

PPA Annual Meeting & Board meeting minutes 5/2/26
Document 1 of 2

Minutes for PPA's May 2nd, 2026, Annual Meeting & Board Meeting consist of TWO DOCUMENTS:

- 1. PPA Annual Meeting & Board meeting minutes 5/2/26 Document 1 of 2:** contains Annual Meeting, including the Annual Report minutes.
- 2. PPA Annual Meeting & Board meeting minutes 5/2/26 Document 2 of 2:** contains minutes for the brief board meeting held at conclusion of the Annual Meeting. It also includes the list of attendees.

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**2026 PPA Board Election,
Upcoming Community Events,
and Annual Report**

Annual Meeting
May 2, 2026

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PPA Welcome



□ Welcome Neighbors!

- Renters
- Home-owners
- Students
- Business owners

□ Welcome Special Guests

- Robin Wonsley, Ward 2 Council Member, City of Minneapolis
- Angela Conley, Hennepin County Commissioner, District 4

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PPA Board Member Election



- **PPA Members Vote:** May 2 - May 9th 4:00pm, online voting only
- New Board members seated June 22nd, 2026. Board members with terms ending this year serve until June 22nd.
- **Board Candidate Profiles:** <https://prospectparkmpls.org/>
- **Link to Election Ballot:** <https://prospectparkmpls.org/>
- **Nominations from the floor**
- **Board Candidate Introductions ...**
Issac Bandy, Steve Brackett, ShugE Mississippi (AKA Chris Allison), Jerry Stein, Kaia Sveen, Mitchell Toft, Sofia Valdes, Luke Connelly (business seat), Eric Amel

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PPA Staying in Touch



PPA Outreach & Community Events

- ▣ PPA Board and Community Meetings
- ▣ Annual Meeting & Board Elections in May
 - As of this year held annually on
City of Minneapolis "**Neighborhood Day**"
- ▣ PPA Committee Meetings and Events
- ▣ Witch's Hat Water Tower: will reopen to public for events, such as "Doors Open," after renovations are complete
- ▣ Earth Day Cleanup
- ▣ **And upcoming events...**

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Community Upcoming Events



- ▣ **Jackson Family Project Community Event**
Thursday, May 14th, 5:00pm
- ▣ **Battle of the Buckthorn**
Volunteer opportunities beginning May 16th to help remove invasive Buckthorn from Tower Hill Park
- ▣ **Pratt Ice Cream Social & Picnic**
Friday, June 5th 4:30pm-7:30pm
- ▣ **Garden Walk**
Saturday, June 13th
- ▣ **Prospect Park Yard Sales**
Saturday, June 13th & Sunday June 14th
- ▣ **BF50 Agri-Cultural Event - Bridal Veil Gardens**
Saturday, June 27th, 5:00pm

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Upcoming event: Marvel Jackson Cooke, a Life in Journalism: Gathering and Panel Discussion

Thursday, May 14, 2026, 5:00pm-6:30pm

Prospect Park United Methodist Church, 22 Orlin Avenue SE



Featuring inspiring journalism of Marvel Jackson Cooke, eldest of the three Jackson daughters raised in Prospect Park.

Marvel was the first African American student to attend Pratt School. Marvel was a pioneering journalist and activist. Cooke's writing made her a star in mainstream media. She won recognition for her undercover reporting in her article "The Bronx Slave Market," where she exposed the horrible working conditions of New York City domestic workers.

To learn more about Marvel Jackson Cooke and read some of her articles visit:
<https://jacksonfamilyproject.org>

The Jackson Family Project is a partnership of Jackson family members, Prospect Park Association, Pratt PTO, and Pratt school faculty. The project is funded by the University of Minnesota Good Neighbor Fund, City of Minneapolis Neighborhood Community Relations, Prospect Park Association, Prospect Park Co-op Legacy Fund, and Pratt PTO.

