

Citizens for a Loring Park Community
Land Use Committee
Monday, June 23rd, 2008
6:30 pm to 8:30 pm
@ Loring Park Office Building, Room 207
430 Oak Grove (between Loring Park & St. Mark's)

Attendance: Robert Copeland (The Wellington), Paul Hinderager (Summit House), Dick Sandberg (1201 Yale Place), Jan Sandberg (1201 Yale Place), Kerry Dikken (128 Groveland), Jana Metge (CLPC Executive Director), Cathy ten Broeke (Heading Home Hennepin), Neil Carlson (Summit House), Robert Cook (Eddy's Café), Becky Gullicksen (301 Clifton), Steve Polski (Market Bar-B-Que), Anthony Polski (Market Bar-B-Que), John van Heel (110 West Grant)

I. 6:30-6:45 p.m. Call to Order—Dick Sandberg, CLPC Land Use Committee Chair

Dick led introductions of those in attendance.

The agenda was accepted, after moving two report items to the end.

Motion by Paul, seconded Robert Cook to approve the May 19, 2008 minutes.

Motion passed unanimously

Announcements

- **NRP Phase II plan progress** – Jana Metge
Jana reported that information is being formatted with the goal of presentation during National Nite Out in August. The workgroup continues to meet. A draft of the plan will be on the CLPC Web site in mid-July. E-mail comments to clpc@visi.com
- **PRIDE** – Weekend of June 28th!!
- **Basilica Block Party!!!** -- July 11th & 12th
- **National Nite Out** – 1st Tuesday in August 6:00-9:00 @ Loring Park
There will be a band!! Lee Frehlich will again lead a garden tour.
A volunteer is needed to operate the dog booth and lead the dog parade—call Jana.
- **Loring Park Arts Festival!!!** -- August 2nd & August 3rd.
VOLUNTEERS Needed, email clpc@visi.com.
- **Dog Grounds fundraiser!!** -- at Joe's Garage this Thursday (June 26th) from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Many auction items and a chance to meet dogs (and their owners).

II. 6:45– 7:15p.m. Heading Home Hennepin – Cathy ten Broeke

Cathy briefly reviewed the purpose of the Heading Home Hennepin Program, a collaboration of the City of Minneapolis and Hennepin County. The process brought together representatives from many organizations, including institutions, neighborhoods, and local government. Cathy was hired in 2006. They created a ten-year plan to end homelessness -- Cathy distributed a copy of the Executive Summary. The plan was approved at the end of 2006 by both the city and county.

An important component of the plan recognizes that shelter is not housing. Some folks have cycled through years of shelters and various emergency services -- a more expensive way to provide services.

Six major goals include:

- Prevent homelessness including avoiding homelessness from foster care and other public systems

- Provide coordinated outreach including youth outreach
- Develop housing opportunities
- Improve service delivery
- Build capacity for self-support
- Implement system improvements

The focus of tonight's discussion is the goal to develop housing opportunities and coordinated outreach.

Outreach:

Minneapolis/Hennepin is part of a national movement that includes other Minnesota cities and other states.

Outreach kicked off with a \$100,000 grant from the city up and has been running for less than a year. In the first six months of the grant, they were able to house 30 people and get them off the street. The thirty housed used existing housing that had been identified for partnership with this project. Also, there is a Hennepin County Probation officer dedicated to this pilot. There is a need for case managers to help coordinate and continue services. Heading Home Hennepin (HHH) is working with city and county staff and encouraging them to contact outreach workers when staff encounter a homeless person.

Cathy mentioned that the program compared lists of top users of expensive system services (including multiple jail sentences) and frequent shelter use. Twelve of the over 200 persons on both lists have been housed.

Cathy said that they ran a comparative study and identified homeless individuals that had been either in jail or shelter four or more times and came up with 266 individuals on both lists. They focused their pilot on these top users of the system (emergency rooms, detox, police encounters, etc.) and identified the top 50 users. Out of the top 25, 12 have been housed and have stayed in housing for 6 months. The top 266 individuals had used 70,000 nights of stay at shelters, as well as jail and detox and emergency rooms at an estimated total cost to Hennepin County of \$4.2 million. Cathy stated that it is much cheaper to provide housing and wrap around services needed than simply provide emergency services with no long term resolution.

In response to questions:

There is an outreach office to open at Nicollet and Grant in the VOA Building.

The program has taken the approach of getting folks into housing and then wrapping the services around that placement. Once in housing, people seem more willing to access the services. There is no requirement to get a job.

The program uses a variety of housing options including existing subsidized housing and market rate apartments.

Clients come from many places. Wilder Research data indicates that 77% have been in Minnesota two years or longer; 57% ten years or longer. Of the 23% who have been in Minnesota less than two years, most gave reasons for moving here that included having family already in Minnesota. This percentage was lower than in past surveys.

Culturally specific resources are cited in the plan for housing and other components, including services for Native Americans.

Housing

Cathy reported that they have created 700 of 5,000 new housing units.

