

PPERRIA News – September 2009

Newsletter of the Prospect Park East River Road Improvement Association



PPERRIA Board/Membership Meeting Monday, September 21st

.... One week earlier than usual!

7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

**Prospect Park United Methodist Church
Corner of Orlin and Malcolm Avenues S.E.**

Come early for treats and talk – 6:30 to 7:00 pm.

*If you have special needs requiring accommodation, contact
Joyce Barta at bartajm@yahoo.com or 378-9268
We will make every attempt to meet that need.*

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AGENDA

- Committee updates

- Latest on the
Neighborhood Heritage
Designation

- What's up with Pratt
Community School?

- Meet our new 2nd
Precinct Captain

Notes from the President:

As I write, Minnesota's "Great Get-together" has ended and fall activities, such as the Pratt Boot Sale and the neighborhood clean-up, are getting under way. Students are heading back to school and Big-10 football is coming back to the neighborhood in the new TCF Bank stadium. Everywhere there is a general sense of getting back to work.

Back-to-work, for PPERRIA, means renewed effort on a host of neighborhood issues: the pending closing of Pratt Community School, the pending historic district designation, and planning for future development likely to follow the laying of track for the new Central Corridor LRT.

Back-to-work for PPERRIA means renewed effort on a host of neighborhood issues

This summer was already a busy time for the Motley neighborhood. As you probably know, the University has acquired two, city blocks in the Motley neighborhood to accommodate an expansion of the Health Sciences campus east of Oak Street. In addition, the private dormitories south of Washington Avenue were recently bequeathed to the University Foundation. Also, Fairview and the University have announced plans to build a new Ambulatory Care Center on Fulton Street, between Erie and Ontario Streets.

In response to these changes in their neighborhood, the Motley Crew Task Group held several meetings this summer to discuss the future of their residential neighborhood. Motley residents are optimistic, because the University Board of Regents recently approved a revised University Campus Master Plan specifically identifying Motley as a *Joint Planning Area*. This means the University and the neighborhood will work together toward planning a number of objectives. They include:

- Strengthening the connections between campus and community to ensure that both will flourish
- Planning to ensure that any new structures at the campus periphery will be sensitive in style and size to the character of the adjacent neighborhood.

- Collaborating with partners to reinvest in near-campus housing initiatives that meet the needs of the university community.

In response to this initiative, the Motley Crew Task Group issued a statement with the objective to, "build alliances with the University of Minnesota to improve the Motley neighborhood, in order to add value to the neighborhood and the university environment." The statement outlines:

- 1) Areas for improvement,
- 2) What is needed from the University and,
- 3) Future possibilities for Motley.

Current discussions with the University are exploring how to enhance this collaboration. While the Ambulatory Care Center construction is currently on hold, it is expected to resume sometime in the spring of 2012. The University has also confirmed its interest in having a positive impact on the Motley residential area. I'm confident there'll be more to report on this in the coming months.

Meanwhile, as the moratorium on the demolition and construction of 1- to 4-unit buildings was lifted by the City at the end of August, a proposal was presented to the Planning Commission to demolish two duplexes on Ontario Street (in Motley) to make room for a new, 17-unit building with 48 bedrooms. The proposed development conforms to the city zoning code and will likely be approved.

This proposed development is of concern because of its potential to become another "minidorm," housing a large number of undergraduate students. This type of development has already destabilized several areas in the Southeast Como and Marcy-Holmes neighborhoods, and could well have a similar effect on this small part of the Prospect Park neighborhood. PPERRIA is working with the developer – and with the City and the University – to find ways to attract a more diverse population to this site, and to help realize the vision identified by the Motley residents for this neighborhood as: "a place where current and future residents will want to invest their time, talent and resources for the long term".

.....Dick Poppele

PERRIA Membership and Board of Directors Meeting Minutes for July 27, 2009 Prospect Park United Methodist Church (PPUMC) (There was no meeting in August)

The July meeting was called to order by Vice President Carla Urban at 7:06 PM.

Two people attending their first PPERRIA meeting introduced themselves: Stina Koppes is the co-pastor, with her husband Chad, of the Prospect Park United Methodist Church. They live in the rectory at 30 Orlin Avenue. Terry Hokenson is a new member living on Prospect Terrace.

The agenda was approved unanimously.

