



Lowry Hill East Neighborhood Association
Wednesday, September 15, 2021
6:30pm-8:30pm
Virtual

Board Members:

Pete Boisclair
~~Katie Dickinson~~
Manny Minter
Kevin O'Hara
Eric Ortiz
~~Jordan Peacock~~
Bridget Pooley
Mariah Weitzenkamp
Janet Wigfield
Dave Whorton

Staff:

Paul Shanafelt
Nassise Geleta

Guests: Josiah Laney, US Department of Justice
Megan Marks, US Department of Justice

Members: *Andrew Wollenberg, Jessica Holtkamp*

Meeting Agenda:

- Call to Order & Welcome - *Eric Ortiz*
 - Welcoming statements
 - Meeting expectations
 - Ice breaker

- Approval of August Meeting Minutes - *Eric Ortiz*

- *Approved*
- Approval of Agenda and Rules of Order - *Eric Ortiz*
 - *Approved*
- US Dept. of Justice Investigation into City of Minneapolis and MPD - Josiah Laney and Megan Marks, US Department of Justice
 - Investigation opened in April. Looking at:
 - Use of force against community
 - Pattern of discriminatory policing
 - Services relating to mental health, disabilities
 - Not looking at specific incidents so much as overall patterns and practices and trends.
 - Separate from any criminal investigations.
 - Follow-up communications may be initiated at:
 - 866-432-0268
 - Community email: community.minneapolis@usdoj.gov.
 - Dave: What is the timeline of the investigation? How does it relate to the ballot question?
 - Megan: No set timeline, but typically in the 1-1.5 year range.
 - Dave: What inspired the investigation?
 - Opened the investigation after the George Floyd murder but looked beyond that incident and the weight of the publicly available information justified the initialization of the investigation.
 - Kevin: When the DOJ presents findings, what happens next?
 - Megan: Other parts of the DOJ have done other interventions but this is the first Section 12 601 investigation of the MPD by DOJ.
 - Remedies depend on what they find. Usually result in summary agreements (?) or consent decrees with the city. Then a court typically has oversight of the agreement, with monitors who observe compliance, perform audits, provide technical assistance at times, etc.
 - Baltimore, Ferguson, New Orleans are recent examples of investigations that resulted in consent decrees.
 - Dave: Does the investigation involve the mayor or city council?
 - Focused on the MPD and the city as it pertains to mental health services. The mayor and city council have expressed support and met with the investigation team and pledged to be cooperative.
 - Paul: In soliciting input from community members, what format is preferred?
 - Megan: Prefer that the organization hosting a forum lead with format and priorities.
 - Eric: Have you encountered any challenges so far?
 - Megan: Right now, awaiting responses on document requests, it's a little early.

- Going about as expected so far. Can't share internal stage, but seems on track.
 - Team is split between local and DC people who travel.
 - Pete: Is the investigation reaching out to non-profit or community grassroots organizations that are focused around these issues?
 - Megan: Yes, although if you have ideas for organizations or community leaders they should be reaching out to, please tell us.
 - Pete recommends talking to homeless shelters.
 - Megan: Standing offer to be invited to a future LHENA meeting
- President's Report - *Eric Ortiz*
 - LHENA Talks: 3rd talk last month with Crixell Shell, went well
 - 4th LHENA talk with be with Appetite for Change, sponsored by Human Partnership
 - 5th with be with A Mother's Love, October
 - Community festival Oct 2nd
 - \$50-100 for tabling fee for organizations/businesses
 - Paul/Nassise will have a sign-up for volunteering
 - Neighbors Helping Neighbors/Environmental Committee can table as well.
 - Neighborhood news partnership
 - Southwest Voices is scheduled to launch
 - Trying to fill the void of Southwest Journal
 - Charlie Rybak/Andrew Haeg
 - 8.3% of membership fees will be shared across neighborhood associations
 - Small business survey, concerns
 - Plan to put together a SMB summit with city staff
 - Human Partnership - we will do a community assessment survey
- Neighbors Helping Neighbors update - *Jessica Holtkamp*
 - Started in March 2020
 - Meet every 1st & 3rd Tues of the month
 - Still have a hotline and email
 - Small sum fund
 - People they fund often want to give back
 - It's been doled out on an as-needed basis
 - Fewer hotline requests
 - Region leads have started hosting events
 - Recent clothing swap
 - Intend to build upon this for more events
- Environmental Committee update - *Andrew Wollenberg*

- Falloff in attendance, some projects have stagnated
 - Last meeting centered around progress on projects
 - Reaching out to add committee members
 - Instead of projects waiting for people, just rotating a project and working together as a group to move a given project forward at each meeting.
 - Currently 3-4 people. Greenway Meadow project is most active.
 - Fall Cleanup Oct 9th is next
 - Paul: What is the status of the Jefferson School project that has approved funding?
 - Just two weeks ago, the school has connected but the committee is getting stood up since the guy who had owned that project has stepped down. Working on digesting the information and handing off.
 - May not make sense to do this year; may require preparing for spring 2022.
 - Pete: Does environmental committee have 'cash on hand'?
 - Paul: Each committee historically had a budget. The last couple years instead we just have funding that is requested as-needed from all committees.
 - Pete: Spring Cleanup a few years ago had a partnership with an organization.
 - Perhaps purchase more robust grabbers for trash pickup to re-use long-term, produce less waste?
 - Paul: Madeline of NHN are working on a section of overgrowth by the greenway. Will pass info along to Andrew.
- Executive Director's Report - *Paul Shanafelt*
 - Q&A
 - Special Service Project is looking to be large. Hennepin is a special service district.
 - Manny: No idea what services are provided
 - Paul: Start putting together 2022 budget for board approval by Nov. Do not definitively know the amount from the city. They will make two budgets, and establish budget priorities.
 - Still pursuing revenue generation opportunities.\
 - Clarification re: "Wedge Fest"; no connection. Future collaboration possible, but per Paul: some history with Wedge Live, hard feelings potentially.
 - Treasurer's Report - *Kevin O'Hara*
 - **Motion A:** Treasurer's Report
 - Motion: LHENA approval of the monthly treasurer's report.
 - Topline, things are going well overall. Used up our CPP money for this year, and now relying on NRP dollars, as expected.
 - If starting new programs, need to fundraise around them.
 - Approved

- **Motion B:** CEE Loan Program Admin Contract
 - Motion: LHENA approval of renewing loan program admin contract with CEE.
 - Cf. supplementary materials
 - Approved
 - 2022 LHENA budget priorities
- Committees, Projects, Work Groups and Programs.
 - Fall Cleanup - *Mariah*
 - South Uptown Association wants to have a contest; they're doing a clean-up the same day.
 - Janet: recommendation, link from the agenda to event links, documents, etc.
 - Paul: Will do that starting next month
 - Get Out The Vote - *Nassise*
 - Pete has signed up
 - Volunteer Needs
 - Community Festival - *Eric*
 - Updates/Q&A
- New Business & Announcements
 - Upcoming LHENA Talk - *Eric*
 - Ward 10 Council Candidate forums - *Kevin*
 - Board candidate recruitment check-in
 - Other?
- Adjourn