

October 2007 PPERRIA Newsletter



PPERRIA Board/Membership Meeting

**Monday, October 22nd
7:00 – 9:00 p.m.**

**Prospect Park United Methodist Church
Corner of Orlin and Malcolm Avenues S.E.**

*Come early for treats and talk
6:30 – 7:00 pm.*

If you have special needs requiring accommodation, please contact Joyce Barta at bartajm@yahoo.com and we will make every attempt to meet that need.

THE WRAP ON THE FALL 2007 NEIGHBORHOOD CLEANUP

Tom Kilton says, "The cleanup would not be possible without volunteers. Many of you have been helping with the cleanup for years." Tom thanks all who helped.

Tony Garmers' informal survey results:

- Number of helpers this fall – approx. 30
- Oldest helper – 85
- Youngest – 14
- Average age – 56
- 52% were between 50 and 69 years
- 72% were over 50 years

Many thanks to Quinn Kiley from Melrose Apartments.

This year we picked up an unusually large amount of brush, much of it pesky buckthorn.

It's likely the Pratt Boot Sale and Pancake Breakfast, held the same morning, diminished cleanup efforts, especially from the much-needed younger strong backs. The conflict was unavoidable this year but every effort will be made to prevent it from happening again.

And finally: A huge THANK YOU to Western Bank for their gift of \$400. And to SKB who contributed two trucks, with drivers. They picked up concrete and metal, hauling it to the recycler's. (The metal brought in \$135, an added bonus.)

September Board meeting, the current projections represent more than a 50% reduction in the funding that NRP expected to have for Phase II.

For Prospect Park the projections mean that we have already spent all the NRP funds we are likely to receive -- and this is before our recent allocation for the low-interest home improvement loan program, which we do expect to be approved.

The director of NRP, Bob Miller, sent a letter at the end of September to the neighborhoods explaining the revenue shortfall. (A copy of his letter was circulated on the Prospect Park e-list.) In the letter, the director claims that the shortfall is a political problem and not a revenue problem.

Clearly the issues involved are not simple, but the result is likely to represent a basic change in the way Minneapolis is governed, as resources are moved from the neighborhoods to City hall. The NRP empowered neighborhoods by making resources available at the neighborhood level to carry out improvements and developments.

This process benefited many neighborhoods throughout the city. For example, without NRP, Prospect Park would probably not have a community school at Pratt. The loss of NRP funding means that all the resources will now be controlled by City Hall.

Without adequate resources and without staff, neighborhoods such as Prospect Park will find it increasingly difficult to have a say in how the development of their areas will proceed.

This is already occurring, as the City seeks ways to function more efficiently. Despite the efforts of the City Coordinator to open new avenues for citizen engagement, the reality seems otherwise. For example, an administrative review process has now replaced what had been a more thorough review of applications for zoning and building by the city zoning and planning department (CPED).

The result is that vital information about local context and circumstances, usually supplied by neighborhood review, is often no longer included in the city's review and approval process.

For those of you who wish to learn more about this issue and/or engage in the ongoing political debate, I urge you to visit the NRP website (www.nrp.org) and to attend the "Discussion with the Director" meeting to be held on Tuesday, October 30 at 7PM at the NRP offices on the second floor of the Crown Roller Mill Building.

.....Dick Poppele

PPERRIA Membership and Board of Directors Meeting

Monday, September 24, 2007, 7 pm, Prospect Park United Methodist Church

President Dick Poppele called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. following a social gathering .

1. A motion to approve the amended agenda was made by Susan Larson Fleming. Passed without noes.
2. A motion to approve the July minutes was made by Richard Adams. Passed without noes.
3. **Pratt School Report:** Ellen Murphy, Principal at Pratt School, and Deb Clark, Community Education Director, reported on activities at the Pratt Community Education Center. Ellen reported that 164 students we presently enrolled, with more to come. There are 2 kindergarten classes, 2 first grade classes, 2 second

grade classes and a combination third and fourth grade class, and a fifth grade class. Many partnerships with other community groups have provided extra programs for the students ranging from tutoring and mentoring, staff development and supplies for social studies, geography and science, drama, art and music, reading, after school homework support. Three U of M student teachers are present. Deb Clark reported that Community Education classes would continue, with Adult Basic Education moved to Lehman Center, but most of the rest of the classes will remain at Pratt. Registration open. Summer Splash program was most successful.

