

## **Notes from the Fulton NRP meeting of October 7, 2015**

### **Present**

John Finlayson, Jim Tincher, Ruth Olson, Dave Delvoye

### **Minutes**

The committee approved the minutes of the 9/2/15 meeting.

### **FNA annual meeting**

Ruth has been preparing for the annual meeting on 10/14. Friends of Fulton awards will be presented by Senator Dibble and Representative Hornstein. The League of Women Voters will conduct the election of candidates to six open Board seats. So far, there are six candidates who have expressed interest in the positions.

### **50<sup>th</sup> Street Streetscape**

The 50<sup>th</sup> Street Vision Statement has been approved by the FNA Board and the 50<sup>th</sup> & France Business Association. The Lynnhurst Neighborhood Association Board is soliciting more public comment before taking a vote; their next meeting is on 10/8.

### **Community Engagement**

The Fall Festival was a success, although attendance appeared to have dropped compared to last year. Bills are still coming in, so the final amount FNA raised from the event has not yet been determined.

### **Environment committee**

There was a discussion about the status of the Environment committee, which has not met for a year and a half and has no clear-cut leadership. There was a suggestion to restart the committee – including writing and approving a charter for the committee – under the direction and control of the FNA Board. There was a suggestion that all of FNA's committees review their charters and report to the Board about any changes needed. Ruth will look for any Board guidelines or policies regarding the committees.

There are no NRP funds allocated to the Environment committee, although the Board could decide to modify its NRP plans and transfer funds from other program(s) to the committee. Another potential source of funding could be the money remaining from the Fulton plant sales which is dedicated to planting boulevard trees.

### **Grant program**

Ruth and Bart met recently to tweak the guidelines of the FNA Grant program, specifically to change how long grant recipients have to wait before being eligible to receive another grant. Grant recipients will report at the FNA annual meeting on 10/14. There was a discussion about reaching out to neighborhood block leaders and contacts along with local organizations for the next round of grants.

### **Other business**

Ruth is seeking a volunteer to coordinate distribution of the neighborhood welcome packets.

Ruth reported that the 9/27 Open Streets event on 50<sup>th</sup> St was a success. It was a great way to make connections with residents, especially with the families who turned out. FNA's \$500 budget was used to provide face painting, a magician, balloons, and games for kids – and succeeded in attracting people during the entire event. There was a discussion about whether the event would happen next year: it was organized by the 50<sup>th</sup> & France Business Association and sponsored by the City of Edina; the City of Minneapolis did not participate. There was a suggestion that FNA partner with the organizers – and try to get Minneapolis involved, perhaps with the help of the Southwest Business Association – and contribute more funding if there is interest in making it an annual event. It's a great opportunity to build community and reach out to residents. There is also interest in expanding the event to include all of the business nodes on West 50<sup>th</sup> St.