

Adopted 5/5/15

## **Bylaws of the Northside Greenway Council**

**Vision:** The Northside Greenway Council envisions a greenway planning process in which north Minneapolis residents are fully engaged and project decisions are driven by Northside residents' interests and needs.

**Mission:** Working through partnerships to actively engage Northside residents and community groups in the greenway project and representing residents' opinions in the planning process.

### **Values**

- Engagement: We value the diversity of north Minneapolis residents and believe that inclusive engagement will result in a better plan.
- Equity: We are committed to ensuring the residents of North Minneapolis are defining the project
- Authentic partnership: We are committed to ensuring that community members work in partnership with City staff and decision-makers on moving the project forward
- Transparency: We are committed to being clear and open about the engagement process and results
- Collaboration: We strive to work with Northside residents and organizations and build off of their wisdom of the community

### **ARTICLE 1 ORGANIZATION**

The name of the organization is Northside Greenway Council. The organization may change its name by a 2/3 majority vote of the Council.

### **ARTICLE 2 PURPOSES**

The following is the purpose for which this organization has been organized: to engage communities in a collaborative planning process that results in a Northside Greenway that meets local needs.

### **ARTICLE 3 MEETINGS**

#### **Regular Meetings:**

The Council shall meet at least monthly, at an agreed upon time and place and announced a minimum of ten (10) days in advance. A simple majority of members or designated representatives present and voting shall be sufficient for transaction of business of the corporation at all meetings of the Council, but a smaller number may discuss business of the organization and make recommendations which may be considered; decisions can subsequently be made via email to include at least five voting members or designated representatives.

#### **Special Meetings:**

Special meetings of this organization may be called either (1) by the Executive Subcommittee, or (2) at the request of three members of the Council, the chair shall cause a special meeting to be called. In either case, meeting notice must be made in writing at least ten (10) days before the requested scheduled date.

Notices of such meeting shall be sent to all committee members. Such notice shall state the reasons that the meeting has been called, the business to be transacted at such meeting and by whom it was called.

No other business but that specified in the notice may be transacted at a special meeting without the unanimous consent of all present at the meeting.

#### **ARTICLE 4 VOTING**

At all meetings, all votes shall be by voice. For election of officers, ballots shall be provided. In meetings where fewer than five voting members are present, votes of those not present may be cast by email.

#### **ARTICLE 5 VOTING MEMBERS**

Voting members are representatives of geographic and cultural communities in north Minneapolis. Voting members are nominated by any existing member and confirmed by the full Council. There is no minimum age to be a voting member.

The Council shall strive to ensure that the voting members reflect the diversity of north Minneapolis, including, but not limited to, geography, culture, race, and ability. The Council will review its membership at least annually and conduct outreach to new members in order to ensure that the diversity of the community is represented.

The business of this organization shall be managed by council members consisting no fewer than nine (9) voting members. Members shall serve one-year terms and may serve multiple terms. Meetings of the Council are open to the public and attendance of meetings is open to all.

The Council may make rules and regulations covering its meetings as it determines is necessary.

The members to be chosen for the ensuing term, or to fill vacancies as identified by the Council at any time, may be nominated by any council member and confirmed by the Council by a ballot vote.

Council member participation is crucial for to the success of this Council. A council member may be dropped for excess absences from the Council if he or she has two unexplained absences from Council meetings in a year. A member of the Council will attempt to contact any member who may be removed from the Council in order to understand their interest in continued participation. This interest will be considered by the Council before the member is removed. A council member may be removed for other reasons by a 2/3 vote of the remaining members.

No member shall be entitled to receive any salary or compensation for duties as a council member, however participation in the committee does not bar a council member from receiving compensation for paid activities related to the Greenway proposal. For example, staff of community organizations may serve on the Council and receive stipends for other work related to the Greenway.

#### **ARTICLE 6 OFFICERS**

Officers will be elected on an annual basis with elections held in June or as needed to fill vacancies. Officers will serve one year terms. No officer shall serve in the same position for more than two consecutive terms. Council members who have attended a minimum of six (6) meetings are eligible to be nominated for officer positions, with the exception of the first slate of officer nominations after bylaw adoption, where no meeting minimum will be in place.

The Chair shall convene monthly Council meetings and shall preside or arrange for other members to preside at each meeting. The Chair shall send out meeting announcements and distribute minutes and agendas to each council member.

The Vice-Chair shall act in the Chair's absence at all meetings of the Council and the Executive Subcommittee. In the event of the resignation, incapacitation, or death of the Chair, the Vice-Chair shall then become Chair for the remainder of that term of office.

The Secretary shall be responsible for keeping records of Council actions, including overseeing the taking of minutes at all committee meetings, and assuring that records are maintained and available publically online.

All Officers and Subcommittee Chairs shall deliver to their successors all records, correspondence and other property belonging to the organization.

## **ARTICLE 7 SUBCOMMITTEES**

The permanent subcommittees shall be:

### Executive Subcommittee:

Except for the power to amend the Bylaws, the Executive Subcommittee will have all of the same powers and authority as the Council, subject to the direction and control of the Council. The Executive Subcommittee is comprised of at least the three officers, with additional members to be assigned at the discretion of the Council.

### Other Subcommittees:

Additional subcommittees of this organization may be appointed by the Council as needed.

The Chair appoints all subcommittee chairs. Subcommittee chairs must be members of the Council. Subcommittee members may include a combination of council members and other volunteers.

Subcommittee meetings will meet at an agreed upon time and place and shall be announced a minimum of 5 (five) days in advance.

## **ARTICLE 8 Changing the Bylaws**

Changes to the Bylaws may be made at any meeting of the Council by a two thirds vote of the members, after a minimum of ten (10) days written notification of the proposed changes to voting members.