4. **SAAG (Stadium Area Advisory Group) Report:** Dick Poppele reported that the University District Alliance group would consist of representatives from each of the five neighborhoods surrounding the University and representatives from the University and from the City of Minneapolis, from the University Student Association. The SAAG report "Moving Forward Together" was given an award from the American Planning Association.
5. **NRP Report:** Dick Poppele reported that the NRP funds that had initially been allocated to the neighborhoods had been substantially reduced. The reduction of funds has resulted in the fact that the amount of contracts already entered into from the approved NRP II Plan exceeded the amount that was the 70% of the allocation by approximately \$17,000. This means that the Housing Program and the Administrative funds that we had applied for would not be forthcoming.
6. **4th St. Committee.** Julie Wallace reported that the purchase by the University of the property behind KSTP and 4th St. had been stalled. A contract between the City of Minneapolis and Hubbard regarding the use of the land and property taxes on the property is still in force, and disagreement between the University and the City regarding the need of the University to follow City planning requirements have put the sale on hold for at least six months. The neighborhood committee would like traffic counts on Bedford, and would like to obtain speed bumps on 4th St. to keep traffic slow. The City and the University would like to get access through the KSTP property to Territorial Road to relieve the amount of traffic on Bedford. (Concluded on page 4)
7. **Zoning Committee:** Florence Littman reported that Hartford developers have acquired 2.53 acres on 4th Street behind the Prospect Park Business center. They are planning to build two, 8-story buildings, probably for student housing. The Zoning Committee urged mixed use buildings. The property is zoned industrial. Super America still wants to expand. Florence has heard rumors that CVS pharmacy is considering locating in Stadium Village. Plans are being made for a Zoning and Planning workshop. Como, Marcy-Holmes and Prospect Park are attempting to meet with the City regarding administrative review of site plans. Cam Gordon facilitated a helpful meeting of neighborhood members with the director of CPED and planning and zoning staff.
8. **Livability Committee:** Joe announced that the Historic District designation was being delayed. Complaints about the accuracy of the information in the report by Hesse Roise regarding neighborhood properties have lead to responses from Hesse Roise to the complainants as to how to get changes made to the records from which they took their information. Susan Roth intends to give the complainants time to get changes made before sending out the notices to residents. It will probably be February before the issue goes to the State Review Board. Michael Atherton stated that his wife had been informed by the Federal office that the process for approving Historic Designation was up to the community. Joe stated that the process was determined by the State Preservation Office.

Joe reported that the Minnesota Department of Transportation supervisor will be at the November PPERRIA meeting. He believes that the addition of two lanes

to I-94, if not “temporary”, would require Section 106 review to study the negative impacts on the proposed historic district, which would impact the efforts to obtain sound abatement for the Mews and East River Terrace. An effort to get our legislators and the State Preservation representatives at the November meeting will be made.

9. **Announcements:** Pratt Boot sale will be held on September 29 as will the Fall Cleanup.

A motion to adjourn was made by Pete Degan. Passed without noes.

Respectfully submitted,

Betts Zerby, Secretary

Richard Poppele, President

Report on the PPERRIA Grant to Luxton Park – Summer, 2007

(Last spring PPERRIA donated \$1,500, and re-allocated \$1,085.91, for youth programs and extended hours for teens.)

1. Extended Hours Programming for Teens allowed us to fill the void left due to the cancellation of the long-running “Phat Summer” teen program. The park building was open from 7-10pm Thursday & Friday specifically for teens to have a safe, positive place to spend their leisure time. Activities included outdoors sports, games/contests in the gym, basketball, computer lab, Thursday night field trips, and creative arts activities. 37 youth ages 12-18 were served. Total attendance was 348 for the first 18 sessions. Also, the building hours were extended from 8pm to 9pm Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday. Over the ten-week summer program, we were able to keep our doors open an additional 70 hours.

2. We were able to use some of the money from PPERRIA to enhance our outdoor supervision staffing on the weekends. We had at least one staff on duty Saturdays, Sundays and holidays from Noon-8:00pm and

usually two staff during peak times from 2-6pm. Outdoor supervisors help maintain a safe park area for all kids by providing staff presence on park grounds, including the wading pool, playground, basketball court, and ball fields. Staff organized soccer, basketball, and other games.

Staff were available to the public/park patrons when they needed assistance such as first-aid. Veteran staff were thrilled to have a partner to work with during peak hours rather than working alone.

3. New program: We offered weekly Summer Sports Camps. The weekly camps included t-ball, soccer, flag football, lacrosse, volleyball and more. While attendance was high in some camps, it lagged for others. As a pilot program, there were many successes to build on for next year.

In addition, the PPERRIA funding freed up money that CACA awarded to the Luxton Park Council, which is independent of the MPRB and Luxton Park. With this money, Jim Widder was able to buy supplies to teach a class called “Things that Fly”. He taught the kids design and the physics of flight. The participants were able to

PPERRIA Standing Committees and Chairs

Education & Human Services	Susan Larson-Fleming	flemings@usfamily.net	331-8819
Executive	Dick Poppele	dick@umn.edu	378-9242
Finance	Tony Garmers	tggarmers@msn.com	378-2656
Housing	Roger Kiemele	kiemele@earthlink.net	331-5106
Livability (Subcommittees listed below, designated by *)	Joe Ring	jring@visi.com	379-4587
Membership	Tom Kilton	tom@tomkilton.com	339-3064
Personnel	Susan Larson-Fleming	flemings@usfamily.net	331-8819
Transit	John DeWitt	jdewitt@comcast.net	338-1871
Zoning & Land Use	Florence Littman	littm005@umn.edu	331-2970
Zoning Subcommittee: Planning	Rachael Ramadhyani	s_ramadhyani@hotmail.com	379-7320

