

# South Uptown Neighborhood ) Meeting October 18, 2022 Minutes

# **Board Attendees**

- ★ Jerome Chateau
- ★ Jenna Egan
- 🛧 Phil Qualy
- ★ Scott Engel
- ★ Scott Moss
- ★ Rachel Starcher
- ★ Joel Chechik
- ★ Katy Briggs
- ★ Gretchen Sieger
- ★ (Absent: Hannah Friel)

# Agenda / Meeting Notes

### Introductions/ Announcements: Katy Briggs

- Board Member introductions
- Welcome neighbors and guests

## Approve Agenda & 8/16 Minutes: Katy Briggs (Vote)

- Motion to amend agenda
  - Approved
- Phil recognized to offer a moment of silence for our neighbor who was recently killed
- Motion to approve minutes. Approved.

## Bryant Square Park: Jason Green (Update)

- Fall sports are in full swing
  - $\circ~~$  5 flag football teams and several soccer teams
  - 2 volleyball teams and not enough gym space
  - Waiting list for indoor soccer
- The park is quiet

- Field lights go off at 8:45 and are not on overnight
- Scott, Trisha and a rep from forestry are looking at options for park trees.
- The Luminary Skating Party will take place on Saturday, January 21st
- Halloween -
  - Not sure if there will be events this year (55+, family pumpkin carving)

#### Common Bond/ 1301 W. Lake St.: Katie Anthony (Update)

- Principal PM (company based in St. Paul for 50 years)
- Project-
  - Vacant lot organization has contract to purchase (7 Points people)
  - 100% affordable housing
    - Income restrictions when you move in;
  - 6 story building
    - Mix of housing types
    - Minneapolis Affordable Housing Trust Fund dollars applied in July, and award announcements 11/29; city council 12/8
    - If we get 1st award, design will follow; usually will wait until funding awards are secured before next phases progress
    - Applied to Mpls Foundation for a grant
      - \$ for main street revitalization
    - Small grant from the City of Mpls- 2.3M applied for
      - They make awards based on formula in the PRF
        - 3 bd at this affordability level you get x
      - Applied for the max amount
      - Typically, there are 15-20 applications and maybe 10-12 get funded
    - How can SUNA help?
      - Application process in the simmering phase... may be opportunities to push some advocacy coming up
      - Move support to action may require some involvement
    - State of MN funding scoring criteria 100% supportive or historic preservation housing, which doesn't fit this project.
    - Finalize finances by end of 2023, potentially into 2024-25 because affordable housing dollars can take a while to go through

#### Development Committee: Katy Briggs

- Give to the Max Day (GTMD) is November 17, 2022
  - This is Minnesota's giving holiday
    - Nonprofits engage in funding efforts 11/7; campaign starts on 11/1
    - People from any state can participate and support MN
    - Give MN is the fundraising platform

- Theme = togetherness; come together to address challenges of the last few years
- Development committee is working to:
  - Co-host events
  - Bring awareness to what we do for our community

City funding is decreasing, so this is important

- Give to the Max Day and peer to peer fundraising
  - Share our SUNA page
  - Every board member must choose one of the 3 options for participating
    - Create a Give to the Max Day Personal Fundraiser
    - Share the SUNA Give to the Max Day Page with your networks
    - o Donate
  - Katy shared a document 2022 SUNA GTMD Board Handbook
  - Between now and GTMD, Katy will send some reminders
- Check in with your company to see if they match donations/ may also match employee volunteer hours

Neighborhood Board Survey: Tate Nguyen, NCR (Update)

- Neighborhood support specialist
- Board representation survey (diversity formerly known) since 2014
  - Link in chat
  - Responses are anonymous
  - Aggregate at community not neighborhood board level
  - Important to have all members respond (rate target 90%)
  - Will publish the results in a report, examples of which are on their website
- Expanded capacity and how can NCR better support neighborhood organizations
- Their office has community relations and community specialists that focus on certain groups
  - Aging and LGBTQA+ cultural specialists
    - Learning labs with different foci
      - Can still register
    - Ways to engage with your communities
- Scott mentioned that the recently approved funding is going to Tate's department for review and approval
  - Deadline 10/31
  - They will be the ones to review the engagement plans