For new housing, both the capital and support service components are important. In addition, working with landlords of market rate housing is also important. HHH has been able to build strong relationships with landlords. They are also focusing on how to get people out of shelters more quickly.

In response to questions:

Cathy will send us information about local housing used in the program.

The current housing problem with boarded up buildings has presented challenges and created opportunities. They hear that a number of properties may need to be demolished.

Specialty housing that has fewer amenities (e.g. no private bathrooms, more efficiency type apartments) could be part of the mix. They must also work within existing zoning codes that require units of a minimum size. There may need to be advocacy from the neighborhood to address certain barriers to more efficient housing. Someone from CLPC might want to participate on a work group to address zoning and other requirements that can be barriers.

They are working with the downtown churches to try to develop overflow options for daytime or even night time options.

The next Project Homeless Connect will be held December 8, 2008. Information will be posted on the Web site at <http://www.homelessconnectminneapolis.org/index.htm>

III. 7:15– 7:30p.m. 128 Groveland Avenue – Kerry Dikken

Kerry Dikken has applied for a conditional use permit to increase the maximum height of a building from 2.5 stories to 3 stories (38 feet tall in spots) to allow a new four-unit dwelling for the property located at 128 Groveland Ave. This project is technically in Stevens Square but some Loring Park residents must be within that 350 feet, because CLPC got noticed on this by the City, as well as Stevens Square.

The **Public Hearing** is set for Monday, July 7th at 4:30 p.m. in Room 317; City Hall.

Mr. Dikken told the committee that the project would either be reconstruction or a teardown to facilitate a narrower, deeper building with four condominium apartments. The current building is a single story and the proposal is to go to 35-38 feet partially obscuring the downtown views of a few neighbors. Zoning allows for a height of 35 feet. The only variance required is for height. All parking will be underground.

Motion by Neil Carlson, seconded by Robert Copeland, to support Kerry Dikken's proposal for 128 Groveland Avenue.

Motion passed unanimously

IV. 7:30– 7:45 p.m. Market Barbeque License Upgrade – Steve Polski

Steve Polski would like to upgrade his liquor license to C1 so that he can provide his guests with live music. He believes that it would add a great atmosphere for the neighborhood as well as to the restaurant.

They have had karaoke in the bar for the past 12 years. This will continue on one or two days but there will be other types of music, up to four musicians, on other nights. There is no dance floor and no dancing permitted with this type of license.

Jana reported that one concern brought to CLPC's attention about posters on telephone poles advertising bands and would not want the practice to continue. Apparently a few bands have been responsible for this practice. There was a comment that the bar and restaurant has been trouble free. Another comment that there are several residential buildings in the area – Jana said that two of four were notified and had no comments.

In response to a question from John, Mr. Polski said that there were problems with patrons of a nearby

building -- specifically disrespect for the law, disorderly conduct, and some drug issues. Dick suggested that Steve might want to raise some of these issues with the Livability Committee. Jana also mentioned that two possible elements in the CLPC Phase II Plan could be extending the camera zone and beat cops in the area.

Motion by Paul Hinderager, seconded by John van Heel to support the liquor license upgrade to C-1 for the Market BarBQ to allow live music.

Motion passed unanimously

V. 7:45-8:15 Hennepin Lyndale Design Charette – John Van Heel

To see materials click here:

<http://downtown2015.com/Homepage/hennepinlyndale/HENNLYNPAGE.htm>

John addressed the wide range of issues discussed at the meeting including design and lack of pedestrian amenities. He distributed a list of issues and opportunities for the 15-year plan including five feature vignettes. Some of the discussion has been quite wide ranging including reconstruction of the tunnel although this is now recognized to be far into the future. John reported that several of the organizers may be interested in continuing to work with the neighborhoods.

[John van Heel later added that Katherine Gray from St. Mark’s attempted to come to the Land Use meeting for this item to inform the committee of St. Mark’s concern about the pedestrian issues caused by the combined bike and pedestrian path in front of the cathedral.]

Motion by John van Heel, seconded Paul Hinderager, that CLPC work with Lowry Hill neighborhood to address issues and opportunities as identified in the Hennepin-Lyndale Civic Corridor Design Charette.

Motion passed unanimously

VI. Reports

- **Loring Neighborhood “Lights Out”** – Jana Metge

This was covered at the Livability meeting. Xcel, the Park Board, and Public Works are working on coordination with the 311 system. There is still some confusion in resident’s minds about who is responsible for specific power poles.

- **Company’s Coming!! A Spruce Up MSP Event** – Jana Metge

This item is on the agenda for Livability for July. With the RNC coming, the City is offering more options than previously to clean up the area. The City will provide product and equipment if the neighborhood provides the labor. The focus is graffiti on public utilities, graffiti elsewhere, and litter pick-up everywhere.

Adjourned 8:20 p.m.

Agenda Items for Future Meetings:

- 1500 Nicollet Development Proposal
- Loring Parking Ramp
- Berger Fountain
- Lunds Grocery Store