

MINUTES
Macalester-Groveland Community Council (MGCC)
October 14, 2010

President Gena Berglund called the meeting to order at 6:44 p.m.

Attendance:

Quorum reached. See Attendance Sheet for details.

Minutes: A motion to approve the September 2010 Minutes was moved, seconded, and passed with acclamation.

Board Member Profile

Matt Beaver:

Matt was elected to the Board in April 2010. He moved into the Macalester Groveland neighborhood in 2007. He's recently married and has a dog named Mischa. Matt owns his own business. He's interested in getting to know more about what's going on in the neighborhood.

Inclusiveness Workshop Presentation: Stephanie Lenz

Stephanie represents District 6. She wanted to make us aware of the *Building Awareness of Race and Culture in Inclusive Community Work* workshop that will be held on November 6th from 9:30 to noon at the North Dale Recreation Center. Staff from the Saint Paul Foundation will lead this event. They would like at least two individuals from each Board to sign up. MGCC already has two individuals who will be attending. The board members who attend are expected to bring their learnings back to their own council.

President's Report – Gena Berglund

KidsPark Recommendation

Gena provided a timeline of what's happened to date. The recommendation was presented to Board at the September meeting. Then, Gena, Afton and Jane attended the KidsPark Parents Advisory Committee (KPAC) meeting on September 20th. Since that time, KPAC has taken a significant amount of action. Much of this information was included in our Board Meeting "Packet".

Carolyn India-Black presented to the Board a summary of their activities to date; including filling all open KPAC Board positions, meeting with Councilmember Russ Stark and Councilmember Pat Harris, reaching out for one time funding for 2010, and trying to retain an outside Consultant who can act as a project manager. They also formed a mini-KPAC Task Force which includes current KPAC members and other parent members to develop a proposal to acquire the license and operation of KidsPark without funding from MGCC.

Carolyn reviewed the Fall 2010 enrollment (which was included in the Board packet information). She also reviewed information gathered from existing member families – why they use KidsPark.

Todd Curtis acknowledged the work that has been done over the past month. Todd presented his recommendation and a motion which was seconded.

Recommendation:

The Macalester Groveland Community Council (MGCC) requires KidsPark to submit a reasonable plan to become an entity independent of the MGCC by December 31, 2011. The plan is due to the MGCC by December 17, 2010.

The plan will clearly describe a process for separation and will include a timeline, possible funding sources, and KPAC/KidsPark responsibilities.

Furthermore, KPAC will provide monthly status reports, both written and in-person at the monthly MGCC board meeting, as it relates to the Plan.

If said Plan is acceptable to the Board, MGCC support for KidsPark will continue through December 31, 2011. If said Plan is unacceptable to the Board, MGCC will discontinue support for KidsPark on January 14, 2011.

Significant discussion took place; including questions about the potential reduction of the deficit that was budgeted for 2010. Any reduction in the budgeted deficit is unknown at this time. A suggestion was made that we study the day care center license and the requirements around transfer of that license. Individual board members provided their own perspective and suggestions to KPAC.

Bob Shoemake moved that we vote on the recommendation. .

23 votes Yes

1 vote No

The recommendation passed.

Board Retreat Follow-up

Gena reviewed the Board Retreat plan and proposed that we ratify the plan. The proposal was moved and seconded. There was some discussion.

The question was moved.

The Plan was approved by acclamation.

Report of the Executive Director: Afton Martens

City Contract: Afton will begin work on the 2011 City Contract soon. There are two documents that must be completed in the next two months. The Work Plan as a result of the board retreat and the City Contract work plan.

2010 Annual Fund: We have raised more than \$1,700 toward our goal of \$5,000. Will be contacting Board Members for assistance with the Annual Fund Drive Letter distribution. *Give to the Max Day* is November 16th.

Newsletter: The Fall Illuminator was delayed and did not get distributed on time. Staff will work on trying to prevent this from happening again.

National Scenic Byway Interpretive Sign Project: Saint Paul Parks & Recreation received a National Scenic Byways grant to install interpretive signage panels at various locations along or in the vicinity of the Great River Road Scenic Byway. With these grant funds along with some local matching funds the Department will be installing about 14 historic interpretive signs and 4 wayfinding kiosks. Images of the panels and kiosks were available at the meeting.

Frost Fest 2011: February 12th – National Hockey Day, too! Event to be held at Groveland Park.

City of St. Paul Parks Planning Meeting: November 3rd at Hillcrest.

Report of the Recycling & Environmental Coordinator: Lauren Anderson

Fall Neighborhood Clean-up: This event was held on September 18th. Thank you to everyone who volunteered. Over 350 vehicles, took in \$7,250. Biggest success was a lot fewer items left over in the reuse area.

Alley Garden and Native Garden Awards Celebration: Wednesday, October 20th at Macalester. Contact Lauren if you have any questions. Everyone is welcome!

Eco Forum: Energy efficiency workshop on Thursday, November 4th at Edgcumbe.

Pumpkin Drop: This event will take place on Saturday, November 6th at Immanuel Lutheran Church (10 to 1). Barthold Farms will take the pumpkins. Students from Highland Park Senior High will be volunteering.

Composting Home Visits: Did two home visits today – thanks to Michelle Crain for her help!

Eureka has some free passes to the Bioneers Conference to be held on October 23rd / 24th at Macalester College. Let Lauren know if you are interested.

Other business

Alley vacation – Tom Welna, High Winds Fund, Macalester College

Macalester will be renovating the Janet Wallace Fine Arts Center. A petition to vacate the alley that runs between Macalester Plymouth Church and Macalester College has been submitted to the St. Paul City Council. Next Wednesday night, this will be brought before the City Council next week. All properties are owned by the petitioners. No action required by the Board.

Bob Shoemake to present some St. Thomas items.

Bob provided us with a copy of a letter dated October 14th from Doug Hennis regarding a proposal for tennis court construction. No decisions have been made.

The new Student Center has been constructed and is getting ready to open. Traffic lights have been modified.

The new Athletic Center is now open and is also open to membership by people in the neighborhood.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:15 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Joyce Krech, Secretary

Attendance:

First	Last	October
Andy	Albrecht	x
Jane	Amberg	x
Matt	Beaver	x
Gena	Berglund	x
Joel	Clemmer	x
Kellie	Connor	x
Michelle	Crain	x
Susan	Crumb	x
Gregg	Curtis	x
Todd	Curtis	x
Mary	Davis	x
Mike	DeCourcy, Jr.	x
Jack	Fei	x
Angela	Giedd	x
John	Haggenmiller	x
Mike	Kowski	x
Joyce	Krech	x
Jay	MacBride	x
Steve	Matysik	x
Lou	Michaels	x
Melanie	Peterson-Nafziger	x
Robert	Shoemake	x
Lorin	Velikonja	x
Leo	Viktora	x