

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

President Gena Berglund called the meeting to order at 6:45 p.m.

Attendance:

Quorum reached. See Attendance Sheet for details.

Minutes: Minor edits. A motion to approve the February 2011 Minutes was moved, seconded, and passed.

Additions or Changes to the Agenda?

Bob Shoemake would like to make a brief report about St. Thomas in other business.

Jack Fei has a brief update about LTCC

Board Member Profile

Joel Clemmer: Joined the board in 2007, rep to District Council Collaborative and is a rep on WESNC. Came to St. Paul in 1985 to work at Macalester. Joel retired in 2005. Macalester Groveland has been the focus of much of his time. He spends time advocating for health care reform and with Scenic St. Paul. Interests include Pennsylvanian folk art. He "really likes living in Macalester Groveland" and enjoys his colleagues on the Board.

Grand Old Day - Jaimee Lucke Hendrikson, Grand Avenue Business Association

Proposed Resolution: The Macalester-Groveland Community Council waives the consent requirement for a block party permit in order to avoid petitioning to close Grand Avenue to vehicular traffic on Grand Old Day.

Grand Avenue Business Association (GABA) representatives in attendance: Jamie Lucke Hendrickson, program director; Executive Director, Robin Ongaro; and GABA President Chad Skally. Events for 2011 includes: Grand Old Day Parade theme "Today's Heroes", 20 local bands, art exhibitors, and a family entertainment district.

Lou moves to approve resolution, seconded by Leo. There was brief discussion. John moved the question, the resolution was unanimously approved.

Board Retreat Follow-up - Roger Meyer

Roger Meyer, the MGCC Board retreat facilitator returns to check in on progress on the Work Plan and Board process. There was some discussion.

The Board thanked Roger for following up.

Committee Meeting Resolution

Proposed resolution: Macalester-Groveland Community Council staff are not mandated to be at all committee meetings, but will attend at the discretion of the Executive Director, based on the agreed upon roles and responsibilities.

Joel introduced the resolution and covered MGCC staff resources in relation to the KPAC proposed spin-off. There was some discussion. MGCC Executive Director Afton Martens addressed staffing commitments.

KidsPark Proposal - Erica Kragerud-Smith, KidsPark Advisory Committee (KPAC)

Erica provided the Board with a summary document "KidsPark Update to MGCC" She also reported that KPAC has now received a grant from the High Winds Fund for marketing and outreach expenses that will provide for expanded outreach efforts. She mentioned that tours of KidsPark have increased, which is a positive sign indicating increasing interest from residents.

Eric answered some questions from the Board.

Revenue expenses increased from \$1,622 (January) to \$8,385 (February) of 2011. As a result Net Income went from -\$6,594 to \$887, putting KidsPark in the black for the time period.

In March, KPAC will examine the budgeting and operating structures of the program, including possible "bridge" funding to cover transitional expenditures during the transfer from MGCC to becoming a self-funded entity.

Erica also mentioned the KidsPark Carnival for June 4th and some volunteer involvement.

President's Report - Gena Berglund

Annual Meeting Rules (see attachment) covers 2011 Annual Meeting elections and special elections.

Gena summarized the changes, which include:

- MGCC requests a letter of support/endorsement for At-Large Business representative candidates.
- MGCC to revisit Board Liaison appointments in the monthly meeting following the Annual Meeting

Leo moves to discuss resolution, seconded by Lou. There was some discussion.

Leo made a friendly amendment to change the letter requirement for Business representatives from "three (3)" to "one (1)".

John called question. All in favor –unanimous to vote.

Jack called question to vote on amendment. Passes with two nay, no abstentions.

Vote on rules – passed with 100% approval.

Rankings for CIB Proposals

Bob moves to delegate the Exec Committee to rank the CIB Proposal. Joel seconded.

John asked everyone to send him any comments or questions for him to bring to Exec Committee meeting before next meeting.

Changes to Bylaws

Bob proposed changes, Leo seconded.

Resolution to changes passes unanimously.

Personnel Policies

Exec Committee discuss at their next meeting, updates to be made at May MGCC meeting.

Clean-Ups

Thought MGCC indicated earlier interest in moving from one (from two) yearly clean-ups. Highland Park prefers keeping both the Spring and Fall clean-ups, citing volume (resident interest). There was some discussion, including feedback from staff regarding staff resources and comparison to other District Council clean-ups.

Report of the Executive Director: Afton Martens

Annual Meeting

- Breakout Sessions: Transportation (Pedestrian Safety and Traffic Options); Crime Prevention: Identity Theft (FBI and St. Paul Police) and General Crime Prevention
- Convener Assignments & Welcome Table: sign-up sheet passed around
- Door Hangars: MGCC will continue to do door hangers, but we'll be asking attendees how they heard about the meeting
- Please let me know if you do not plan to run again!

Chairperson Training: March 16th at 7pm, in the meeting room at Coffee Bene (Grand & Cleveland). Jun-Li Wang will be the meeting facilitator. All Board members are encouraged to attend.

Teen Battle of the Bands: MGCC will pass on this event this year. We've reached out to GABA for additional help, but they've experienced staff changes are unable to help at this time. The event is being cancelled due to lack of volunteers.

Frost Fest: *Joyce's note – mention that we collected \$52 (not sure if that was the right amount)?*

Welcome Packets: *Last of them in the office, please stop by to pick up.*

League of Women Voters Meeting: [insert date and report from Afton]

University of St. Thomas STAR Grand Request Letter of Support - Leo Viktora

Proposed resolution:

Whereas the University of Saint Thomas (UST) Sustainability group has sent an inquiry to the Macalester Groveland Community Council (MGCC) regarding a Letter of Support for their STAR Application Grant to install a 40KW PhotoVoltaic system on the Anderson Student Center, and;

whereas, UST has indicated that they would be willing to host periodic Community Events reviewing the operation and environmental aspects of this and other sustainability efforts at UST benefiting the public by providing knowledge of various systems and practices they can improve our natural environment, and;
whereas the STAR Application, including Letters of Support, needs to be completed by March 31, 2011;
Therefore, be it resolved that the MGCC Board authorizes the MGCC Environment Committee, upon their review of UST's presentation, to take action regarding a Letter of Support on behalf of MGCC as the committee deems appropriate.

Motion: Jay Seconded: Joel

Vote: Approved, one abstention, one nay.

Report of the Recycling & Environmental Coordinator: Lauren Anderson

Environmental Coordinator position funding:

MGCC awarded funds from Representatives Harris and Stark as well as High Wind Funds; raising \$10,000 with no impact on 2011 budget..

2011 Home Improvement Fair: Saturday, April 2nd at Cretin Derham Hall between 10 am and 3 pm.

Lauren also gave brief recaps of the Eco-Forum and Community Garden Workgroup.

Other Business

Bob gave some updates from St. Thomas, including Tennis Court and liquor licensing. Jack: District Council Collaborative on LRT issues, see him with questions or concerns.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:29 pm

Motion to adjourn: Jay

Seconded: Lou

Respectfully submitted,
Jay MacBride, Treasurer and Substitute Secretary