

ViNA Board of Directors
March 4, 2009

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

The meeting was held at the ViNA office and was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Vice Chair Gary Mortensen. Several items were added to the agenda. The February 4, 2009 minutes were corrected as follows: Meeting adjourned 8:30. The amended agenda and minutes were approved by consensus.

Financial Report - Debbie briefly reviewed the budget and financial reports. **Kris made and Diane seconded a motion to make a quarterly payment of \$25 to Treasurer Ann Kaari from the Citizen Participation staff time line item. Motion carried.** Debbie reported that it was recommended that she attend IRS training for nonprofits and how they handle fund raising. **Kris made and John seconded a motion to approve Debbie attending the recommended IRS training at a cost of \$45 from Unrestricted Funds. Motion carried.**

Committee Reports – *Debbie*: Handed out her monthly activity report.

Events: Ann will have a meeting on Saturday to go over the summer events.

Livability: Kris reported on the meeting regarding food co-op, which attracted a turnout of 35-40 including people from outside the neighborhood. Also discussion of CSAs, and a volunteer to put together a web site. Next meeting will be on the topic of Restorative Justice.

Environment: Diane reported on the preworkshop workshop, 35-40 attendance. The committee discussed the Community Power grant to do series of workshops. There is movement on Ryan Lake – city is now interested in doing project.

Housing: Planning to have a draft of the programs for the Housing Fair.

Sustainability: Are working on the welcome packet and will send the outline around to get input from all the committees. Exploring using Constant Contact.

Business: Gary reported the Phase II grant application was submitted.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Neighborhood and Community Relations Commission – John reported on the meeting. Several of the neighborhoods met before the meeting to set a strategy. At the beginning there was some consensus that the 8 seats from the neighborhood would be allocated on some geographic basis. The meeting broke down and no consensus was reached.

Housing Fair – Victory will have a table. Gary will put together a schedule for volunteers.

Food Share – Kris reported that the program is set up and there are businesses that are drop off sites. Debbie reported that Loring will do a collection at school.

NEW BUSINESS

March 25 Meeting – Debbie has a commitment from Phil Essington for him and Commissioner Opat to provide an update on VMD, Penn and 44th, and the library. Jeff Washburne, who missed the last meeting, will appear. Announce results of the rain garden solicitation.

City Charter Amendments – Debbie reminded the Board that she had forwarded information on the proposed charter amendments.

Ranked Choice Voting – Election board will probably ask the neighborhoods will be asked to provide assistance in training voters on using the system.

Sauced Restaurant – Kris reported that Sauced is closed. The owners are looking for another restaurant use. The Business Committee will contact the owners to get information and offer assistance.

Minnesota Green – Debbie requested approval to sign up again with Minnesota Green. For annual \$50 fee are eligible for free or low cost plants, and most of the plants **Matt made and Kris seconded a motion to approve an expenditure of \$50 from Community Building for these annual dues. Motion carried.**

Loring School – Debbie reported that Loring will be holding a carnival in May and will also have a silent auction. Board think about potential items or services to offer, announce at the March ViNA meeting, and discuss in April

Meeting adjourned at 8:23 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Diane Spector, Secretary
March 23, 2009