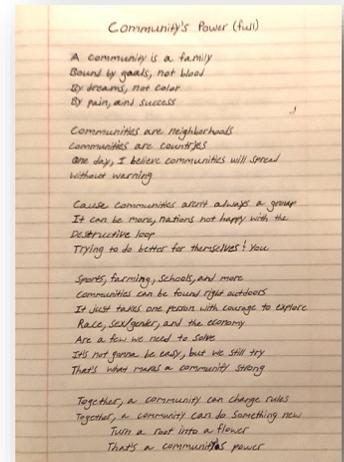
Communities are neighborhoods
Communities are countries
One day, I believe communities will spread without warning

Cause communities aren't always a group
It can be more, nations not happy with the
Destructive loop
Trying to do better for themselves! You

Sports, farming, schools, and more
Communities can be found right outdoors
It just takes one person with courage to explore
Race, sex/gender, and the economy
Are a few we need to solve
It's not gonna be easy, but we still try
That's what makes a community strong

Together, a community can change rules
Together, a community can make something new
Turn a root into a flower
That's a community's power

by Joseph Ballard



Joseph's poem written and shared at the opening of the Midway Peace Park



Mission Statement

The purpose of the Lexington-Hamline Community Council is to improve the quality of life and bring about positive community change in the Lexington-Hamline neighborhood of St. Paul. This is done through the active involvement of neighborhood residents in community projects, programs, and direct action on issues which affect the neighborhood.

Who We Are

The Lex-Ham neighborhood in St. Paul is bounded by University Avenue, Lexington Parkway, Summit and Hamline Avenues. Since the Lexington-Hamline Community Council was established in 1969, it has been the cornerstone for organizing and serving the 4,000 residents living in this neighborhood. We continue to build a sense of pride and confidence in the community through a wide variety of activities and services ranging from cooperative home maintenance, crime prevention, energy conservation and recreational programs.

Editorial Guidelines

The Eavesdropper is delivered bi-monthly to every home and business in the neighborhood. Notices and articles should be submitted in electronic Word format to lexham@lexham.org. Please keep submissions to a length of 150 words or less. Please contact the Lex-Ham office for more information. Lex-Ham reserves the right to refuse any submission.

Board of Directors

Jesse Hennum, *President*
Vice President—OPEN
Jennifer Adam, *Treasurer*
Dawn Puoway, *Secretary*
Lynne Heuton
Amber James
Marisa McDaniel
Sarah Murphy
Greg Northrop
Amy Lucas Riley
Leo Rubiano
K.C. Sager
Tasha Sams
Kent Treichel

Staff: Catherine Hinz, *Executive Director*



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STAY TUNED FOR 2022 WINTER AND SPRING EVENTS

We remain committed (and creative!) to find ways to host our traditional events, and new gatherings too. We always appreciate your input as we navigate the evolving pandemic and find ways to safely connect and stay in community with each other.

Stay tuned for more information on our website and social media for:

- Spaghetti Dinner or virtual Pasta Party event info coming soon!



- Blood Drive in the spring
- Silent Auction Fundraiser

WELCOME NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, CATHERINE HINZ

Welcome Catherine Hinz to the ED role! She has been a resident of Lexington-Hamline since 2018 and has lived in St. Paul for nearly 10 years.



She is the founder and CEO of Beyond Words Co., a business that designs and ships sympathy care packages to support others through grief and loss. Most recently, she served as the executive director of the Minnesota Alliance for Patient Safety, a non-profit dedicated to the safe delivery of health care. She has over 10 years of experience in patient safety leadership and medical error prevention, previously serving as Director of Patient Safety at the University of Minnesota Health as well as HealthEast Care System (both now M Health Fairview).

Catherine has a Master of Healthcare Administration from the University of Minnesota and a BA in Business Administration from the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire. You'll see her and her school-age son out walking the blocks of Lex-Ham trying to wrangle their new energetic puppy, Ramona.

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"I'm thrilled to be in this role. Not only is it an honor to connect more closely with the roots of our special neighborhood, I look forward to working with our neighbors to continue to bring the best of Lex-Ham forward and, together, create the next wonderful chapter of our community."