

**MINUTES**  
**Macalester-Groveland Community Council (MGCC)**  
**September 9, 2010**

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

**Attendance:**

Quorum reached. See Attendance Sheet for details.

**Minutes:** A motion to approve the July 2010 Minutes was moved, seconded, and passed with one correction to the spelling of Bob Shoemake's name.

**Board Member Profile**

**Angela Giedd:** A new Board member, Angela grew up in Minneapolis. She attended Mankato State and has a degree in political science and Spanish. She is married to her husband Chad and has two children who are enrolled at St. Mark's. She lives in Tangletown. She runs a small vintage booth at the Mall of St. Paul and throws pottery at Red Wing Stoneware twice a week.

She loves her neighborhood and sees serving on the Board as good way to stay connected to the issues that affect the community. She looks forward to working with everyone.

**Housing & Land Use Committee Recommendation: Steve Matysik**

**Scusi License Request:** Because the owner of the business (Blue Plate Company) did not attend the August 25<sup>th</sup> HLU meeting in response to the license request; the HLU decided not to submit a recommendation to the City. Refer to the letter dated September 10<sup>th</sup> from Afton to the City of St. Paul.

The owner attended tonight's Board meeting. He described the proposed Italian restaurant and wine bar.

A motion was made to approve the letter to the City as written. The motion passed unanimously.

**Board Retreat (October 2): Roger Meyer, Roger Meyer Consulting**

Roger introduced himself, including his history with the Community Councils in St. Paul. He briefly outlined the agenda for the retreat and expected activities. Start at 8:30 AM sharp!

**President's Report – Gena Berglund**

**Special Election: Grids 3 and 13**

Grid 3 Open Seat – no applicants.

Grid 13 – Andrea (Andy) Albrecht expressed her interest in representing Grid 13. She has been a resident of Wilder Tower since November 2009. She's lived in Macalester Groveland for 40 years. She was a Community Organizer for Highland and also worked as a neighborhood liaison at St. Thomas. She is a member of the Community Outreach and Transportation Committees.

**Report of the Executive Director: Afton Martens**

**City Contract Mid-Year Report Submitted in July:** Reimbursement requests are being submitted to the City by Bethany Gladhill. If anyone wants to see the City Contract, please contact Afton.

**High Winds Fund End of Year Report & Proposal Submitted in July:** MGCC received an additional \$1,000 from High Winds Fund (\$500 now and \$500 at the end of the year).

**District Council Funding:** Dianne Wanner has reported that there are no proposed changes in the Mayor's 2011 budget proposal.

**West Summit Neighborhood Advisory Committee (WSNAC):** Leo Viktora's two year term ended in the August/September 2010 timeframe. Leo volunteered to represent MGCC for the next two year term. There were no objections. Thank you! As a reminder, Joel Clemmer is our second MGCC representative.

**Great River Park Master Plan Community Task Force:** Kellie Connor has volunteered to represent MGCC. Thank you, Kellie!

**National Scenic Byway Interpretive Sign Project:** Afton presented information.

**Groveland Night Out:** We had a successful event on August 11<sup>th</sup>. Thanks to the more than 20 volunteers. Special thanks to Mary Davis for completing a lot of last minute errands the day of the event.

**National Night Out:** There were 40 registered parties in our neighborhood held on August 3<sup>rd</sup>. Andy Albrecht, Mary Davis and Jack Fei visited all parties and distributed gift bags. Thank you!

**Garage Sale:** Held on August 21st, this year's garage sale was successful. Thanks to Jane Amberg, Joyce Krech and Craig Skone (who creates the maps).

