

CEDAR-ISLES-DEAN NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Board Meeting Minutes, April 14, 2021, 6-8 p.m.

Online via Zoom

Minutes by Rosanne Halloran

Board members present: Chair Mary Pattock, Vice Chair Tim Sheridan, Treasurer Kevin Johnson, Secretary Rosanne Halloran, Evan Carlson, Stephen Goltry, Claire Ruebeck, Amanda Vallone, and CIDNA Coordinator, Michael Jon Olson.

Absent: Dean Kephart

Invited guests: Met Council SWLRT Outreach Coordinator David Davies and CIDNA accountant Robert Thompson. Several community members were also present.

Call to order: Mary Pattock, Chair

Mary called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m. The board approved the meeting minutes for March 10, 2021. Mary welcomed our new CIDNA Coordinator, Michael Jon Olson, and community members.

Report: Minneapolis City Council Ward 7, Lisa Goodman

- *Racism, safety and community* — Lisa spoke about the tragic death of Daunte Wright and suggested the names of various community organizations that could speak to CIDNA on issues of race and safety. The city initiated a Transforming Community Safety Learning Lab Series that will feature partners and national experts in violence prevention and other areas related to transforming community safety. The first lab, April 20, 2021, at 3:00 PM, will be led by Anthony Smith of Cities United and Sasha Cotton of the Minneapolis Office of Violence Prevention. Watch for details in Lisa's newsletter or by going to: <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZErduiuqDkiEtCqtu1gWh9m8widIBbGI0XZ>
- *Lunch with Lisa* will be held on Wed, April 28, Noon-1 p.m., featuring the AVIVO Village project in North Minneapolis, an interior, tiny home community alternative to outdoor encampments. (<https://avivomn.org/>). Contact Lisa's office if you have questions or want to attend.
- *Street sweeping* starts April 20. Watch for street signs and remember to not sweep or dump yard waste into the street.
- *Local businesses* — A community member encouraged residents to support local businesses on Hennepin Ave that recently suffered damage from civic unrest. Lisa said that although most want armed patrol, it isn't possible to do that for all businesses. There was discussion about law enforcement training and government action directed at current violence in the greater Twin Cities.

Chair's Report, Mary Pattock

- *Welcome* — Mary welcomed Amanda Vallone back to the board and thanked her for having served as interim coordinator.
- *The CIDNA Annual Meeting* will be Wednesday, May 12, 2021, 7-8:30 p.m., via Zoom. It will feature an annual accountability report to the neighborhood, results of the

neighborhood survey, and accountability reports from Lisa Goodman, Ward 7 City Council Member; Marion Greene, District 3 Hennepin County Commissioner; and Jono Cowgill, Minneapolis Park & Recreation District 4 Commissioner and Board President. (Since the legislature will still be in session, CIDNA will ask Dist. 61 Senator Scott Dibble and Dist. 61 A Representative Frank Hornstein to report at the June 9 CIDNA Board meeting.) Also at this meeting, the membership will elect board members. CIDNA residents are invited to nominate themselves or someone else before or during the meeting. A link to a nomination form will be included in an upcoming E-News.

- *The board retreat* will be held at the end of June. Mary asked board members to send her suggestions for a meeting facilitator.
- *Values* — CIDNA needs to finish its foundational planning work by identifying organizational values; these values will be used in goal setting and in creating our new website. A special meeting of the board will be called for that purpose.

Treasurer's Report, Kevin Johnson

- Robert Thompson, CIDNA's accountant, said that CIDNA is in a good financial position. Expenses are down, probably because major events were cancelled due to the pandemic, therefore revenues (from city funding) are down, too. The bank balance is \$26,341.

Coordinator's Report, Michael Jon Olson

- Since starting in this role on April 1, Michael Jon has conversed with board members, community and city partners, and is becoming acquainted with CIDNA's organizational business.

