

PPA Tower Hill Committee  
Minutes, September 21, 2024

Joe Ring welcomed those attending.

Minutes of previous meeting were approved.

Joe reviewed on line reviews of the Tower. Two main sources: Google and Trip Advisor. Reviews highlight issues we have noted in the past such as lack of access to the Tower and diminished view due to obstructing trees and brush. Copies of reviews were sent to Council member Wonsley's office.

Garden Club. Joe was contacted by the Garden Club, to report on progress on Tower repair. Garden Club has worked with the Park Board in the past. David Gundale will represent the Tower Hill Committee at the Sept. 25 Garden Club meeting. Garden Club has a Stewardship agreement with the Park Board. Working with the Garden Club, the Tower Hill Committee will work out future care plans. Need for clear communication among groups working on Tower issues.

Gary Gardner noted his past working experience with Great River Greening. This group deals in Urban forestry restoration and was founded in the 1990s with funding from the St. Paul Foundation. Gary will speak with them about participating in Tower work.

Joe reported on progress of the MOU agreement with the City and the Park Board. Council member Wonsley met with senior Park Board staff, including our local representative Billy Menz. The Park Board has indicated that they are uninterested in participating in any agreement at this time. Park Board Director notes that there are existing ways to issue permits for work and to open the Tower. Park Board does not want responsibility for Tower opening. So status quo continues.

A draft timeline for work to repair the Tower has been submitted, with work to be completed by the end of March, 2025. The \$350,000 allocated by the Minneapolis City Council must be spent by the end of 2025.

Susan Larson-Fleming  
Recorder