

ViNA Board of Directors
April 1, 2009

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

The meeting was held at the ViNA office and was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by Vice Chair Gary Mortensen. Two items were added to the agenda. The March 4, 2009 minutes were corrected as follows: Ann noted that she was not attendance. John asked that the minutes reflect that he asked to see a copy of the draft housing programs prior to the Housing Fair. The amended agenda and minutes were approved by consensus.

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

Sustainability of ViNA. Peg Mountain appeared to discuss the current status of the NRP programming. She reviewed the funds remaining from Phase I – the Ryan Lake Trail funds and technology. For Phase II, the required amount to be spent on Housing is \$229,251, leaving \$45,963 for everything else. She noted that of that \$45,963 ViNA could contract as much as \$26,316 for administrative costs. She encourages all her neighborhoods to consider contracting out administrative funds for as far out into the future as allowable.

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

Events: Ann reported that the events committee will be meeting to discuss increases in some costs of participating in programming.

Livability: No report.

Environment: Diane reported that the Community Power Grant letter of interest was selected to complete a full grant proposal. Since it is due April 30, before the next Board meeting, Diane will see that it is circulated to the Board before submittal.

Housing: Michael handed out the draft housing program changes. Proposed changes to the emergency deferred loan program are simply to require that any improvements must meet or exceed MN Green Star or Green Communities standards, plus some minimum standards for paint, roof, and siding standards and appliance efficiencies. For the home loan program, the maximum loan amount is proposed to increase from \$7,000 to \$20,000. Michael will get a recommendation from GMHC for interest rate. The term of the loan would be flexible based on the size of the loan. Various types of improvements would be added for eligibility, and others removed. Projects must attempt to achieve Green Star certification, but will not be penalized if they don't. Projects that achieve certification would be eligible for a credit toward their loan. Recipients that act as their own general contractor must attend a 4 hour training session on how to navigate the Green Star programming. The rehab loan program would be essentially the same as the home loan program, but targeted toward rehabbing vacant properties. The recommendation is that both for profit and non profit organizations would also be eligible for the rehab dollars. The Board acted on a series of motions:

- 1. Michael made and Diane seconded a motion to revise the goal language for the housing strategy as presented by the housing committee. Motion carried.**
- 2. Ann made and Kris seconded a motion to incorporate the changes proposed by the housing committee for the emergency loan program. Motion carried.**
- 3. Michael made and Diane seconded a motion to increase the maximum loan to \$25,000. Motion carried, Diane, Michael, Kris aye, Ann and John nay.**
- 4. Michael made and Kris seconded a motion to authorize Michael to set a competitive interest rate based on the recommendation of the vendor with a floor of 3 percent. Motion carried**
- 5. Michael made and Diane seconded a motion to accept the Home Improvement Loan as proposed by the committee with the following change: modify the proposed language requiring replacement of all trees removed to provide for an exemption if no suitable location exists for tree as determined by an arborist. Motion carried, John nay.**

6. **Michael made and _____ seconded a motion to approve the Rehab Loan as presented by the committee, as clarified that all the requirements of the Home Improvement Loan apply to this program except that the maximum loan would be \$20,000. Motion carried.**

Sustainability: No report.

Business: No report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Rain Garden Contract - Diane reported that of the three additional applications that the Board was willing to add to the contract, one appears to have dropped out. The Board authorized executing the contract assuming up to 18 participants.

ViNA Brochure – Discussed.

Crime and Safety Contract – Tabled.

NEW BUSINESS

Communication Policy – Tabled.

Spring Newsletter – New housing programs. Garage sale. Land Trust.

April 22 ViNA Meeting – The County will be asked to discuss the revision to the intersection of VMD and Osseo Road. Also should review the housing programs.

Loring School Carnival - **Ann made and Kris seconded a motion to purchase a Lincoln Through the Seasons Photo from Unrestricted Funds and donate it to the carnival. Motion carried.**

NOMI – Meeting on Monday April 6 to organize the booth at the GLBT parade.

Meeting adjourned at 9:09 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Diane Spector, Secretary
April 20, 2009