Guest Report: Transportation Committee, David Davies, SWLRT Outreach Coordinator

- *Soil displacement* — As the interlocking metal sheets that form the walls of the SWLRT tunnel are driven into the ground, they may hit boulders and cobble that cause them to bend out of shape. This creates gaps as much as two inches wide between the sheets. Because some of the construction is below the water table, water carries small amounts of soil from outside the tunnel through these gaps and into the tunnel. Over several days this displacement could cause dangerous soil settlement outside the tunnel. Crews are now inspecting the sheets as they excavate and repairing any gaps that they find. Since some gaps may be under the water table, qualified diving professionals will be hired to inspect sheets for gaps underwater. Gaps will be sealed by grout or a welding procedure. This means project work hours will be extended on weekdays from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm. Diving crews will work until any gaps are sealed; their work can be done with minimal noise. The Met Council will provide real-time notifications when emergency repairs are needed that could extend past 8:00 PM. The inspections will be done mostly after normal construction hours in order to maximize the excavation during normal working hours and minimize the delay caused by this additional work. No excavation activities will be allowed after 6:00 PM.
- *Emergency planning* — Claire Ruebeck expressed concern about the Met Council's failure to establish an emergency preparedness plan for the community.
- *Train speed* — A question was raised about the freight train now moves at approximately walking speed through the corridor. Risk of high-hazard freight train operations during

construction and operation of SWLRT was called out in the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) submitted by Citizens Acting for Rail Safety – Twin Cities (CARS-TC) in June 2016.

Safety Committee Report, Stephen Goltry

- Near Lakehaus on West Lake St., a landscape crew is repairing ruts made by a mobile crane in the pedestrian area.
- A second *Nice Ride* bike rental station has been installed at Dean and West Lake St.

Social Committee Report, Amanda Vallone

- *May Day* — The board approved \$250 for the Annual May Day basket project. This year it will be a collaboration between CIDNA and Kenwood youth creating and delivering 150 baskets to Jones Harrison residents. Baskets will be created on Thursday, April 29 and Friday, April 30. Due to Covid restrictions, baskets will be delivered by Jones Harrison staff, although youth will be able to write personal notes to residents. To learn more, email: info@cidna.org
- *Take a Look at CIDNA (TLC)* — Our April Facebook theme is “Beautiful Birds.” Post your photos!
- *Garage sale* — CIDNA member Kristin Dolphin offered to organize a summer CIDNA garage sale. Plans will be discussed at upcoming board meetings. If you’re interested in helping, contact info@cidna.org.

Environmental Preservation Committee Report, Claire Ruebeck

- *Stewardship* — The board voted to provide communication support to a South Cedar Point stewardship project initiated by Cedar Lake Park Association.
- *Funding* — The City requires that the \$20,000 earmarked by CIDNA for a Cedar Lake South Beach joint project with the park board, which was delayed by the park board, must still be put under contract for that purpose by Dec. 31, but need not be spent by then. There was discussion about using the funds for curbing to prevent shifting sands at Cedar Lake South Beach.
- *Save the Bees* — The board voted to ask the Environmental Committee to look into creating a bee preservation neighborhood project, and to submit a proposal to the board. Claire abstained from voting. Mary noted that the SWLRT project resulted in the destruction of bee habitat in the area. Evan suggested that a solar component to the project be investigated.

Communication Committee Report, Dean Kephart

So far, 67 CIDNA members have responded to the Neighborhood Survey. Many excellent neighborhood improvement suggestions were made. Results will be featured at the annual meeting.

Land Use and Zoning Committee Report, Evan Carlson

- Michael Jon will request more information about the variance requests at 2739 Dean Parkway and at 3311 Cedar Lake Avenue, for which there will be a public hearing on April 22.
- Final construction plans for the BP station hotel site will be made public in May.

Old Business - none

New Business - none

The meeting was adjourned at 8:17 p.m. The next meeting will be the Annual Member's Meeting held via Zoom on Wednesday, May 12, from 7:00-8:30 p.m. Details will follow in an upcoming E-News.

Note to CIDNA residents: sign up for our monthly e-newsletter by sending a request to info@cidna.org. Please also submit comments, suggestions, or requests to help with activities reported from our meetings.