

WSCO Board of Directors Meeting
August 10, 2015

Present: Salina Amey, Matthew Bergeron , Lewis Dixon, Kathy Larson, Alicia Lucio ,
Dan Martinez, Nancy Negrette, Nicholas Novacek Bundt, Krysten Ryba-Tures , Carol Swenson, Pam
Welisevich. Guests: Luke Hanson (St. Paul Public Works), Grit Youngquist, Jon Kerr, Carol Neumann,
Diggitt McLauhlin, Tom and Paula Sanchez.
Staff: Christine Shyne, Mason Wells

Absent: Joe Gould, Amelia Holcomb, Armando Luna, Alice Martin, Benjamin Mike, Ruth Lott, Melissa
Johnson (alt.)

6:40pm – Called to order. No quorum, discussed moving to first guest, Luke Hanson, Dept. of Public
works – RE: Oakdale. There is a mill and overlay planned for fall 2015 and there will be bike lanes added,
per St. Paul bike plan. Issue will be removal of parking on West side of street. St. Paul conducted a
parking utilization study: one block showed high use by an apartment building. The study also shows
side street parking is sufficient to meet demand. Bike lane will provide connection to Cesar Chavez-
extension of bike facilities in place. A public open house was held, around 20 people attended, flyered
500-600. There will be public hearing and Luke said he would provide other options for comment
Question was asked – why taking parking from West side of street?

Commercial building for future business, but it could be decided to have on east die
No action taken, Luke will follow up with ways to comment, and when the public hearing is
scheduled.

(since Board meeting) Luke emailed with the following info:

You may review the details of our proposal for Oakdale on the [Oakdale project website](#). The
proposed changes to Oakdale will be presented to City Council. This will be a public hearing. A
notification detailing the time and date of the hearing will be sent to residents/property owners
near the project once details are finalized. This information will also be posted to the website,
and will also be forwarded to you directly.

Those looking to provide written feedback on the proposed plans for Oakdale may do so through
the following channels:

- Leave a comment online on [Open Saint Paul](#)
- Send an email to city staff (reuben.collins@ci.stpaul.mn.us)

Should individuals have questions about the project, they may contact Reuben Collins at the City
of St. Paul Department of Public Works (email: reuben.collins@ci.stpaul.mn.us , phone: [651-266-
6059](tel:651-266-6059)). Individuals may also contact their local councilmember to offer feedback on the proposal
for Oakdale Avenue(ward2@ci.stpaul.mn.us).

Consent Agenda (discussion)

- August agenda, July minutes, July finance report.

Board reviewed documents. Motion to approve agenda by _____ second by ____.

- Unanimously approved.

Sherman Phase III – CUP

Gjerry Berquist of RDLU committee presented about RDLU decision on the George Sherman CUP (5-1 approval of CUP for height variance). Berquist felt decision was rushed and proposed taking more time, broader discussion to get community input on heights and to hear from FMR and NPS on this subject. A discussion was held about the process and what steps WSCO could/should take.

Carol Swanson moved to send the issue back to RDLU for further discussion and for possible community meeting. Salina seconded.

There was further discussion including why isn't WSCO invited to Design Center conversation?

Vote was held. Six in favor, two opposed. The board used committee of the whole as there was not yet quorum. The decision will go back to RDLU and the board will revisit next board meeting.

Task Force Updates/Committee Updates

- RDLU
 - Sherman and Associates CUP
 - George Stryker Plan moving forward.
 - Next Step – talk with Stryker Garden people
- CRIME AND SAFETY
 - West Side Youth guides presented to committee about street lights that are out or blocked on the West Side. Asked for help contacting forestry dept, will flyer neighborhood with resources to contact about burnt out lights
 - Attendance has been low – working to find ways to build attendance
- SUSTAINABLE LIVING
 - No meeting was held

Art on the Avenue

The event was successful, lots of people attended. There will be a wrap up celebration later in August or early September. There was a discussion about attendance, cost for Art on the Avenue. Salina asked for data on how many people attended? What did it cost? Matthew discussed that it was an arts-specific grant; next year the board discuss what focus for arts dollars when designing/approving the budget

Smith Avenue Hall

New Owner, Mahamud Mahamed applied for application but withdrew last week. He wants to get shared parking agreements and do more outreach to get community support and ideas. He will be coming to the next RDLU meeting.

Bylaws Ad-hoc committee Christine reported on first meeting of the bylaws committee. Matthew will recommend a motion for next meeting because of the timing of notice to board/public for annual meeting. He also recommended that the committee request to sets of changes: 1, technical changes, 2,

policy changes. The committee will meet again and at September meeting will present proposed changes to bylaws.

PORT (Protect our Riverfront Together, formerly Hawkins Work Group) updates

- EAW was not granted, City council voted in favor of CUP. Good turnout of community members at City Council meeting, however. Thune suggested an assessment of Barge Channel Road.
- PORT requested to join SL – and that committee change its name back to Environmental Justice Committee. Member of PORT would like to attend next SL Meeting to discuss working together (separate chairs? Join the committee? Task force? Decision making.
- Monica Bryand asked to set up pre-meeting with Kathy but that the EJ Committee is behind the ideas and concerns presented by PORT
- Jon Kerr, guests, stated the importance of PORT's full support of WSCO
- PORT is also looking for more members, acquire an intern (maybe from CURA?)
- Christine stated it might be good to have the two groups be separate but work together.

No action was taken. The EJ Committee and PORT will discuss at next meeting and report back in September.

By-Laws and Procedures Committee

- Creating committee to look at by-laws and procedures to update, look at election practices from other district councils and present proposed changes for Annual Meeting (December)
- Asking for volunteers: Matthew, Nicholas, Carol, Kathy, and Salina (Carol Neumann-Community member)
- Will put ask on website (The Voice Article) for additional input from community, hold community feedback sessions

30 Second Updates

- Kathy (and board) - Thank you to Mason for 4 ½ years of work with WSCO! You will be missed, and good luck with graduate school!
- Lewis - TNT is expanding into West Saint Paul with a partnership with the West Saint Paul YMCA
- Christine – WSCO is at a table called Equity in Place which is talking about fair housing policies. Would WSCO board like to be part of these discussions? Can we connect them with community conversations about renter/landlord concerns?

8:15 pm – Meeting adjourned.