

MINUTES
Macalester-Groveland Community Council (MGCC)
February 10, 2011

President Gena Berglund called the meeting to order at 6:48 p.m.

Attendance:

Quorum reached. See Attendance Sheet for details.

Minutes: A motion to approve the January 2011 Minutes was moved, seconded, and passed.

Additions or Changes to the Agenda?

Request to move up the Housing & Land Use resolution before the President's report.

Board Member Profile

Bob Shoemake: Bob is the MGCC Educational Representative. He lives in the house that his wife grew up in on Goodrich – the house is 100 years old. Bob lived in Merriam Park prior to Macalester Groveland. He was born in Florida and grew up in South Carolina. He moved to MN 28 years ago. Bob works at the University of St. Thomas, downtown Minneapolis– Opus College – Center for Ethical Business Cultures.

KidsPark Proposal - Erica Kragerud-Smith, KPAC

Erica provided us with a summary document as well as the more detailed project plan. There are currently 61 registered families and there has been increased usage in the infant room. Project plan is on schedule.

Housing & Land Use Committee Recommendation

Joel provided some background and also introduced some special guests representing the Ramsey Tobacco Coalition, including two students from Como Park Senior High School. They provided the Board with a presentation.

Proposed resolution: Whereas the Housing & Land Use Committee has heard a presentation by the Ramsey Tobacco Coalition regarding the regulation of window signage in St. Paul, the Housing & Land Use Committee asks that the MGCC Board of Directors hereby supports regulation of window signage in the City of Saint Paul to improve the safety and appearance of our community by reducing distractions to motorists, cyclists and pedestrians, and deterring crime through better visibility, and recommends that the City Council adopt window signage regulation which allows no more than 25% window coverage.

Joel moved that we consider the resolution and it was seconded. There was some discussion.

Leo moved to call the question. The resolution was approved with 100% yes vote.

President's Report - Gena Berglund

Grid Elections: 3, 4, 11, At-Large Business Representative

Grid 3 – no

Grid 4 – no

At-Large Business Representative – no

Ben Hartberg was elected as the Grid 11 Representative. Ben is a landscape architect living on Berkeley Avenue behind the St. Clair Broiler. He has served on the Mayor's Beautification Committee, worked on large and small projects (including various transportation projects). Welcome Ben!

2011 Work Plans – proposed resolution: The Macalester-Groveland Community Council approves the draft 2011 Work Plan, including the Crime Work Plan.

Motion made and seconded to approve resolution. Resolution passed unanimously.

2011 Scopes of Work – proposed resolution: The Macalester-Groveland Community Council approves the draft 2011 Scope of Work.

Leo made a motion to approve the proposal and it was seconded. There was some discussion. Several non-Board member MGCC Committee co-chairs in attendance introduced themselves.

A call to vote was made and the resolution passed unanimously.

NOTE: Prior to adjourning, Leo asked that the minutes clarify this vote included the approval of two Scopes of Work:

1. Citizen Participation 2011 Work Plan
2. Neighborhood Crime Prevention Program

Election of 2011 Committee Chairs – proposed resolution: The Macalester-Groveland Community Council approves the following committee chairs for 2011 – Sharon Toscano, Beautification; Erin Donnelly & Lou Michaels, Community Outreach; Melanie Peterson-Nafziger & Johanna Anderson, Environment; Steve Matysik, Housing & Land Use; Jay MacBride, Amber Dallman (vice), Transportation.

Motion made and seconded to approve resolution. Resolution passed unanimously.

Report of the Executive Director: Afton Martens

2011 City Work Plan: Goal is to submit this by the end of February.

Update on Eureka – the contract negotiations were just wrapped up. The change in contract will impact the total amount of funds we receive from Eureka.

There has been activity to request funds from other sources, including Russ Stark's office, High Winds Funds and additional sources.

