



Cedar · Isles · Dean  
Neighborhood Association

# 2023-2024 Annual Report

# 2023-2024 Board of Directors

Erica Collins, Chair

Pam Dmytrenko, Vice Chair

Patty Schmitz, Treasurer

Laura DeMarais

Stephen Goltry

Mark Miller

Tom Owens

Tim Sheridan

Pamela Taylor-Berry

Amanda Vallone

Coordinator: Rachel Svihel

## Our Mission:

The Cedar-Isles-Dean Neighborhood Association works for the benefit of its residents and the community at large by promoting civic engagement, encouraging social and cultural exchange, working for the preservation and enjoyment of the natural environment and residential properties, and supporting a vibrant commercial district.

# Note from the CIDNA Chair



This was a year of firsts for me. It was my first year of marriage; my first year as a dog mom; my first time in the two years I've lived in CIDNA really talking with my neighbors; and my first time joining the neighborhood board. Continuing in that theme of firsts, it was at my very first meeting as a board member that I took on the role of Chair--which certainly proved to be a big learning opportunity! As I conclude my time as Chair, I want to thank all of the community members (especially my fellow board members) for their contributions to this pivotal time of growth for me and for CIDNA.

A lot has happened here in CIDNA over the past year (and I'm not just talking about construction...). We joined with nearby neighborhoods to present a City Council candidate forum, spread the word about public safety, built community at happy hours, and supported a healthier ecosystem for our lakes and parks. Last summer, neighbors of all ages enjoyed outdoor events like celebrating Solstice, a summer music series, ice cream social, and children's storytime. We look forward to bringing these events (and more) back in 2024.

More highlights can be found throughout this slideshow, and I hope that they will excite you to continue (or begin!) making an impact on this neighborhood. CIDNA needs leaders to serve on the board and committees, volunteers to lend a hand at events and neighborhood improvement initiatives, and support from donors and city leaders. If you're unsure of how to plug in--let's talk! Even as my time on the board is ending, I still love meeting for coffee or going for walks with neighbors that share my passion for community, civic engagement, and the natural beauty right outside our doors.

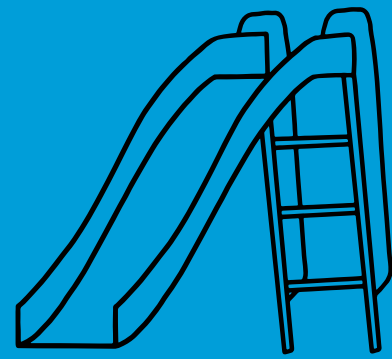
I'll close with a classic Minnesota line: "It's not a goodbye, it's a see you later!"  
Erica Collins, 2023-2024 Chair

# 2023 Survey – Key Takeaways

Topics of greatest concern:



Nature  
Preservation



Parks &  
Recreation



Safety & Crime  
Prevention

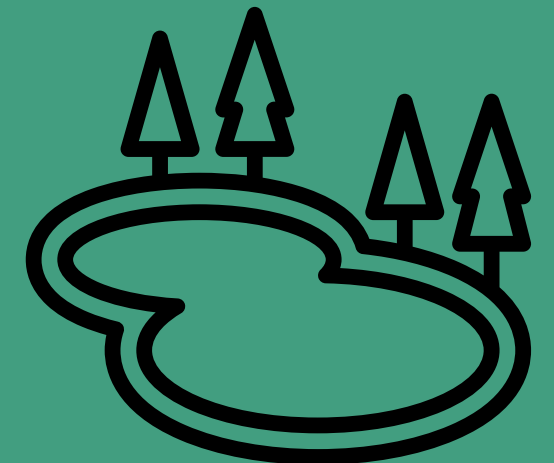
Programming of greatest interest:



Adult  
socials



Exercise



Nature  
Activities

For future surveys we need to work harder at engaging:

- More neighbors overall (61 respondents this year)
- Younger neighbors (majority of respondents were 60 or older)
- Renters (three-quarters of respondents own single-family or multi-unit homes)

