



South Uptown Neighborhood Association (SUNA) Meeting Minutes- February 21, 2023

Attendees

- ★ Katy Briggs, Jerome Chateau, Joel Chechik, Jenna Egan, Phil Qualy, Gretchen Sieger
Absent: Rachel Starcher
- ★ Newly elected Board Members: Alex Bissen and Haakon Gisvold

Agenda / Meeting Notes

Introductions/ Announcements, Katy Briggs

- Welcome and introductions

Approve Agenda & 1/17 Minutes, Katy Briggs (Vote)

- Motion to approve 2/21/23 agenda
 - Approved
- Motion to approve 1/17/23 minutes
 - Approved

Community Forum, Katy Briggs (Discussion)

- No issues or concerns

Bryant Square Park, Jason Green (Update)

- summer registration is open at noon on February 23
- Closed Thursday due to weather with youth sports canceled Wednesday and Thursday (not sure about adult sports)
- January 21, 2023 Luminary skating event was rescheduled to February 4th
 - Fantastic event
- Summer camps - BSP will be a host for several

- Music series received a lot of applications!
- Ice rink is done for the season
 - Only 3 weeks of quality skating
 - Watering wasn't optimal this year and the weather was not in our favor
- How can we get grass to grow in the field
 - Becoming a safety issue and is a poor surface for kids to play on

Union Hmong Kitchen, Yia Vang (Update)

- Yia Vang, the chef at Slurp restaurant/ pop-up gave an update regarding the space they took over at 901 W. Lake Street (Lake & Bryant).
- They are using it as a commissary kitchen, used for State Fair, catering
- Can serve as an event center as well, so is a highly adaptable space
- Wanted to make a rotating pop-up restaurant in the dining space
 - Q1: Slurp - W, Th, Su (Lunch), F, Sa (Extended) – until 3/25/23
 - Q2:
- They are in the process of obtaining a beer/liquor license and considering pursuing a sidewalk cafe license
- Motion to send a SUNA letter of support for the beer/liquor and sidewalk cafe license
 - Approved

10th Ward City Council, Aisha Chughtai (Update)

- Aisha Chughtai was not able to attend due to events at the Roof Depot site

Board of directors Vacancy, Katy Briggs (Discussion)

- The South Uptown Neighborhood Association Board of Directors are seeking to fill vacancies following the recent resignations of two members.
- Neighbors will be appointed by the Board to fill out the remaining term through September when elections take place.
- The organization is especially interested in recruiting candidates that better reflect the demographics of the neighborhood.
- Haakon Gisvold
 - 32nd Dupont
 - Celebrating one year of sobriety
 - Would like to give back to the community
 - Fellowship director for AA meetings
- Alex Bissen
 - 5 years of sobriety
 - 20 year resident of Mpls
 - Wants to get more deeply involved in the neighborhood
- Motion to approve filling the vacancies with the above excellent candidates

- Approved

DEI Statement, Rachel Starcher (Discussion)

Initial draft of DEI statement:

In South Uptown, everyone is welcome. Whether putting down roots, blossoming new generations, or ebbing and flowing like the water's edge on our lakeshores, our community's vibrancy stems from our neighbors.

- Rachel (SUNA DEI Officer) was not able to attend
- We will finalize the DEI statement at the next meeting

Land Use & Transportation Committee, Jerome Chateau (Update)

Land Use Rezoning Study/ Bryant Ave (Vote)

- The Land Use & Transportation Committee approved a resolution requesting that the City reconsider the planning guidance for Bryant Ave S. during their Land Use Rezoning Study that is taking place.
- Motion to table discussion of the above-referenced letter
 - Approved
- The City is conducting a land use study and is rewriting the zoning code
- In 2020, the City approved the comprehensive 2040 plan, where the guidance lives
- Rules need to be rewritten to match what is in the 2040 plan
- Comment period has been extended 30 days
- Send back to the Land Use Committee for further discussion

1301 W. Lake St. (Update)

- Public meeting regarding the mixed use, affordable housing project was held earlier on 2/21 at Art + Recreation
 - Stakeholders outnumbered the community participants
- There will be future opportunities for the community and SUNA to engage and provide feedback

City Hall Visit

- Phil and Jerome met with Aisha Chughtai at City Hall regarding concerns identified by some residents near Lake on Fremont and Emerson.
 - Talked about the desire for speed bumps and traffic calming efforts, as well as development around Seven Points

Other Committee Updates, All (Update)

Livability and Engagement

- Most of the conversation was around the Luminary event
 - Committee worked really hard with Jason and it was very well organized

- This was the second time the Committee helped organize the event and they are looking forward to participating again
- Bring back the chili Fest event?
 - It is usually the last Sunday of February, but this may be moved to October and held in-person.

Development Committee

- Standing meetings will occur at 6PM on the 4th Monday of the Month
- Reach out to Katy with interest or questions

Treasurer's Report, Joel Chechik (Update)

Bank Accounts & Financial Report

- \$4K increase in the revenue
 - Income received from reimbursement for costs for a 2022 organics recycling grant and a \$1K donation from Hummingbird
- Total assets are \$61,934
- Net operating revenue \$7,082
- Expenses were as expected and stable
- March will see a \$1500 contribution to BSP for activity development funds
- Home improvement loans available through SUNA
 - Interest rates have gone up driving more applications for South Uptown's low-interest loans.
- Budget vs actual is slightly ahead
- Budget is stable, but funding has been cut over the years (e.g., NRP Plan Modification)
 - At this rate, may need to cut expenses or increase fundraising in the next 4-5 years

Adjourn

- Motion to adjourn
 - Approved

Upcoming Committee Meetings and Events

- South Uptown Neighborhood Meeting: Tue, March 21, 2023, 7:00PM
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