**Welcome Packets:** Please take your welcome packets.

**Neighborhood Leadership Program:** Please check the pass around folder for more information.

### **Report of the Recycling & Environmental Coordinator: Lauren Anderson**

**Cleveland-Jefferson Pedestrian Refuge Test:** The City of St. Paul installed temporary pedestrian refuge early in August at the intersection of Cleveland Avenue & Jefferson Avenue. The goals of a refuge at this intersection are to decrease thru traffic using Jefferson Avenue to get across the neighborhood and to provide pedestrians and bicyclists a way to cross Cleveland more safely while limiting vehicle access to only allowing right turns to and from Jefferson. The City is collection traffic counts. A separate email address was established to gather feedback. The email address automatically forwards the comments to the City, MGCC and also Pat Harris's office. 130 comments have been received so far.

**Fall Neighborhood Clean-up:** This event will be held on September 18th. Lauren has identified another charity organization that will be able to take more of the items – Families Helping Each Other. Partnering with Macalester first year student volunteers.

**Fall Plant Share:** This event will be held on September 25th.

**Alley Garden Awards:** This year there were 445 winning Alley Gardens. 30% of the award recipients indicated they wanted to be invited to the official celebration (to be held in October). 18 issues were raised during the process and all were resolved. Several changes occurred this year: required training for judges, judges were not allowed to judge in their own grid and a new nomination process.

**Native Garden Awards:** This year there was one winning Native Garden. Thanks to Melanie for making fabulous signs again this year.

**Pumpkin Drop:** This event will take place on November 6<sup>th</sup> at Immanuel Lutheran Church. Barthold's Farm will take the pumpkins.

**Eureka Update:** The curbside composting pilot has been extended to January 28, 2011. Want to test winter collection. Feedback has been positive. Lauren has also been completing a lot of documentation about our work with Eureka.

**Groveland Night Out:** Zero Waste – 28.7 pounds collected, 84% was compostable or recyclable.

**MacGrove Moves:** Successful event again this year. We had 61 log sheets (38 individuals) turned into our office. Most of the participants were from our neighborhood. 26 individuals received prizes. There are still 2 golden shoes out there!

## **Eureka Representative Position**

Afton reviewed the Job Description. Gena Berglund has been informally serving in this role over the past year. A goal is to put some discipline around the job description.

A motion was made to authorize the position and allow the Executive Board to modify the job description in the future if required. If changes are required, the suggested changes will be brought before the Board of Directors for final approval.

The motion passed unanimously.

Gena Berglund volunteered to serve in this role and the Board approved by acclamation.

## **KidsPark Recommendation: Gena Berglund**

Gena presented the KidsPark Recommendation. There was a significant amount of discussion by the Board members. The Board will vote on the recommendation at the October Board Meeting.

## **Other business**

Tony Hernandez who is running for State Senate attended the meeting requesting an opportunity to attend a future MGCC meeting with his opponent. Gena explained that MGCC is not the appropriate venue for this type of event and suggested he contact the League of Women Voters.

## **Meeting Adjourned at 8:15 pm**

Respectfully submitted,  
Joyce Krech, Secretary

**Attendance:**

<b>First</b>	<b>Last</b>	<b>September</b>
Andy	Albrecht	<b>x</b>
Jane	Amberg	<b>x</b>
Matt	Beaver	<b>x</b>
Gena	Berglund	<b>x</b>
Joel	Clemmer	<b>no</b>
Kellie	Connor	<b>x</b>
Michelle	Crain	<b>no</b>
Susan	Crumb	<b>x</b>
Gregg	Curtis	<b>x</b>
Todd	Curtis	<b>x</b>
Mary	Davis	<b>x</b>
Mike	DeCourcy, Jr.	no
Jack	Fei	<b>x</b>
Angela	Giedd	<b>x</b>
John	Haggenmiller	<b>x</b>
Mike	Kowski	<b>x</b>
Joyce	Krech	<b>x</b>
Jay	MacBride	<b>x</b>
Steve	Matysik	<b>x</b>
Lou	Michaels	<b>x</b>
Melanie	Peterson-Nafziger	<b>x</b>
Robert	Shoemake	<b>x</b>
Lorin	Velikonja	<b>no</b>
Leo	Viktora	<b>x</b>