The minutes of the June meeting were approved unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- There will be no Board meeting in August. The Executive Committee will meet, as usual, on the second Monday of the month (August 10).
- Tom Kilton announced that the annual neighborhood cleanup will be Saturday, September 26. 50 volunteers from the neighborhood are needed. Volunteers should meet at 8:30 AM in front of Tom's house at 1933 East River Road. They will pick up: tires, concrete, metal, brush (which need not be bundled). Volunteer should call Tom at 339-3064. Since there will be no PPERRIA meeting before the neighborhood cleanup, this is the last official announcement of the event.
- Carla Urban and Tom Kilton are co-chairs of the Livability Committee. Carla has several pieces of information on the emerald ash borer. She would like this information to be passed out by block club leaders at the National Night Out on Tuesday, August 4. There is no official link between PPERRIA and National Night Out. Lois Willand will announce any block club meetings for NNO on the neighborhood e-list.
- Lois Willand announced that the neighborhood concert on August 11 will feature home-grown talent from our neighborhood, songs about Prospect Park, and a song for the Witch's Hat Tower.
- Dick Gilyard announced that a conference on issues surrounding the U of M will be held August 15 from 8 AM to 2 PM at Ralph Rapson Hall at the U of M. The conference will focus on the demographics and sustainability of the University area. The conference is free and a free lunch will be provided. People who wish to attend should RSVP to Carolyn Manthei-Lund (email: manth002@umn.edu). Dick passed out a flyer on the conference.
- Peter LaSha warned of possible dangers to Prospect Park from the coming Light Rail Transit line.
- A proposal to expand liquor licenses in Stadium Village has been made, in light of the coming opening of the new U of M football stadium (TCF Field). Bars within two blocks of the stadium may be permitted to set up supplementary bars outside on home game days. Sally's bar in Stadium Village now does this several times per year. Cam Gordon, council member for Ward 2, said the City Council is still discussing this proposal and has not yet made a decision on the issue. The proposal would not allow restaurants that now only have a beer/wine license to sell hard liquor. The expansion of liquor use would be only small and temporary. Bars would be allowed to set up these supplementary serving places only four times per year and would have to reapply for each permit, thereby giving the city control over bars that have this expansion of use. Tailgating will be permitted in at least some U of M parking lots.
- Paul Zerby asked what was meant by the "game day package" being advertised at Station 19. Becky Lorence said she thought this "package" applied to parking for U of M football games.
- Clay Lambert reported that the Northstar Building is planning to permit game day tailgating in its parking lot.
- Cam reported that City Regulatory Services regulates tailgating downtown at the Metrodome now.
- Florence Littman of the Prospect Park Zoning Committee said that approvals for such things as expansion of liquor serving usually are passed through the Zoning Committee. Florence and Paul Zerby will look into this matter and report to Cam.
- Chris Cichon announced that his business, Cellar Kickboxing and Martial Arts, currently located in New Brighton, will be moving into the University Business Center, 2635 4th Street in Prospect Park. Many of the clients of Cellar Kickboxing are U of M students. Locating this business at this location will require a zoning variance.
- John DeWitt of the Transit Committee passed around a handout entitled "Multi-District Resolution Regarding Truck & Commercial Traffic." This was approved by our neighbors in St. Paul, the Hamline Midway Coalition

Board of Directors on May 19. Granary Road, on which construction has not yet begun, is currently slated to extend only as far east as Malcolm Avenue. In John Dewitt's report on Granary Road there is this sentence: "This would not do much to relieve truck traffic in Prospect Park." Residents on this side of the city line would like to see the road extended to Westgate Drive. There has never been a plan to have an intersection of Granary and 280, but trucks using Granary would be able to get onto 280 via Territorial or Kasota some other existing intersection. So getting trucks to Westgate Drive would assure that they could get onto Highway 280 without using University Avenue. John pointed out that one principal in which both cities agree is that truck traffic should be eliminated within residential neighborhoods and that the neighborhoods do not wish to increase the traffic capacity of their existing streets. Dean Lund asked if funding has been found to construct Granary Road. Alice Hausman, who represents Saint Anthony Park in the state legislature, is opposed to the expansion of Granary Road into St. Paul. Andy Mickel asked if Granary Road was a "shovel ready" project which could benefit from federal stimulus money. Cam said the project is not yet "shovel ready" since the city of Minneapolis has not yet acquired the land needed for the new road. Joe Ring moved that PPERIA support the resolution passed out by John DeWitt. The motion passed unanimously. Since a quorum of the Board of Directors was present, this vote can be considered a vote of the Board.

HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMITTEE REPORT:

The bulk of the meeting was devoted to a presentation by Joe Ring and Bob Roscoe on the proposed Local Historic District designation, which will affect a large part of the "hill" area of Prospect Park. Joe said that in 1976 part of 5th Street in the Marcy-Holmes neighborhood was designated a historic district. This district extends from 9th to 4th Avenues along 5th Street. The area is similar to Prospect Park in factors such as demographics and proximity to the U of M. Joe said that, since this area has been an historic district for 33 years, it can give us some long-term perspective on what to expect if part of Prospect Park becomes an historic district. Joe showed many photos of houses in the 5th Street historic district and many of houses in Marcy-Holmes but not in the historic district. These included student rental houses and new construction. Joe said that, as he saw it, property owners were maintaining their properties better in the historic district than outside of it. He cited factors such as bikes chained up in front of houses and general "clutter" on front porches. Bob Roscoe said he thought that "peer pressure" from neighbors helped to maintain properties in the historic district. Joe pointed out certain factors (such as a fire escape ladder on the front of the house) that would not be permitted to be installed if the house was in an historic district. Enclosing an existing front porch in order to create a new bedroom would be very difficult to do in an historic district. He said that older houses in an historic district can be subdivided for rental as long as they meet the guidelines of the district and that new housing can be built with the same conditions.