Other PPERRIA Committees or Task Forces and Chairs

By-laws Task Force	Paul Zerby	pgzerby@yahoo.com	379-8095
*Community Events	Gratia Reynolds	grandmagratia@yahoo.com	331-5312
*East River Gorge Park	Tom Kilton	tom@tomkilton.com	339-3064
*Environment	Dean Abrahamson	deanabra@umn.edu	923-9449
*History Project	Betts Zerby	ejzerby@yahoo.com	379-8095
*Landscape, Garden Club	Mary Alice Kopf	mollisk@earthlink.net	379-7436
*Landscape Subcommittee: Tree Health Project	Paula Denman	pjdenman@mn.rr.com	338-1871
University / 4 th Street Task Force	Julie Wallace	jwallace3@comcast.net	378-9429

The Stadium Area Advisory Group (SAAG) is not a PPERRIA Committee but there are three PPERRIA representatives on the Committee: Dean Abrahamson, Florence Littman, and Dick Poppele.

build and launch model rockets, and fly remote-control airplanes.

Thank you for your support of Luxton Park!

Eric Cherland

Luxton Park Community Center
Director
112 Williams Ave SE
Minneapolis, MN 55414

612-370-4925
echerland@minneapolisparcs.org

October NRP Contractor Activities 09/07/07 – 10/04/07

Supported PPERRIA activities, NRP I, and NRP II			
Contractors' services:	Hours billed	Total expense	% of total Budget
09/07/07 to 10/05/07	35.25	\$ 846.00	0.4 %
10/18/95 to 09/07/07	10,802.91	\$187,869.15	97.3 %
10/18/95 to 10/05/07	10,838.16	\$188,715.15	97.7 %

Total revised PPERRIA NRP Phase 1 budget for independent contractor services = \$193,009.37. \$3958.52 remains.

Prospect Park East River Road Neighborhood Calendar

To include items in PPERRIA calendar, contact Joyce Barta at bartajm@yahoo.com by **Thursday, Nov. 9th**

Date and Time	Event and Location	Whom to contact
Sat, Sun, October 13 – 14	10-4 1-4 Mostly Weaving Sale at 27 Melbourne	Joy Thompson 378-2397
Tuesday, October 16	JOY Outing Call for information.	Choua Thao 370-4925 (Eric Cherland is away)
Tuesday, October 16	10:00 am - 1:00 pm NE Senior Health and Resource Fair at East Side Neighborhood Services, 1700 2 nd St NE. Flu shots health resources screenings door prizes, light lunch.	Karen Carlson 788-9186 carlkb@esns.org
Tuesday, October 16	7:00 pm (Tentative) Zoning & Planning Committee meeting at Prospect Park United Methodist Church.	Florence Littman 331-2970
Thursday, October 18	6:00 - 8:00 pm Pratt Council meeting at Pratt.	Mary Alice Kopf 379-7436 Pratt Office 668-1122
Monday, October 22	7:00 pm PPERRIA Board of Directors & Membership Meeting at Prospect Park United Methodist Church. Come at 6:30 for refreshments and conversation.	Dick Poppele 378-9242
Friday, November 2	11:00 am- 1:00 pm JOY Book Club Call for information.	Roberta Mark 331-6621 Choua Thao 370-4925
Saturday, November 3	9 am – 3 pm Community Art Fair and Bazaar at PPUMC	Mary Parish 379-1730
Wednesday, November 7	7:30 pm Luxton Park Council meeting at Luxton Park	Jim Widder 331-6129
Wednesday, November 12	noon - 1:30 pm JOY Potluck. Call for info. Bring some food to share.	Choua Thao 370-4925 (Eric Cherland is away)
Monday, November 12	7:00 pm PPERRIA Executive Committee meeting at Prospect Park United Methodist Church	Dick Poppele 378-9242
Wednesday, November 14	5:00 pm Glendale Resident Organization (GRO) meeting at 92 St. Mary's Ave.	Latrisha Collins 342-1952
Thursday, November 15	6:00 - 8:00 pm Pratt Council meeting at Pratt.	Mary Alice Kopf 379-7436 Pratt Office 668-1122
Tuesday, November 20	JOY Outing Call for information.	Choua Thao 370-4925 (Eric Cherland is away)
Tuesday, November 20	7:00 pm (Tentative) Zoning & Planning Committee meeting at Prospect Park United Methodist Church.	Florence Littman 331-2970
Monday, November 26	7:00 pm PPERRIA Board of Directors & Membership Meeting at Prospect Park United Methodist Church. Come at 6:30 for refreshments and conversation.	Dick Poppele 378-9242

**Featured Speaker for This Month's PPERRIA Meeting:
Robert Roscoe**

Neighbor, architect, and author, Bob Roscoe specializes in the preservation of "heritage" properties. For years he has made a study of Prospect Park homes, and brings us a brief presentation from his vast collection of slides.

Robert Roscoe celebrates the rich diversity of our local architectural styles, and the unique ways in which they fit into our Prospect Park landscape.

PPERRIA Web Site: <http://www.pperr.org>

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Road Improvement
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