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PPA Annual Report



- **PPA Committee Activities & Events**
 - ▣ **Environment Committee**
 - ▣ **Jackson Family Project**
 - ▣ **Transportation & Safety**
 - ▣ **Finance & Admin Committee & Financial Report**
 - ▣ **Historic Places**
 - ▣ **Planning & Land Use**
- **Special Recognition**

Thank You!

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PPA Environment Committee



- ❑ **Invasive Buckthorn Removal Project**
- ❑ **Maintain Pollinator Garden at Post Office**
- ❑ **Earth Day Cleanup**



Chair: Steve Brackett
 Contact: environment@prospectparkmpls.org

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PPA Environment Committee

Invasive Buckthorn Removal Project

- ❑ Partnership with Prospect Park Garden Club, PPA Environment Committee and MPLS Parks & Recreation
- ❑ Under guidance of the Minneapolis Parks and Recreation Volunteer Coordinator
- ❑ Multi-year process eradicating invasive buckthorn from Tower Hill Park



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Invasive Buckthorn Removal Project



Multi-Year Process

Volunteers remove Buckthorn using a pesticide free method called "Critical Cutting," which slowly kills plant without damaging landscape or poisoning waterways.



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Invasive Buckthorn Removal Project

- ❑ Opportunities for individuals, families, and organizations to volunteer.
- ❑ 2025 volunteers included:



- ❑ Your Neighbors
- ❑ SGAD volunteers
- ❑ Surly employees
- ❑ Open World Learning High School Students



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Help Remove Invasive Buckthorn From Tower Hill Park



PPA Environment Committee

Volunteer: All are Welcome!

- Saturday, May 16th 10am-noon
- Thursday, May 28th 5:30pm-7:30pm
- Sunday, June 21st 10am-noon: Kids and Their Families Day
- Thursday, June 25th 5:30pm-7:30pm

More dates announced later



Join Us: Tools and training provided - just bring yourselves to Tower Hill Park!

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Pollinator-friendly Post Office Garden



Volunteers continue to maintain the pollinator friendly garden, including a cherry tree, planted in 2024 at the post office on University Avenue.

If you'd like to volunteer to help maintain it, please email environment@prospectparkmpls.org.



PPA Environment Committee

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Earth Day Cleanup



PPA Environment Committee



East River Parkway

Special Thanks to Surly Gives a Damn!



Tower Hill

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Jackson Family Project



1909
Amy and Madison Jackson with their daughters, Marvel, Helen, and Zelma in front of their home in Prospect Park.

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Jackson Family Project



- **The Jackson Family legacy remains a lasting beacon of inspiration and hope in Prospect Park.**
- **The Jackson Family Project is a collaboration of:**
 - Jackson Family Members
 - Prospect Park Association (PPA)
 - Pratt Parent Teacher Organization (PTO)
 - Pratt Community School
- **The Jackson Family Project is funded by:**
 - PPA
 - Pratt PTO
 - University of Minnesota Good Neighbor Fund
 - PPCLF
 - City of Minneapolis Neighborhood Community Relations
 - Individual gifts

Co-Chairs: Jerry Stein & Susan Lardon-Fleming

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Jackson Family Project website

Events

LEARN, REFLECT
AND CELEBRATE
TOGETHER



**Marvel Jackson Cooke, a Life in Journalism:
Gathering and Panel Discussion with Q&A**

Thursday, May 14, 2026
5:00PM – 6:30PM
Prospect Park United Methodist Church – Community Room ([map](#))

[View Event →](#)

<https://Jacksonfamilyproject.org>

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Jackson Family Day at Pratt School



Judith Claytor & Sharon Peters, daughters of Helen Jackson, at Pratt School standing in front the 1909 photo of the Jackson family on the steps of their home in Prospect Park.