OTHER COMMITTEE REPORTS:

ZONING COMMITTEE:

- Florence Littman read a letter written by William Wells announcing the formation of a new group of U of M area landlords. The organization is the University Neighborhood Improvement Association. She said that some residents of the Marcy-Holmes neighborhood regard UNIA landlords as "slumlords."
- Susan Larson-Fleming reported on an article in the current issue of Midway Monitor in St. Paul. Business owners along University Avenue are very concerned about the loss of customer parking spaces that will result from the construction of the Central Corridor LRT. Some people quoted in the Monitor article are advocating that business owners buy up residential properties one block off University Avenue and tear the houses down in order to create parking lots for customers. Susan said that Prospect Park should be concerned about this development, since residential streets such as 4th Street, Orlin Avenue, and Sidney Place are just one block off University Avenue.
- Bob Roscoe (who served on the Minneapolis Heritage Preservation Commission from 1980 to 2001) is head of a new committee which is putting together guidelines for the Prospect Park historic district. He said the guidelines would apply to the exteriors of houses only, with the front façade receiving the most attention. He said that homeowners could make substantial additions to the back of their houses. He felt that Prospect Park properties are of high design quality, with many houses having been architect-designed. The main purpose of design guidelines was to preserve the "architectural character" of a house. Florence asked if a porch could be

added to the front of the house if the house had at one time had a front porch but it had been torn down. Bob said he thought that architects would, by examining the house, be able to tell if a porch had been there at one time. Bob said that members of the Historic Preservation Commission of Minneapolis can make “administrative review” approval of such minor changes to a house as the addition of storm windows. However, the full HPC would have to approve a major change such as putting in an entirely new window.

- Florence said that Cellar Kickboxing will require I-1 zoning and that PPERRIA has supported these changes in the past.
- Florence reported that the Leaning Tower of Pizza in University Village at 26th and University is asking for changes in their Planned Unit Development. They want to enclose the walkway in front of the building and put a deck on the side. Florence said that the Zoning Committee was opposed to these changes. The committee wants University Village to have a more “urban” look and perhaps better signage and bike racks. She asked that a resolution of support for the Zoning Committee on this issue be taken. A vote was taken and passed unanimously. The motion may be assumed to be a vote of the Board of Directors (a quorum being present).

PLANNING COMMITTEE:

Dick Gilyard reported that the Planning Committee is working on refining its plans. The committee has met with two developers of affordable housing. It has also heard a report on urban gardens and sustainability.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE:

Betts Zerby announced that a membership drive for PPERRIA, which was held July 10-12, resulted in 287 new members. Andy Mickel was the champion of the drive, having signed up 45 new members in Glendale. Paul Zerby and Peter LaSha were also champs of the drive, with Peter having signed up 16 new members on Clarence Avenue.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:06 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Murdock
PPERRIA Secretary

Combined August and September 2009 PPERRIA Staff Report 7/8/09 – 9/3/09

Staff hours from July 8 through August 8, 2009 totaled 58.75 for a cost of \$1410. \$300 of this was paid using budgeted PPERRIA funds. Total PPERRIA funds budgeted for Staff in 2009: \$1000. \$0 remains. The remaining \$1110 was paid using NRP 2 funds allocated to Administration. NRP Contract C-25154 (11-1-07) with PPERRIA contained \$9000 for Administration, including \$7000 for Staff; of which \$3145.40 remains. Another \$18,229 was recently allocated to Administration and is currently in the process of being contracted.

Prospect Park East River Road Neighborhood Calendar

To include items in the PPERRIA calendar, contact Joyce Barta at bartajm@yahoo.com or 378-9268 by **Thursday, Oct 8th**.

