

**ViNA Board of Directors
November 5, 2008**

Present: Ann Kaari, Diane Spector, John Trombley, Gary Mortensen, Matt Massman, Michael Anschel, Staff-Debbie Nelson
Absent: Kris Brogan

The meeting was held at the ViNA office and was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Chair Matt Massman. Several items were added to the agenda. The amended agenda and the October 1, 2008 minutes were approved by consensus.

Financial Report - Ann briefly reviewed the budget and financial reports. **John made and Diane seconded a motion to pay Ann the quarterly stipend of \$25 from the citizen participation staff time budget for completing the quarterly taxes. Motion carried.** Ann abstained.

Committee Reports – Events: Ann reported that the committee met and decided that they don't have the capacity to take on any new events in 2009. Minutes will be available soon. Committee did discuss how to increase revenues from the events and will make suggestions to the Board. *Livability*: No report. *Environment*: Diane reported that Debbie and Karen from Groundworks have met with the Minneapolis Foundation and they are looking for potential additional matching grants. Ryan Lake petitions are going out shortly. *Housing*: Michael reported that he is having trouble with people volunteering for the Housing Committee but then not participating in doing the work. He will take on the job of writing up the housing program proposals. He has met with the Center for Energy and Environment to discuss their assistance program to provide the Housing Coordinator activities. The Northside Housing Fair is coming up. ViNA will have a table at the fair. *Sustainability*: Gary reported the committee is putting together a fund raising letter to send out before the holidays for year-end giving. **Michael made and John seconded a motion to expend up to \$500 from Unrestricted Funds for postage and printing of this letter. Motion carried.** Business: Did not have a meeting, instead had the presentation on the 44th & Penn traffic study at the ViNA meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

44th and Penn – Ann made and John seconded a motion to accept and file the report. Motion carried. Matt has made some follow up contacts with Hennepin Community Works to look for some planning funds to keep the project moving forward.

Budget for 2009 – The Board discussed options for fully funding 2009 operations. The budget as proposed shows a deficit of just under \$19,000. Possible sources of additional revenue would be housing program income or the funds set aside for contribution to the Webber Park Library. **John made and Diane seconded a motion to approve the 2009 budget and to reallocate \$19,000 from Phase I strategy Education 1.b.: Provide computer access at Webber Community Library to Phase II strategy F.1.2.1. : Fund a part time NRP coordinator to assist ViNA in the implementation of the Phase II Neighborhood Action Plan. Motion carried.** The Board reviewed the Community Building budget. **Gary made and John seconded a motion to approve the Community Building budget as proposed. Motion carried.**

Board Contracts/Bylaws - John discussed a proposed revision to the proposed Board contract and some proposed bylaw changes. The Board discussed revising the bylaws to provide for the Board setting an annual meeting schedule. **John made and Michael seconded a motion to approve the Board contract without the proposed revision. Motion carried.**

NRP Elector – November 20 is the date of the NRP election for the last year of the Joint Powers Policy Board. John volunteered to serve as elector.

Measurable Committee Goals – Tabled discussion.

NEW BUSINESS

Holiday on 44th – Ann reported that in the past ViNA has given \$500 or \$800, generally to sponsor the hay wagon. The event is losing volunteers and we may not be able to sustain the event in the future either financially or with volunteers to run the event. **John made and Diane seconded a motion to sponsor the hay wagon for \$500 from unrestricted funds. Motion carried. Michael voted nay.**

Neighborhood Garden Party – Diane presented a proposal from the environment committee to sponsor rain garden workshops through Metro Blooms. The neighborhood share of the cost of the general workshop and on-site workshops for up to 15 rain gardens would be \$1,370. The committee recommends doing some upfront PR and organization work that may require postage, printing, or other supplies. The committee recommends to the Board that it authorize contracting \$1,500 of the \$3,000 set aside for environmental education in 2009 for the rain garden workshops. **Michael made and Ann seconded a motion to approve the proposal. Motion carried.**

Liquor License Legislation – Matt discussed that Representative Joe Mullery is willing to sponsor legislation to allow restaurants in the neighborhood to obtain full liquor licenses if supported by Councilmember Johnson and the neighborhood. Councilmember Johnson is willing to support the legislation with neighborhood approval. The Board was interested in this and discussed getting neighborhood review and approval at the December meeting.

Website Update – Debbie reported that Jeremy the Webmaster has proposed some upgrades to the website and is willing to perform these at no charge. The Board approved going forward with his proposed site upgrade.

2009 Calendar – Matt will review the proposed calendar and present at the December Board meeting.

Step – UP Program – The Board reviewed participating in the program. If the intern needs to work a minimum of 30 hours then we should consider partnering with Cleveland. Activities need to be supervised.

Park Board Budget – Matt noted that we have previously had a problem with the level of Park Board budget commitment for neighborhood activities. As the Park Board is currently discussing its budget Matt asked if this was the time to bring up this topic to the Park Board. The consensus was “No.”

Neighborhood Email – The board discussed discontinuing the old email address and initiating one or more new addresses using the victoryneighborhood.org domain. The Board approved this change.

Church Donation - In past years the Board has made a donation to the church hosting the neighborhood meetings as thanks for using their facilities at no charge. **Michael made and Gary seconded a motion to donate \$150 from Unrestricted Funds to St. John Missionary Baptist Church in thanks for using their facilities. Motion carried.**

NNA Housing Survey – Debbie will forward the proposed survey questions to Michael for input from the Housing Committee.

December 10 Meeting – Items on the agenda include: Liquor License Legislation. Holiday Lights Contest. Sustainability. Garden Party.

Meeting adjourned at 9:20 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Diane Spector, Secretary
November 12, 2008