

**ViNA Meeting  
April 22, 2009  
www.victoryneighborhood.org**

The meeting was held at St. John Missionary Baptist Church and called to order at 7:06 p.m. by Chair Matt Mossman. The agenda and the minutes from the March 25, 2009 meeting were approved by consensus.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

*Events.* Board member and committee chair Ann Kaari reported that the Spring Cleaning Day will be May 16, everyone is encouraged to meet at the pergola in the park to pick up bags and gloves and refreshments. The Memorial Concert will be May 21, and the VFW Post Ritual Squad will do a flag raising and lowering. May 30 is the garage sale; the registration form will be in the newsletter out shortly. Upcoming events include the Ice Cream Social in June. The next production at the Workhouse Theater will be how I Learned to Drive, on 3 weekends in May.

*Environment.* Board member and committee chair Diane Spector provided an update on the upcoming Rain Garden Parties. The Committee is preparing a Community Power Grant for enhanced recycling activities, and should know if it is funded by June 1.

*Livability.* Board member and committee chair Kris Brogan reported that the committee will be having a meeting in May.

*Business.* Board and committee member Gary Mortensen reported that the committee will meet at the end of April to complete the revisions to the existing NRP business grant for façade improvements with the Great Streets grant.

*Sustainability.* Committee chair Gary Mortensen reported that the committee continues to work on the welcome packet for new residents.

### **SUSTAINABLE RESOURCE CENTER**

Rachelle Peleska appeared to discuss efforts to screen Minneapolis homes for lead paint and children for blood lead levels. She will be at the Ice Cream Social to do free lead screenings. She noted that 85% of Minneapolis homes are thought to have lead paint. The Resource Center also goes into homes by request and tests for lead paint. She said there are three categories of persons most at risk for lead exposure: 1) children; 2) pregnant women; and 3) people who work with lead. Common health effects are behavioral changes, memory loss, hyperactivity. Blood lead levels are generally decreasing as a result of banning lead in paint and gasoline. She suggested simple practices such as frequent washing of hands and pacifiers, and taking off your shoes in the house. Hennepin County does have grant funds available to help homeowners abate lead paint.

### **PROPOSED OSSEO ROAD/VICTORY MEMORIAL DRIVE REALIGNMENT**

Councilmember Barb Johnson introduced the proposed realignment. An Open House was held at Loring School on March 31, and a number of people had questions or asked that alternatives be considered. Several staff people from the county and city were available to answer questions. Steve Mosing addressed some of the March 31 input. In response to the suggestion that VMD be made a one-way street, he said that it could be effective, but that approach displaces traffic onto other streets, and usually increases speeds. The street is too narrow to qualify for speed humps (only about 21 feet wide).

Several people in attendance noted that there are traffic issues in the neighborhood already, and this proposal may make those issues worse. There is a need to look at traffic in the area in a comprehensive, systematic way, and consider Osseo Road, the Parkway, 44<sup>th</sup> Avenue, and Penn issues as well. It was noted that the neighborhood Traffic Committee identified a number of potential traffic management needs

in the neighborhood, and the proposed realignment was a low priority item. There are other, higher priority traffic needs to accomplish first.

Greg Chock, traffic division manager, discussed the proposed project and noted that there has been no research yet to project traffic volume or speed changes.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:55 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Diane Spector, Secretary  
April 20, 2009