



PPA Board of Directors

Regular Meeting (Virtual): January 24, 2022 6:30pm

Board Members Present: David Frank, Lynn Von Korff, John Wicks, Laura Preus, Jeff Barnhart, Eric Amel, Mary Britton, Amy Kaminsky, Brit Howell, Ben Tuthill, Jerry Stein

Board Members Absent: Jenna Hoge, Susan Larson-Fleming, Reed Coffin, Joe Ring, Simone Hendrix

Community Members Present: Karl Krause, Anni Simons, Michael Provence, Tina Erazmus, Council Member Robin Wonsley Worlobah, Qannani Omar, Senator Kari Dziedzic, Evan Roberts

Staff Present: Liza Davitch

1. **Call to Order.** *Eric Amel*, PPA President, called the meeting to order at 6:33 pm and reviewed the agenda with the attendees. A quorum for the Regular Community Meeting was established.

2. Announcements and Updates

- A. **Ward 2 Update.** *Eric Amel* welcomes *Council Member Robin Wonsley Worlobah* and invites her to speak about what is going on in City Hall. *Council Member Worlobah* announced her committee assignments; Public Health & Safety, Policy & Government Committee (POGO), Public Works & Infrastructure, and Intergovernmental Relations

She will be sharing a newsletter soon which can be subscribed to at

<https://www.minneapolismn.gov/government/city-council/ward-2/newsletters/>

Ward 2 will be hosting virtual neighborhood tours, including one for Prospect Park, to answer questions her constituents might have. They will soon host town halls and conversations on rent control. They will invite all the Ward 2 stakeholders from seniors to students at University of MN and all the communities represented in our ward.

CM Worlobah invites members who would like to schedule a meeting with her office about their priorities to email her at robin.wonsleyworlobah@minneapolismn.gov or contact her policy aide Qannani Omar at Qannani.Omar@minneapolismn.gov.

- B. **Legislative/Pre-Session Update.** *Senator Kari Dziedzic* notes that the new session starts January 31 and will go to May 15. It's a budget year because we have a 7.7 billion dollar balance. 3 billion of the balance is in the bank.

Some of the discussion will be to look at the unemployment fund, property tax relief and renters credit relief. They are looking at bills to address housing, such as safety in public housing, maintenance of public housing, and to find ways to address the housing shortage, especially for low income housing. MN has some of the worst disparity gaps in the country between white and black families and we need to close that gap.

She is also still looking at public safety and policy reform.

They have a lot of discussion and a lot of work to do to decide how to best use the surplus money so that it helps us all collectively.

She can be emailed at Sen.Kari.Dziedzic@senate.mn. Her assistant's email is Tytiana.Reid@senate.mn. Both can also be reached at 651-296-7809.

- C. **Good Neighbor Fund 2022 Update.** *Tina Erasmus*, Director of Local Government & Community Relations for the University of Minnesota. They have made some changes and improvements to the GNF program. This year they have \$80,000 available to award to projects. The grant applications are due April 29, 2022. The application was emailed to PPA staff. They are hoping to have a quick turn around and send out the checks to awarded projects in June.

One of the big changes is that if a project's budget total is less than \$5,000, you will receive one check right away. If you have a project that is \$5,000 or over, you will get two checks, one right away and one at the completion of your project.

For the 2023 season they hope to start earlier in December so that checks can be distributed by May, 2023

There will be a kick off meeting on February 3rd. The GNF board will talk about their favorite projects and what they are looking for in a strong application.

3. Organizational Business

Environment Committee Report. *Mary Britton*, Environment Committee chair, shares that Environment Committee member, Jenny Michlitsch, has agreed to be the point person for the Yard and Tailgate sales as Gib Ahlstrand has stepped down.

The Environment Committee is looking for a volunteer to run the Fall Cleanup event. If the Board knows of anyone they can approach, please let Mary Britton know.

Highlights of the "25% By 2025" initiative is that they reached 105 energy audits out of about 1000 houses. In terms of energy use reduction, usage went down 2.6% from 2019.

Transportation and Safety Report. *Evan Roberts*, Transportation and Safety Committee chair, talks about the survey they put out at their last meeting, and to the PPElist, and the PPA newsletter, asking what some of the most important Transportation and Safety challenges were. Priority issues that were identified and the committee will work on throughout the year are Franklin Avenue speed and driving issues, Malcolm and 4th Street safety and truck issues, winter snow removal, and crime issues.

Community Building Committee Report. *Jerry Stein*, Community Building Co-chair talks about the Jackson Family Memorial. The contract with the architect firm was signed this week. After they receive the designs, the committee will be able to start fundraising efforts for the building project. There will be shorter term activities in the name of the playground, like the educational curriculum. Other news can be found in the Community Building committee minutes.

Finance and Admin Committee Report

Lynn Von Korff presented a motion to approve PPA's 2022 annual budget, as recommended by PPA's Finance and Admin Committee. *Amy Kaminsky* seconded the motion. The budget passed unanimously.

Lynn Von Korff presented PPA's 4th quarter (preliminary) 2021 financial statements, as included in the January board packet.

Lynn Von Korff informed the board that according to Mission Guardian, PPA's legal counsel, the Jackson Memorial Playground project is technically a project of PPA's. The Jackson Memorial Playground Committee is not incorporated and PPA cannot act as fiscal agent for a group that is not incorporated. Detailed minutes of Mission Guardian's legal advice regarding the Jackson project were provided in the January board packet.

4. Other Business

- A. May Election Nominating Committee.** Board Member, *David Frank*, talks about the need to form an Election Nominating Committee prior to the May 2022 Board Elections. According to PPA bylaws, the nominating committee should be formed six months prior to the annual meeting. David has started to survey current board members to see how many are likely to run again this May. We will need to find at least five more candidates to run for the board.

David and Eric volunteered to be on the committee.

B. Review Consent Agenda: Reports & Minutes

Eric Amel moves to approve the following minutes: Board/Community Meeting: October 25 and December 6, 2021. Community Building: December 2, 2021, Environment Committee: October 14 and December 14, 2021, Finance & Admin: December 16, 2021.

All in favor. The minutes are approved as distributed.

- 6. Adjourn.** *Eric Amel* motions to adjourn the meeting at 8:00pm. *John Wicks* seconds. Motion was unanimously approved on a voice vote. The meeting was adjourned.

Minutes written by *Liza Davitch*, PPA Staff

Respectfully submitted by *David Frank*, PPA Board Member and Secretary