Annual Meeting

- Proposed Bylaws changes must be made at March Board Meeting
- Topic & Scope – two break out sessions. Pedestrian Safety and Identity Theft

Frost Fest Event: Saturday, February 12th at Groveland Park 1:00 – 3:00pm

Professional Development: Afton has started a program at the University of St. Thomas. Institute for Executive Director Leadership.

Transportation Committee Recommendation

Jay MacBride introduced the resolution.

Proposed resolution: The Macalester-Groveland Community Council recommends the testing of a type 3 barricade with "Do Not Enter signage" between May and September 2011 on the west side of the Lincoln Avenue & Hamline Avenue intersection to restrict west-bound traffic for the block of Lincoln Avenue between Albert Street and Hamline Avenue.

Motion made and seconded. Some discussion. The question was called.

The resolution passed unanimously.

Snelling Avenue Traffic Calming Proposed Resolution - Gena Berglund

Gena provided some background about the proposed resolution. There was some discussion and friendly amendments made to the original resolution. Those changes are displayed in red font below.

Proposed Resolution:

Whereas the City of Saint Paul will be implementing a 2011 mill and overlay on Snelling Avenue between Summit and Randolph Avenues;

Whereas the portion of Snelling Avenue between Saint Clair and Randolph Avenues is currently a difficult and dangerous crossing for all pedestrians (especially children, persons with disability and elderly persons) and people on bicycles;

Whereas the landscaped median installed in the autumn of 2010 on Snelling Avenue between Grand and St. Clair Avenues has made it safer to cross Snelling on foot, on bike and in cars for Macalester-Groveland residents, and persons doing business, working or attending events in the neighborhood;

Whereas the completed landscaped median on Snelling Avenue between Grand and St. Clair Avenues has not resulted in noticeable inconvenience for automobile traffic, (See January 12 – 25, 2011 Villager article by Jane McClure);

Whereas Snelling Avenue is the designated route through the Western end of Saint Paul, which runs through many heavily populated neighborhoods, including Macalester-Groveland;

Whereas other organizations are starting to pursue development of traffic calming approaches for Snelling Avenue south of Saint Clair; and Whereas the Macalester-Groveland Community Council played a significant role in the public dialogue about the Snelling median between Saint Clair and Grand Avenues;

Be it resolved that the Macalester-Groveland Community Council Board of Directors agrees to form a Snelling Avenue Traffic Calming task force, under the direction of MGCC's Transportation Committee to begin planning the development of traffic calming measures on Snelling Avenue between Summit and Randolph Avenues.

The question was called. The resolution passed unanimously.

Report of the Recycling & Environmental Coordinator: Lauren Anderson

2011 Home Improvement Fair: Saturday, April 2nd at Cretin Derham Hall between 10 am and 3 pm. Lauren will be looking for volunteers in March.

Upcoming 2011 Eco-Forums:

- Energy – February 24th at 7 pm, Macalester College
- Composting – March 3rd, 6:30 pm at Edgumbe Rec Center

Pedestrian Refuge Test Results: presented at the January Transportation Committee meeting. The results are available on the MGCC's website. 450 comments were received. A decision will be made by the City of St. Paul in spring.

Other business

Leo suggested that we repair the 2011 Scopes of Work comments under the President's report. Please refer to the "note" for the explanation.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:10 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Joyce Krech, Secretary

Attendance:

First	Last	February 2011
Andy	Albrecht	x
Jane	Amberg	No
Matt	Beaver	No
Gena	Berglund	x
Joel	Clemmer	x
Kellie	Connor	x
Michelle	Crain	x
Gregg	Curtis	No
Todd	Curtis	No
Mary	Davis	x
Jack	Fei	x
Angela	Giedd	No
John	Haggenmiller	x
Mike	Kowski	x
Joyce	Krech	x
Jay	MacBride	x
Lou	Michaels	x
Milton	Popageorge	x
Melanie	Peterson-Nafziger	x
Bob	Shoemake	x
Leo	Viktora	x