

Minutes of PPERRIA Membership Meeting - July 1996

The 7/22/96 Prospect Park East River Road Improvement Association Membership meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Jim Widder, President. A quorum was present.

Jean Taylor offered a correction to the 6/24/96 membership meeting minutes. The motion by Susan Larson-Fleming that passed should read: "The Education and Human Services Committee of PPERRIA moves to approve a contract for \$156,225, as allocated in our NRP Plan; to reimburse the Minneapolis School District after Pratt renovations have been completed. This money will be used to construct the Village Green/Playground including amphitheater, arbor and playground area on Pratt's

east side and to improve accessibility and install basketball facilities on the south and west side of Pratt." This motion was approved by a phone vote of the Executive Committee on 6/17/96. Taylor also requested that there be an addition to the minutes indicating there was opposition to the street changes and that there were questions about the use of the change by handicapped individuals. Daniel Patenaude, Secretary, clarified that published minutes of meetings are intended to be records of actions of the meeting (objective) and any other information is background, informative, and an indication of the discussions (subjective).

Rick O'Gara, President of SKB Environmental, introduced Charles McGinley, environmental consultant, hired by SKB to complete a Prospect Park Area Odor Survey Report. Using three methodologies, five potential sources of the odor were identified: North Star potato plant wastewater processing, SKB composting, North Star potato processing, mixed sources (including grain) and unidentified sources (traffic exhaust, sewer, etc.) The next step is for these sources to determine if they can adapt what they are now doing in order to reduce the odor. Joan Campbell, Council Person, indicated that North Star and SKB are already working with the city. Further information will be presented at the 8/26/96 membership meeting.

Brian Lamb, Metro Council New Transit Services, presented a proposed change to the Dartmouth Interchange. The 16U bus layover is proposed to be moved from Oak and Beacon to the infield of the interchange. Motion that PPERRIA not respond unless given more information passed with some noes. Proposal has not been reviewed by the appropriate committee. This proposal is part of the general "rethinking" of metro transit needs and of the University integrating their transit with MTC. An on-line station is envisioned. Many comments from the membership: service and accessibility seems to be less than the current operation; small number of users compared to cost; safety and security of an isolated station; no access from neighborhood; etc.

Motion presented by Mary Alice Kopf passed without noes, to approve the process for obtaining safety and security street lights as described on Page Two of the 7/22/96 membership mailing. Proposed timetable: August: media information and neighborhood meetings with individual home owner estimated assessment. September: Three special q/a meetings. Early October: design selection. Mid November: Actual individual assessments. Petitions for lighting delivered to Public Works. There is \$300,000 of NRP funding to help with the costs but this cannot be more than 25% of total costs. The balance will be from individual home owned assessments. Not scheduled for NRP lighting are Motley, large rental areas, and Glendale. Review your 7/22/96 mailing and watch for further information.

Motion passed without noes, that "the Glendale/Prospect Park Committee work with the residents

of Glendale to identify possible sources of grant funding and to write proposals for grants that will benefit the Glendale community and the Prospect Park East River Road neighborhood. The PPERRIA Executive Committee will have the authority to approve the submission for grants." Presented by Jerry Stein, member Glendale/Prospect Park Committee. PPERRIA is not in the grant-writing business. Because of the NRP process, there may need to be grant writing in the future (for example, to continue programs started with NRP funds, but current NRP funds will no longer be available.) It is important that there be in place an open, inclusive, and no-surprise process. Other city neighborhoods do write grants. Immediate concern is "do we want to add this to our existing concerns?"

Motion passed 17 yes to 13 no, that "PPERRIA adopt both the River Gorge Park and the East Sand Flats Park to increase our influence over the future of both these important neighborhood resources." Motion presented by George Brauer. Further information at 9/96 membership meeting. PPERRIA and the Minneapolis Park Board will agree as to PPERRIA's role and tasks in these two parks. PPERRIA has earlier voted to do the same with Tower Hill Park. Concerns were that this seems to be a "blank check" and there is the possibility of advisory actions with others also interested in these public spaces.

Dawn Grafing of the "Run, Yell and Tell" program was not present. This is a program for children

in immediate distress, similar to the McGruff safe house program. At the 7/9/96 Executive Committee meeting, \$75 was allocated for publicity costs.

Vera Marshall, PPERRIA member of SEED Committee, indicated that the South East Economic Development Master Plan for the industrial property north of University Avenue is in final draft. PPERRIA concerns are about roadways and environmental effects. Due to the lateness of this meeting and the full schedule of the August membership meeting, detailed information will be presented at the September membership meeting. Watch South East Angle for articles.

Jim Widder talked about continuing efforts to reduce the feeling of exclusion and the contentiousness of membership meetings. Mary Ann Page will act as parliamentarian. Parliamentary procedures permit members to have their concerns heard. The system of having agenda items heard first at PPERRIA Committee meetings helps to assure that issues discussed at membership meeting have had the necessary inclusion and consideration, the homework has been done. At future meetings, additional efforts will be made to facilitate communication: maps, pre-printed information, identification, Constitution and By Law review, etc.

Paul Scheurer, renter of 419 Ontario in the Motley community; requested PPERRIA's assistance in his attempt to buy 419. The University is the owner and is planning to put much of their residential rental properties up for sale. His concern is that there be an open process. The issue was tabled and referred to the appropriate committee for consideration and, if appropriate, taken to the August Executive Committee. Concern was expressed that there is a vision plan as well as several earlier plans about the Motley area and consideration of individual properties without consideration of the plans is inappropriate.

Motion to adjourn passed.

Respectfully submitted, Daniel Patenaude, PPERRIA Secretary