

Cedar-Isles-Dean Neighborhood Association

Minutes of the August 11, 2021 Board Meeting (held via Zoom)

Submitted by Dean Kephart and Michael Jon Olson

Attendance

Board Members Present: Laura Cederberg (Chair), Laura DeMarais, Rosanne Halloran, Dean Kephart, Mary Pattock, Claire Ruebeck, Mike Siebenaler (Treasurer), Amanda Vallone

Board Members Absent: Stephen Goltry, Tim Sheridan (Vice Chair)

Others Present: Michael Jon Olson (CIDNA Coordinator), David Davies (Metropolitan Council), Adam Smith (Metro Transit), Cody Olson (Metro Transit), Dan Woychick (Woychick Design), Mike Wilson (former resident)

Preliminaries

Meeting was called to order at 6:00.

The board approved the agenda without changes.

The board approved the minutes of the July 14 board meeting.

Presentations

Metro B Line. Adam Smith and Cody Olson from Metro Transit presented on the B Line project, outlining the service, routes, station design, and so forth. There will be three stops in or near the Cedar Isles Dean neighborhood (West Lake Street Station, Lake & Dean, and Lake & Lagoon). Construction is scheduled for 2023-2024, with operation scheduled to begin in 2024. Metro Transit aims for improved service, projects a 30 percent increase in ridership along the route, and an increase in Metro Transit Police and community service personnel.

Rebranding and Website Project. Following from the Creative Brief and the Creative Strategy, both of which were reviewed by the Communications Committee, designer Dan Woychick presented a mood board, which proposed a visual “look and feel” that would present the organization as inviting, inclusive, knowledgeable, active, and optimistic. The board provided feedback regarding: accessibility (e.g. using colors and color pairings that are easier for visually impaired to read), usage of acronym vs. full name, and other elements. Response was generally positive. Dan will incorporate feedback into the next stages of the rebranding and website design process.

Reports

SWLRT Construction. David Davies reported that freight rail line improvement work will be conducted 9:00 am - 9:00 pm on Saturdays and Sundays over the next three weekends. He also noted that there will be a channel closure in late August, and a 10-14 day closure of Cedar Lake Parkway toward the end of August to prepare for the major closure yet to come. Also, due to required changes in the Kenilworth LRT tunnel construction, access for construction vehicles requires the addition of Sunset Boulevard as a haul route between France Avenue and the

construction corridor. Residents impacted by this change were notified in a letter dated June 8. The letter included contact information for questions or issues regarding the additional traffic. The route will begin to be used within the next few weeks.

Governance Committee. Laura C. reported on the West Maka Ska Safety Walk, coming up at 4:30pm on September 15 (CIDNA residents are invited!) and that the Met Council has agreed to hold a virtual public forum on SWLRT construction issues, 6:00 - 8:00pm on September 16. She also reported on planning for the Board Retreat, scheduled for 12:00noon - 4:00pm on September 25 (more details to come) and work on the Equitable Engagement Plan, a draft of which is required by the NCR department this Fall.

Social Committee. Amanda reported on the first new activity to take place as a result of the neighborhood survey: Tai Chi on Dean Green, scheduled for 10:00am on Tuesdays, August 24 - September 28; and on the Fall Festival, planned for 1:00 - 4:00pm, Saturday, October 9 (no rain date; refreshments from local businesses; live music; tables with resources). Amanda will also be hosting a Pink Flamingo party at her house: 7:00pm, Thursday, August 19.

Environmental Committee. Claire reported on upcoming dates for gardening at Park Siding Park (9:00 am - 12:00 noon, Saturday, August 21) and Cedar South Beach Clean Up (9:00 - 11:00am, Saturday, September 11). Claire also reported that the committee is looking into the possibility of doing a mural on the Cedar South Beach comfort station in lieu of a mosaic project, which would be more expensive to maintain. She will bring a recommendation for action to the September board meeting. Michael Jon reported that thanks to Claire's lobbying efforts, MPRB has committed to installing at least one new picnic table and grill at Cedar South Beach.

Communications Committee. Dean reported that the committee's work right now is focused on the rebranding and website work, covered earlier.

Coordinator. Michael Jon reported that he and the Governance Committee will be working to get a Transportation Committee up and running this fall and that he is still investigating options for providing CIDNA residents with information about the proposed City Charter amendments.

Archive Project. Rosanne reported that she is coordinating to archive CIDNA's records. She is in touch with an archivist from Hennepin County Library Special Collections, which has a collection related to Minneapolis neighborhoods and neighborhood organizations. Rosanne will send out a brief on this work and will be reviewing documents with the archivist next week.

Crime & Safety. In the chat, Mary reported that the Excelsior/Lake area is considered "an emerging hotspot" for apartment-garage burglaries; that the Cedar Lake Park area is an "emerging cluster" of thefts from motor vehicles; that there is a high incidence of thefts of catalytic converters, especially from Priuses, and Mitsubishi, Honda and other midsize SUVs; and that there is a high incidence of thefts of Toyota Priuses.

Actions

Moved: *That CIDNA move forward with working with Hennepin Council Library Special Collections to archive CIDNA's historical records.* Seconded. Passed unanimously.

Discussions

Secretary. Amanda volunteered to be “Secretary” for the September and October meetings. Claire will be “Secretary” for November and December.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:50pm