# New CIDNA Signage

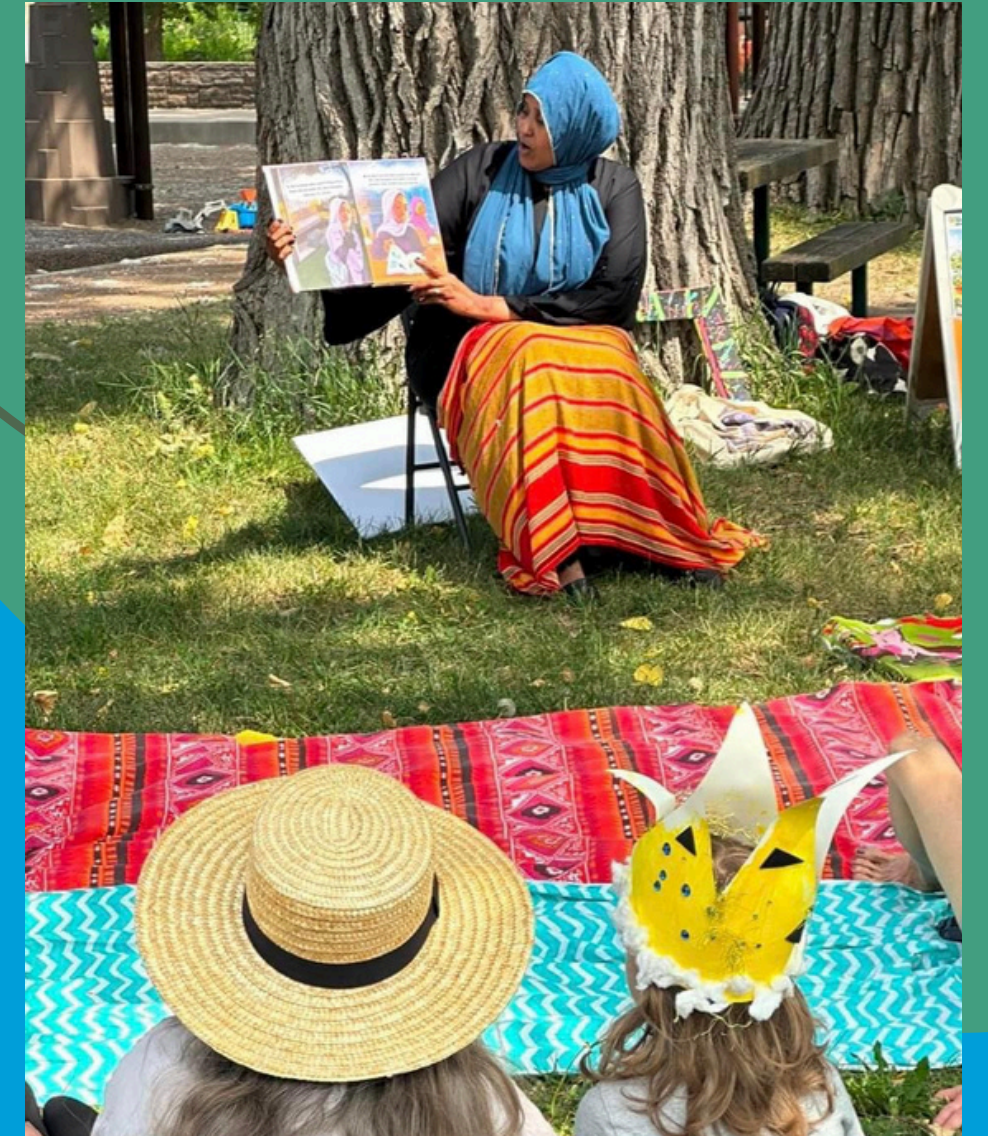
This past November, new “Welcome to Cedar-Isles-Dean” signs went up around the neighborhood.

Thank you to board member Tim Sheridan for his work getting the new signs installed, and for taking these photos featuring the late fall foliage.