## Treasurer's Report: Joel Chechik

- Board members received documents in advance of the meeting
  - Accounting procedures document
    - 2-page document describes how SUNA manages funding
      - Robert Thompson accountant
  - Financial report
- Accounting procedures vote
  - Board selected officers Katy, Scott M, Joel as account signers for the bank
  - TruStone at 28th & Lyndale
  - Motion to approve the bank and signers. Approved.
  - Jerome and Rob will be taken off the account
- Conflict of Interest Policy (Scott E) vote
  - Form required by the city
    - Everyone read, fill out the disclosure
    - Low return rate historically; please complete!
    - Need every year
  - Motion to approve the policy. Approved.
- Bank Account/ End of Fiscal Year Reports
  - 2 checking accounts
    - Operations account has a balance of approx. \$14K
    - Grants account for approx. \$24K
    - In total, there is nearly \$39k in the SUNA checking accounts
    - Budget to actual \$7900 less than expected
    - Spent \$13k less, so net is \$6700
      - Budget to put that in a reserve fund
  - Transaction report for September shows staff expenses, rent, etc.
- 2023/ 2024 Neighborhoods 2020 Grant Application
  - Covers staff time, rent, paper, computer
    - Board received 3 documents:
      - Application
        - Neighborhood funding 10K for all
        - Equitable engagement fund 23K from that
        - Total funding requested is 33.7K
      - Proposed budget
        - Brand new program (2 years)
        - SUNA would get funding for 23-24; spreadsheet where budget is proposed
      - Equitable engagement plan
        - How does SUNA engage w/ the entire community
        - 6200 people in SUNA
        - Plan to target renters
          - 70% are renters

- 4/9 board members are renters
- BIPOC- mostly white folks involved in the organization, but 18% BIPOC in the neighborhood
- Deadline 10/31
  - Need board to review the docs and application
  - Expect contract signed by the end of the year
- Organization needs to implement plans over the next few years (i.e., take action)

10th Ward City Council: Councilmember Aisha Chughtai (Discussion)

- In the middle of budget season
  - There are changes to make for 24+ different types of investments, programs, staff
  - Aisha's first time going through the process
  - This is a Council where 7 members are brand new. Some things they are learning:
    - Type of amendments, where it is possible to move money, where it is not
    - Community engagement sessions in centrally located parts of Ward 10
      - See what plans are. What types of projects should be proposed, supported
  - Thursday 10/20 City Council meeting
    - Passing the omnibus amendment on structure
      - Ordinances / government structure
      - This has been in the making over 10 months-
      - Pass amendments that will align with the proposals
    - City response to homelessness
      - This has bubbled up again recently
      - Has been an issue since 2017, but really started to flare back in 2020
      - There is now renewed energy for Mpls residents to show up on this issue and to think creatively on policy
      - 3 actions they are taking
        - Partner with Jason Chavez-
          - Asking the same staff at City Behavioral Crisis Response Team to present a set of recommendations of the removal of homeless encampments
          - Lack of response times, close out rates are low
          - How to utilize limited resources on this issue, which is currently not working
        - Partner with Elliott Payne-

- Adequate shelter beds when an eviction of an encampment is made
  - Are there only 50 shelter beds? Depends on the time of day
  - Pets- most often people can't use a shelter if they have pets
  - Substances cannot accept people with active substance use disorder
  - Public safety concerns can grow.. Poor use
- Temporary pause on encampment forced removals for 6 months
  - Need holistic analysis on how much these evictions actually cost
  - Need transparency about where the dollars come from and how they are spent
- Will be published on the Council's agenda tomorrow
- Avivo Villages project
  - Partnership between State, County, and City
- Other solutions to homelessness
  - Street outreach workers
    - Housing referrals; getting people into transitional housing
    - Has been successful, but there are not enough outreach workers or housing slots
- Phil offers his support to evolve the issue on homeless encampments; asks will any of the 3 proposals restrict the ability for emergency response?
  - When these crises happen (especially in encampments) gaps remain unfilled; violent situations pop up, then a lack of response by MPD, etc.
  - There are links between how a situation is managed and what happens next (moving people around and growing the size of the program)
  - How can we better use our money to respond to and address these downstream effects?
- Community engagement sessions Scott will plan and have an active role.

#### Adjourn

- Motion to adjourn
  - Approved

## Action items

• Board members to submit COI form to Scott Engel

Board members to complete the Board Representation Survey- <a href="https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SouthUptown2022BoardSurvey">https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SouthUptown2022BoardSurvey</a>

# **Upcoming Committee Meetings and Events**

- South Uptown Neighborhood Meeting: Tuesday, November 15, 2022, 7PM
- Give to the Max Day Thursday, November 17, 2022