

**East Harriet Farmstead Neighborhood Association  
Meeting of the Board of Directors  
Lyndale Farmstead Park, Minneapolis  
Wednesday July 2, 2008**

Board Members present: Matt Perry, Staven Bruce, Dean Carlson, Chris Gallaty, Michael Dietrich, Pam Meier, Patty Selly, James Thorson, Bruce Thomson, Roger Worm

Board Members not present: Patty Selly, Bruce Wadman

Others in attendance: Vivian Skoog (Walker resident), Al Maclean (Walker resident), Emily Winter (EHFNA Staff Member), Ann Lynch (Park Director), Jenny Taplin (resident), Maryjo Hackett (resident), Matt McNeill (Walker Marketing Director)

Meeting called to order at 7:03 PM

**1. Announcements**

- a. eNews articles for July 15 issue are due July 8.
- b. RoseFest is on July 19!

**2. Approval of July minutes**

- a. Approved unanimously

**3. Council Member Report**

Council Member Hodges is on vacation this week and neither she nor her aide will be presenting a report tonight.

**4. 40<sup>th</sup> & Lyndale Ave Reconstruction - Matt Perry**

Businesses at 40<sup>th</sup> & Lyndale intersection (such as LaRue's) are most affected by reconstruction as it is the one business intersection that will not have through traffic when that part of the road is under construction. At the April 15<sup>th</sup> Lyndale Avenue Reconstruction informational meeting Kathy Lawrow, owner of LaRue's, asked Commissioner Dorfman and Matt Perry if there was a way the lot of the closed SuperAmerica station could be used for parking for her customers. It was suggested then by Matt Perry that S/A would be most likely to consider this temporary use if permits and fees normally necessary for using the property in this manner were waived while the road in front of LaRue's and the other businesses at that intersection was under construction. Commissioner Dorfman's office has been working with the city on this. Matt reported that in conversations he has had with the County and City there has not yet been opposition by the various city departments who would need to give approval. If the city does approve waiving the normally required permits, it would still be up to LaRue's to get approval from SuperAmerica to use this lot for their customer parking.

Resident and S/A neighbor Ann Lynch offered her concern about S/A parking and that nearby residents might end up policing the problem. She supports parking there for the businesses during daytime hours only, but not for other visitors or evening use. Someone would need to be sure the chains are put up in the evening to prevent others from parking in the lot.

Bruce Thomson expressed concern regarding the vacant lot which has not been cared for - long grass growing, etc. Michael Dietrich questioned whether it is a city ordinance to care for vacant lots and bill the owner if work is not being done?

Matt Perry said he will contact LaRues to get assurance they will take responsibility for putting back up the chains at the end of their business day.

Ann Lynch suggested that we might want to consider planting prairie grass in that area - otherwise it will be simply a dirt lot when mowed. Michael Dietrich mentioned possibility of organizing some kind of

garden club to put a garden in the parking lot. Matt Perry said he would direct that request to the PES committee to look into.

#### **5. RoseFest 2008 - Pam Meier and committee chairs**

Reminder that it is the primary fundraiser for our neighborhood. Keep this in mind when talking with friends and neighbors.

It was estimated last year that around 2,000 people attended. Think closer to 2500 this year. Stretch goal is 3,425.

**Financial:** from funding standpoint, the sources are: #1 sponsorship; #2 food; #3 games. Right now we are at \$3,200 in sponsorships. Kudos to Roger Worm and Bruce Thomson for lining up some silver, gold, bronze sponsorships. Shout out to Patty Selly too who is working the non-profit arm. Last year we just broke even. This year we hope to at least break even and hopefully make some money.

**Food:** Menu includes Hamburgers, Hotdog, Bratwurst, Corn on Cob, as well as some vegetarian equivalents (cooked on a separate grill). Fabrizio Ciccone of Café Agri has agreed to cook from 2 - 4 pm for us.

**Layout of event:** We are moving ahead with the new suggestion this year of moving RoseFest completely to other side of the park building. Roger shared the map/layout.

**Volunteers:** We need many volunteers for the event. We have about 15 through Bethlehem and about 15 through other sources at this time. Request that board members visit their neighbors. Emily Winter passed around a sheet with time slots for board members to use noting the various shifts.

**Garden Tour:** Matt Perry reported that he has been asking folks if they will be on the tour but many are out of town. They have recommended other gardens which are great. Ten are confirmed for the tour thus far. Good mix of gardens. Good feeling from folks about RoseFest, the neighborhood association and what we are doing.

**Promotion:** Maryjo showed the board the door hangers and posters that have been produced. She asked board members to sign up to hang posters around the neighborhood.

**Set-up:** Tents to be set-up on Friday night. Board members needed to help both Friday night and Saturday all day (starting in the morning around 7:30 am). Saturday morning set up includes chairs, tables, games, etc.

Every board member will be responsible for overseeing a part of RoseFest that day.

There will be an after party for volunteers at a location to be determined.

Additional "asks" of board members: be available Friday and Saturday and also make a donation of a small bag of candy for prizes for kids. Some may be asked to seek donations for prizes.

Questions or concerns? Funnel to Pam or Maryjo.

