



**Lowry Hill East Neighborhood Association
Environmental Committee
Tuesday, August 14, 2018
6:30-8pm
2909 Hennepin Ave S**

Members in Attendance:

Grant Baumgardner
Sara Flannery
Katlyn Flannery
Joe Knaeble
Katie Jones
Lexi
Bernadette Knaeble
Colette Baumgardner
Paul Shanafelt
Steve Cobian
Danny Schwartzman

News & Updates:

- Today is the primary!
- Anyone have any? (5 minutes)
 - Wine Tasting
 - Looking for lead to do the waste management of the event
 - Coordinate volunteers and train them on how to do it
 - Would get complimentary tickets
 - October 11th from 6 - 9 p.m.
 - LHENA committed to do zero waste part of event
 - Would involve working with the city to get everything set up
 - Need someone by the next meeting (or earlier)
 - Dana is coordinating all of the volunteers
 - Event located at greek orthodox church at 35th and Irving

Common Roots Visitor - Danny Schwartzman (20 minutes)

danny@commonrootscafe.com

- The owner of Common Roots, Danny, would like to come discuss is parking lot remodel. He is looking for ideas and feedback on making his lot as environmentally friendly as possible, and would like to incorporate neighborhood priorities in the design if possible
- Danny
 - owned the building for the last 10 - 12 years

- Has talked with MWMO grant programs - they are interested in doing some community education in conjunction with the remodel
- Wants to be able to be an example for the neighborhood
- Would like:
 - To have parking - not all the spaces are needed, but as many as possible is ideal
 - Add landscaping, Make it nicer
 - Would be preferred to have water runoff go into the garden across the alley
- The parking lot is wider than needed
- Ideas:
 - Permeable pavers - not great for high trafficked area, clog with sand in winter
 - Would be hard to maintenance in the winter
 - Better to get the flow into a desired spot, so the permeable pavers aren't needed.
 - Icemelting tubes
 - Do you have excess heat?
 - They have two hoods that vent up (bakery, stove)
 - Then, have recovering of other heat into the room space
 - High temp dishwasher - with super hot water. Is it enough?
 - Greywater (collect water from roof, parking surface)
 - How much would it be? Lots, 4400 ft² roof at 30 in rain/yr = 82000 gallons from roof alone.
 - What does that look like to bring it into the building? How much water does the building use?
 - Can you only use greywater for toilets and landscaping?
- **Joe - send contact information for Master Water Stewards**
- Is there something that the neighborhood would like to see Common Roots doing?
 - Organics Recycling access?
 - Keep debris out of storm sewers
- Talked about:
 - Importance of working with developers before their plans are finalized to make environmental improvements. Once plans are finalized, it's too late.
- Hoping to start construction in the Spring

Event Reflection (15 minutes)

- Pizza in a Pint
 - Generally just fun! The environmental committee piques interest
 - Maybe add a checkbox to the sign in sheet for committee interest?
 - Lexi - Generally well done!
 - Generally like that it is a chill event - soft invite
- Movie in the Park
 - LHENA table was not well attended
 - Folks liked bingo
 - Katlyn would like Goonies next year
 - Tabling
 - No one really went to them
 - Would just a sandwich board work better?
 - Going out to the people works better
 - Food Trucks

- It looked like they were more attended
 - Games - ways to make them more engaging?
 - Master of ceremony - someone leading the games
 - Come over here at this time
 - Maybe the movie is just entertainment enough
- National Night Out
 - People with neighbor connections already had more success distributing adopt a drain info
 - Or easy to do if you are just informing, not trying to make friends

Project Updates:

- Greenway Gardens - Bernadette (20 minutes)
 - Bern is looking to do a “corridor” for biodiversity along the greenway - this is an emerging idea in landscape architecture
 - The fact that there isn’t a water source is actually a really big deal. Need to figure this out to move forward
 - Is there some stormwater management idea we could repeat the whole length of the greenway for watering the gardens?
 - Talked with Scott’s friend, Anne
 - Looking now to apply for grants
 - There is a garden on the green line metro on the West Bank
 - Sand with radish with deep roots
 - Gorgeous and wild and a “productive” ecosystem
 - Scott’s friend will connect Bern with the university contact - could this be another pilot?
 - This is a community supported lot
 - Mention stormwater access for Greenway during bridge renovation along the greenway
 - City/County - what is your plan for the transit corridor? Would the greenway coalition know? Could we bring them in? We need buy in from partners
 - Our permit does not allow structural changes to the greenway today.
- Organics Recycling - Katlyn (10 minutes)
 - Update - she is trying to do a regular Saturday work session at 4:30 at Common Roots
 - One year anniversary email to those that have signed up - developing a survey to put in the email
 - Draft of survey has been made
- Adopt-a-Drain - Joe/Katie (5 minutes)
 - Outreach out NNO was mixed, see notes above

Other Project Updates/Discussion:

- Fall Clean-Up - Paul - Oct 13
 - Litter be Gone - incentives from the city
 - They will help separate the
- Clean Up in Sept 15 from 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.
 - Mariah and Pia email update - “coastal” cleanup scheduled for September 15 from 10am-12pm, meet at Walker Library on Hennepin
 - Advertise on Next Door
 - Scout group in the neighborhood that

- Could we get people in Canoes?
- **Katie to Order compostable or reusable signs for the clean up**
 - A-Frame for the events with the slide-in letters
 - 30 signs
- Solar Co-op - Katie
 - Closed - no more sign-up
 - They are getting installed now
 - **Katie to bring final numbers next meeting**
- [Garden Buddy](#) - Katie
 - Has the pilot started?
 - Virginy will be the pilot participant
- LHENA Sustainable Purchasing Policy - Mariah and Bernadette - **No Update**
- Neighborhood Trash Pick Up - Mariah - **No Update**
- Leaves in the Fall - Joe
 - Early November (the 10th) pick up the leaves - Joe more proposal for next month
 - Second Saturday Sweep Up
- Jefferson Recycling Grant - Bernadette - **No Update**

New idea - how can we partner with Z&P? What could this look like? Can we take more a political charge?

- *Could LHENA have a policy committee? Maybe not the neighborhood organization role*
 - *No, we need to represent the neighborhood - every resident is a member. We also get City money - we can't use public funds to do advocacy*

Actions:

- Katie to bring final numbers for solar co-op next meeting
- Katie to Order compostable or reusable signs to advertise for the clean up
- Joe - send contact information for Master Water Stewards to danny@commonrootscafe.com