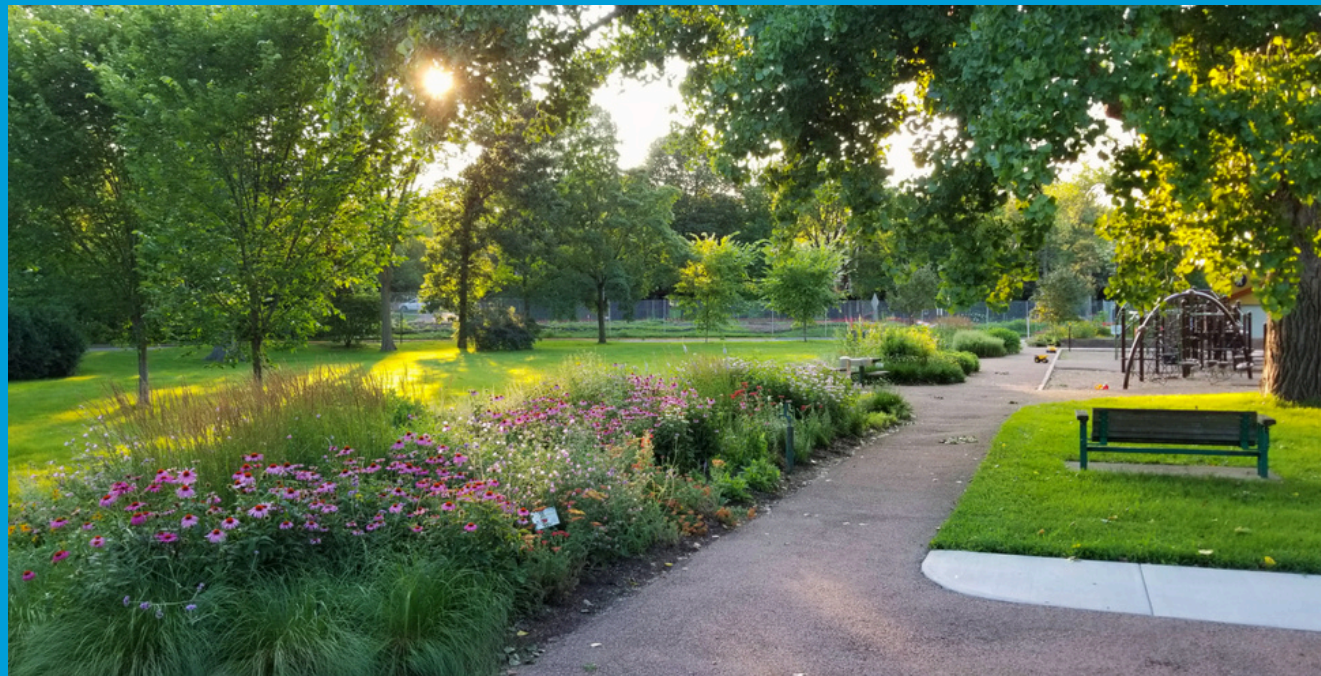


# Serving the Community

- Story time with authors from multicultural backgrounds
- City Council Candidate Forum
- Multi-neighborhood community safety meeting
- Freight rail safety trainings and emergency drill
- May Day basket-making for Jones Harrison residents



# Stewarding Natural Beauty



- Park Siding Park gardening
- South Cedar Beach clean-up
- Partnership with Cedar South Point stewardship
- Fall and spring neighborhood clean-ups
- MPRB Board Forestry Meeting

# Cultivating Partnerships

- Collaborated with fellow Ward 7 neighborhoods on City Council forum
- Partnered with West Maka Ska on trivia night, Earth Day festival, and safety initiatives
- Connected with CIDNA businesses
- Engaged local artists, authors, and musicians
- Communications with representatives of the city, Parks Board, SWLRT construction project, and more





# Having Fun!

- Summer Music Series
- Neighborhood happy hours
- Summer Solstice Shindig
- End of Summer ice cream social featuring Open Eye Theatre puppet show
- Fall Festival
- Holiday mART
- Trivia Night at Taberna





Thank you to everyone that came out to CIDNA events in '23-'24!

# CIDNA Fundraising

At the 2023 Annual Meeting, past Chair Laura Cederberg shared that due to cuts in funding from the city, CIDNA would be facing an increased need for individual donations in order to continue family programming and social events.

Thanks to the support of our neighborhood and the initiative of Treasurer, Patty Schmitz, 2023-2024 fundraising has been more successful than it has been in the past. And, as we enter 2024-2025, we still have more work to do as a community.

We have a big goal—raise \$6,000 to enable us to host our 2024 community events—and we need your help to cross that finish line so that we can continue planning for highly anticipated events and establish a sustainable future for CIDNA. **Thank you for your support!**

Scan below  
or visit  
[cidna.org](https://cidna.org) to  
give!



Thank you, CIDNA volunteers, for all you do  
to make our neighborhood great!

[cidna.org](http://cidna.org) ☀ [info@cidna.org](mailto:info@cidna.org) ☀ [facebook.com/CedarIslesDean](https://facebook.com/CedarIslesDean)

Special thanks to Tim Sheridan, who took most of the photos in this presentation!