- **2026 is 4th year of Jackson Family Day at Pratt School.**
- **Pratt students create history & art projects, including videos, about the Jackson family, integrating their family history with significant civil rights and other historical events.**
- **Students present their projects.**
- **Jackson family members, MPLS School superintendent, school Board members, and Pratt teachers will attend the May 15th, 2026 event.**

Jackson Family Project



1909
Amy and Madison Jackson with their daughters, Marvel, Helen, and Zelma in front of their home in Prospect Park.



2023
Judith Claytor and Sharon Peters, daughters of Helen Jackson, in front of the Jackson home in Prospect Park.

PPA Transpo & Safety



- **MnDOT interaction**
 - ▣ Rethinking I-94
 - ▣ Reconstruction of Hwy 280
 - ▣ Maintenance of I-94 Sound Wall
 - ▣ Franklin Ave. Traffic calming
- **City of Minneapolis interaction**
 - ▣ Speed and Red Light Camera Implementation
 - ▣ Traffic calming initiatives
- **MPRB Missing Link Trail and Road Projects**
- **Midtown Greenway Extension**
- **Transportation Intern Sponsorship**

- **Eric Lind, Chair**
- **transportation@prospectparkmpls.org**

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PPA Historic Places



- **Prospect Park's Heritage Trifecta**
 - ▣ **Tower Park & Prospect Park Water Tower (1997)**
 - ▣ **Prospect Park Historic Residential District (2015)**
 - ▣ **Glendale Townhomes**
 - **Pending National Designation**
- **Joe Ring and Steve Brackett, Co-chairs**

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PPA Historic Places



Glendale Historic Townhomes

- **Section 106 Review**
- **MPHA information website**
 - <https://mphaonline.org/mpa-housing/portfolio/glendale-townhomes/>
- **Contact: Joe Ring**

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PPA Finance & Administration

- **Responsible for financial planning, financial reports to NCR, budget, internal controls, accounting, and human resources**
- **Gabby Metzger, PPA Board Treasurer**
- **Lynn Von Korff, PPA Volunteer Financial Officer**
 - Board created Financial Officer position in 2025
- **Contact: finance@prospectparkmpls.org**



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PPA Financial Position



Strengths

- ❑ **Financial position sound**
- ❑ **Balanced budget**
- ❑ **Sufficient cash flow**
- ❑ **PPA's activities and budget support our NCR approved Equitable Engagement Plan**
- ❑ **PPA's 2025 MN Charitable Annual Report and IRS990 have been submitted and are available by request or on website.**

Challenge

- ❑ **limited paid staff hours (4-7 hours per week)**

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PPA Planning & Land Use



- ❑ **PPA Land Use Committee purpose:**
 - ❑ **Neighborhood forum for land use issues & advocacy**
 - ❑ **City of Minneapolis-recognized development review neighborhood representation**
 - ❑ **MOU Process for Development Proposals**
 - ❑ **Neighborhood Design Guidelines**
 - ❑ **Prospect Planning Framework for 2040**
- ❑ **Witch's Hat Tower Renovation**
 - ❑ **Tower Repair Status**
 - ❑ **Future Public Access**

Chair: Eric Amel

Contact: landuse@prospectparkmpls.org

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Gross Neighborhood Happiness

GNH revolves around four key pillars:

- 😊 Sustainable and equitable socio-economic development
- 😊 Environmental conservation
- 😊 Preservation and promotion of culture
- 😊 Good governance

Looking Forward!

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PPA Special Recognition



- **Ian and Jule Gorodisher**
 - ▣ Cheerful Board service
- **David Frank**
 - ▣ PPA Director since 2019
 - ▣ Past Officer: Secretary
- **Britt Howell**
 - ▣ PPA Director since 2019
 - ▣ PPA Vice President and Chief Activist since 2019
- **Lynn Von Korff**
 - ▣ PPA Volunteer Financial Officer
 - ▣ Chair, PPA Finance & Administrative Committee
 - ▣ Past PPA Director, 2018-2025
 - ▣ Past Officer: Treasurer
 - ▣ Annual Board Meeting Host and Organizer
 - ▣ Person-in-Charge of Everything Else
 - PPA Annual Equitable Engagement Plan
 - PPA Annual Work Plan

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Thank You!

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