

Notes from the Fulton Finance committee meeting of April 6, 2016

Present

Jane Kohnen, John Finlayson, Steve Haslach, Ruth Olson, Dave Delvoye

Community Engagement committee

Preliminary work on the Fall Festival has begun.

Environment committee

Board member Steve Haslach has decided to resign from the Environment committee. The committee does not have a chairperson.

The Bee and Butterfly group wants to locate a pollinator garden on Park Board land along Minnehaha Creek. Park Board staff is not in favor of the project. Jane will set up a meeting of the group and look at options. Steve reported that East Nokomis neighborhood has a successful pollinator program which might be a model to consider.

Shade structure

There was a meeting recently between a member of the FNA Board and Park staff to check on the status of the shade structure project. More information will be available at the Board meeting on 4/13.

Charter review

The Zoning and Arts committees have not yet submitted charters to the Board.

Other business

FNA received an inquiry from a neighbor about why the organization decided not to oppose a request for a variance at a residential property and why affected residents were not invited to attend the FNA Zoning committee meeting at which the issue was discussed. Due to the City's process of reviewing variance applications, there is often not enough time for the Zoning committee to bring these issues to the Board before the City takes action. Ruth suggested posting the notices about applications for variances on the FNA web site along with a statement that residents who have questions or comments about a variance should attend the FNA Zoning committee meeting. That advice, along with the Zoning committee's meeting schedule, could also periodically be included in Fulton Neighborhood News and the monthly e-newsletter. Jane stated that the FNA Board should review any recommendations from the Zoning committee if time allows.

Ruth will ask Council Member Palmisano to provide the Board with a five-minute overview of the Police department's training in regard to implicit bias.

Ruth is working to clean up the FNA web site: many of the links to City and County sites no longer work. There was a discussion about whether the personal phone numbers and e-mail addresses of Board members should be posted on the web site. The committee recommended that all inquiries be directed to the FNA phone line and e-mail address and that personal contact information for Board members not be posted on the web site.

The committee recommended that the Board approve FNA's 2015 annual report to the Community Participation Program which was prepared by Ruth.

Notes prepared by Dave Delvoye