Date and Time	Event and Location	Whom to contact
Thursday, September 17	7:00 - 8:30 pm Pratt Council Meeting at Pratt	Mary Alice Kopf 379-7436 Pratt Office 668-1122
Wednesday, September 23	6:30 pm - 8:30 pm Garden Club meeting at the home of Gratia Reynolds, 70 Orlin Av SE	Kent Petterson 332-1821 Gratia Reynolds 331-5312
Saturday September 26	10:00 am - 4:00 pm Health Fair at Luxton Park on the field.	Kale Severson 370-4925
Monday, September 28	7:00 pm - 9:00 pm PPERRIA Board of Directors & Membership Meeting at Prospect Park United Methodist Church. Come at 6:30 for refreshments and conversation.	Dick Poppele 378-9242
Wednesday October 7	7:00 pm Luxton Park Council at Luxton Park	Jim Widder 331-6129
Monday, October 12	7:00 pm - 9:00 pm PPERRIA Executive Committee meeting at Prospect Park United Methodist Church.	Dick Poppele 378-9242
Wednesday, October 14	5:00 pm Glendale Resident Organization (GRO) meeting at 92 St. Mary's Ave.	Latrishia Collins 342-1952
Thursday, October 15	7:00 pm - 8:30 pm Pratt Council Meeting at Pratt	Mary Alice Kopf 379-7436 Pratt Office 668-1122
Tuesday, October 20	7:00 pm (Tentative) Zoning & Planning Committee meeting at Prospect Park United Methodist Church.	Florence Littman 331-2970 Phil Anderson 627-9471
Monday, October 26	7:00 pm - 9:00 pm PPERRIA Board of Directors & Membership Meeting at Prospect Park United Methodist Church. Come at 6:30 for refreshments and conversation.	Dick Poppele 378-9242
Saturday, October 31	Halloween Party and Haunted House at Luxton Park	Kale Severson 370-4925

We're Growing!
Current PPERRIA Membership: 451

PPERRIA Standing Committees and Chairs

Administration	Tony Garmers	tgarmers@msn.com	378-2656
Communication	Lois Willand	loiswilland@gmail.com	397-9697
Development	Rob Nordin	nordin@macalester.edu	331-1766
Education & Human Services	Susan Larson-Fleming	flemings@usfamily.net	331-8819
Executive	Dick Poppele	dick@umn.edu	378-9242
Historic District	Joe Ring	joering@tds.net	379-4587
Livability (Subcommittees listed below, designated by *)	Carla Urban, Co-chair Tom Kilton, Co-chair	dewey002@umn.edu tom@tomkilton.com	379-8083 339-3064
*Community Events	Jan Kilton	jkilton@comcast.net	339-3064
*Community and River Gorge Cleanup	Tom Kilton	tom@tomkilton.com	339-3064
*Environment	Dean Abrahamson	deanabra@umn.edu	623-9449
*History Project	Betts Zerby	ejzerby@yahoo.com	379-8095
*Landscape, Garden Club	Mary Alice Kopf	mollisk@earthlink.net	379-7436
*Landscape Subcommittee: Tree Health Project	Paula Denman	pjdenman@comcast.net	338-1871
Membership	Betts Zerby	ejzerby@yahoo.com	379-8095
Planning	Dick Gilyard	rgilyard.architect@earthlink.net	362-8995
Transit	John DeWitt	jdewitt@comcast.net	338-1871
Zoning & Land Use	Florence Littman, Co-chair Phil Anderson, Co-chair	littm005@umn.edu phil.ann.anderson@gmail.com	331-2970

Other PPERRIA Committees and Task Forces

4 th Street	Julie Wallace	jwallace3@comcast.net	378-9429
Luxton Book Exchange	Dean Abrahamson	deanabra@umn.edu	623-9449
Motley Crew	Rebakah Lorence	rlorence@mm.com	331-2464
Nominating Committee	Andy Mickel	andym@pperr.net	331-8396
Sound Wall	Dorothy Davey	tom4dotd@aol.com	331-8418

The following are not PPERRIA Committees, but they have PPERRIA representatives:

Stadium Area Advisory Group (SAAG)	Dean Abrahamson, Florence Littman
Southeast Minneapolis Committee on Learning (SEMCOL)	Susan Larson Fleming, David Galle, Jakki Kydd-Fidelman, Susan Gottlieb
Southeast Economic Development Committee (SEED)	Dean Lund, Julie Wallace, John Kari
District Councils Collaborative (DCC)	Phil Anderson
University District Partnership Alliance	Dick Poppele, Dick Gilyard

Prospect Park East River Road
Improvement Association, Inc.
66 SE Malcolm Avenue
Minneapolis, MN 55414
612/331-2970 (voice mail)

We're on the Web!
Find us at:
http://pperr.org



FYI:

Fall Cleanup: Saturday September 26.

Meet for breakfast, 8:30 Saturday morning,
Kilton's house
1933 East River Parkway

We'll pick up: tires, concrete, metal and brush (The brush need not be bundled). With enough helpers, we'll finish by noon.

Get your exercise outdoors and make new friends of good neighbors.

Contact Tom Kilton at tom@tomkilton.com, or call 339-3064

Be part of a PPERRIA committee! Remember:

What happens tomorrow is shaped by those who show up today