Matt asked how many volunteers each board member needs to bring to the table and estimated seven per board member at this time. Emily estimated that there were approximately thirty volunteers signed up. Pam said we needed one hundred volunteers. As a result Board members were asked to work on getting seven additional volunteers each.

Thanks to Pam and Maryjo for getting us to this point.

**Lyndale Ave Block party.** Matt shared that there was a great block party on the 4300 block of Lyndale Ave. on June 28. Folks from the west side and east side who had never met each other were out in the street talking. Rewarding to see people building community right on that block.

#### **6. Park Report - Ann Lynch, Park Director**

- a. This is the park's busiest season. Fundamental baseball is up and running. Track and Field team was added this year and is doing great (meets at Roosevelt High School). We have three mornings of preschool. Intercity tennis is going on. Farmstead summer kids program is in afternoons. Environmental programs and Art in the Park. Next Tues. and Wed. we have canoeing. \$2 per person. Need to register. First tee golf starts in a couple of weeks. On July 24, "Ratatouille" is the Movie in the Park. Showed Wizard of Oz earlier this summer.

#### **7. Committee reports**

##### **1. Business, Housing, Zoning and Variance Committee (B. Thomson):**

- a. We are working on RoseFest!
- b. Roger is getting data for our revolving loan program. We are below by about one half to two thirds of the types of loans we used to give. Want to be sure we are offering the right service to folks and that they take advantage of the program.

##### **2. Community Building Committee (P .Meier):**

- a. CURA grant submitted
- b. Welcome kit - working on welcome kit for new neighborhoods including safety flyers and an EHFNA contact information magnet (will also use as a giveaway at EHFNA table at RoseFest)
- c. Pam has a neighbor who is an artist; possibility of EHFNA note cards?

##### **3. Crime, Safety, Transportation & Noise Committee (C. Gallaty):**

- a. "Slow Down" signs are being ordered for side streets during the Lyndale Ave reconstruction. This is an opportunity to do something constructive during the construction project. Kenny Neighborhood is going in on the signs with us and possibly Tangletown and Lynnhurst. Price goes down the more folks to go in. Each neighborhood will distribute its own signs. Distribution of signs varies by neighborhood organization. EHFNA will be delivering signs to property owners requesting them as well as canvassing homes on Aldrich and Bryant.

Maryjo Hackett asked about the lighted speed limit signs (technically referred to as "speed wagons") occasionally seen on streets. Matt Perry said EHFNA will request the speed signs, but with only six of them for the whole city, it will be challenging to have them in our neighborhood continuously during the reconstruction of Lyndale. The MPD does not have any of these speed signs. It is the Traffic Division of the city who owns them and decides where to place them. These signs remain in place for one week at each location they are placed. We will look into other ways to get speeds signs like these in the neighborhood while safety issues exist as a result of the Lyndale reconstruction project.

##### **4. Parks Environment & Schools Committee**

Bruce Wadman, Chair, was not in attendance. Emily Winter shared with the board details of the successful Household Hazardous Waste event (June 28). 146 area residents (including East Harriet, Kingfield, CARAG, Lyndale and other neighborhoods) dropped off materials. East Harriet's participation was almost double this year. Also, the Dutch Elm Treatment rebate is continuing.

##### **5. Steering Committee (M. Perry):**

- a. The City's Finance department has provided the Mayor, City Council and NRP with a reforecast the percentage of Phase II dollars that will be available at 74.5% from

the original amounts approved. Each neighborhood was neighborhood was notified of the additional amount of funds they would receive above the 70% of the original amount allocated. The East Harriet Farmstead Neighborhood Association received the smallest amount of additional funds at \$9,052. The City Council has guaranteed to fill any gap between the actual funds available up to 70% of the original. Since the forecast of NRP revenue has fluctuated and the City Council had guaranteed to fill any gap between actual NRP funds and 70% of the original, EHFNA will be basing its budget on the 70%.

- b. We are fortunate the Nicollet-East Harriet Business Association (NEHBA) was awarded \$50,000 in grant money through the Great Streets Business Façade Improvement Program. With EHFNA's NRP-based façade improvement program funds are almost exhausted this will allow businesses to still have grant money available for outside improvements. EHFNA is partnering with NEHBA by being responsible for the design reviews of submitted proposals from East Harriet businesses. Businesses in city designated commercial nodes in the NEHBA boundaries will be eligible for up to \$5,000 in matching funds for façade improvements. The two nodes in East Harriet designated as commercial nodes are 36<sup>th</sup> Bryant and 46<sup>th</sup> & Bryant. The 36<sup>th</sup> & Bryant node has been identified as a "priority node" which means eligible businesses would receive a 2:1 grant (every \$2 put in by the business would receive \$1 in grant money) up to \$5,000. Eligible businesses at the 46<sup>th</sup> & Bryant node would receive a 3:1 grant. To get more information businesses can contact NEHBA at 612-823-3472 / [info@nicolleteastharriet.org](mailto:info@nicolleteastharriet.org).

6. Adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Minutes submitted by:

Emily Winter, EHFNA Staff Member

Minutes approved by:

Matt Perry, Board Chair