

ViNA Board of Directors
January 7, 2009

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

The meeting was held at Debbie Nelson's house, 2900 Victory Memorial Drive, and was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Chair Matt Massman. Three items were added to the agenda. The amended agenda and the December 3, 2008 minutes were approved by consensus.

Financial Report - Ann briefly reviewed the budget and financial reports.

Committee Reports – Debbie: Debbie reviewed various office activities from the past month, including meeting mailings; special meetings on new or expanded city programs; program contract management; meeting preparation; financial reports; and draft of the neighborhood brochure.

NNA: Matt reported current thinking and discussions on refocusing the NNA, its purpose and how it conducts its business. Board discussed whether Camden is served well by partnering up with Near North.

Events: Ann reported on the discussions with Live on the Drive; no new information from the organizers is available.

Livability: Kris reported that Shannon McDonough will be at the next meeting, which has been moved to The Warren. The February meeting topic will be home safety. It was noted that there is still \$2,790 available for home safety improvements.

Environment: Diane presented the committee's recommended Street Improvement Policy Statement requesting earlier notification of projects, and an emphasis on reducing new impervious surface, restoring vegetated boulevards, and the use of trees and native vegetation to increase evapotranspiration and infiltration. **Kris made and Gary seconded a motion to adopt the recommended Street Improvement Policy Statement. Motion carried.** Diane also presented the committee's 2009 goals, and noted that the \$1,000 grant requested from the Shingle Creek Watershed Management Commission for the rain garden workshops has been approved.

Housing: No report.

Sustainability: Gary reported that there are two new people on the committee, which has held off on the fund raising letter due to the economy. They are focusing on revising the welcome packet. They are looking into shirts, hats, etc. to use as incentives or for residents to purchase.

Business: Matt reported on a meeting with Commissioner Opat's office to follow up on the 44th and Penn study.

2007-2008 990/Attorney General's Report - Debbie distributed copies of the annual 990 Form, Return of Organization Exempt from Income Tax, and Attorney General's report for Board review. **Kris made and Ann seconded a motion to approve the reports and authorize their submittal. Motion carried.**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Bus Route 19R – The Metro Transit meeting on Route 19R will be held January 22, 2009 at Peace Lutheran Church. Matt reviewed a proposed "Sense of the Neighborhood" resolution he prepared. The Board discussed the resolution and suggested various changes, emphasizing that neighborhood desires for short and long term options for this route are: the temporary route should be discontinued; the transit-dependant population on 42nd Avenue should be served; the connection to Robbinsdale and future light rail/busway corridors should be preserved; and that bus routes be located on collector streets. Matt will revise the resolution and send it out for a second review.

NEW BUSINESS

January 28 Meeting – Larry Matsumoto from Public Works will discuss the 2009 Thomas Avenue repaving project. Holiday Lights contest winners will be announced. Sam Sharpe will discuss CTSI.

Parkway Plan - Ann requested an update on the Victory Memorial Drive Master Plan. Debbie reported that the Environment Committee has asked her to request monthly updates from Commissioner Opat's office, but that she hasn't been able to do that yet.

Liquor License Discussion – Matt reported that he had a follow up conversation with Rich Goldsmith to let him know the results of the December 10 ViNA meeting discussions, and that moving this along to legislation was up to him. Matt reported that Councilmember Johnson still has reservations about considering additional liquor licenses in the neighborhood.

Committee Metrics - Gary distributed a log form to start to compile the goals and metrics by committee. He will distribute the form electronically for committee convenience.

Meeting adjourned at 9:05 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Diane Spector, Secretary
January 26, 2009