

Northside Greenway Council Meeting Notes
Tuesday, June 2, 2015, 6:00 – 7:30 PM
North Commons Park

Attendees: Alicia Holder (NMBAC, Northside resident), Bill Fellows (Minneapolis Public Works) Jim Skoog (Camden Lions), Jerry Williams (Major Taylor), Scottie Tuske (Jordan Area Community Council, resident), Alexis Pennie (NMBAC, Folwell neighborhood resident), Russ Adams (Alliance for Metropolitan Stability), Harry Maddox (NOC), Daniel Maddox (NOC), Georgianna Yantos (Northside resident), Matthew Hendricks (Twin Cities Greenways), Ebony Adedayo (Alliance for Metropolitan Stability), Will Lumpkins (Northside Residents Redevelopment Council), Sarah Stewart (Minneapolis Health Department)

- I. Welcome and introductions (Alicia Holder)
 - Members noted that the Northside Greenway Council (NGC) meetings conflict with JACC Housing Committee meetings and Minneapolis Bicycle Coalition board meetings.

- II. Technical Advisory Committee update including summer 2015 demonstration project
 - Background: The City is working to implement a greenway demonstration project on about 5 blocks of the proposed greenway route. The demonstration would create a temporary greenway space on these blocks for up to a year. City staff members have met with the Northside council members to discuss the demonstration, and both are supportive.
 - City staff members have selected two groups to serve as planning and engagement consultants for the project. Staff called several consulting groups to determine which consultants would be a good fit for the project. The city is in the process of contracting with the consultants now. The consultants will also help the City develop an evaluation framework for the project. The evaluation framework will define our evaluation questions (e.g., what do residents think of the greenway? Where do people park? How does it affect traffic? How does winter maintenance work?) as well as methods for collecting data.
 - Sarah suggested that the NGC create a taskforce to work with the consultants on planning the greenway project. The taskforce would meet for the first time in the next couple of weeks, and a few times after that until the demonstration project is installed. NGC members agreed that a taskforce should be created; Sarah will send out a doodle poll to schedule the first meeting.
 - Communication materials will be created for the demonstration project, and these materials will be available online.
 - NGC members discussed the following ideas related to the demonstration
 - It's good to look at a commercial corridor, not just residential streets
 - It's good that it will be in place for a year – people will have time to get used to something new and shift their habits
 - A hard deadline for installation should be Harvest Fest so that people attending that event can visit the demonstration.
 - We should be creative about how this will be used – ideas – ice skating, gardens, grilling, tot lot? How will people use it? How will it be maintained in the winter?
 - It is frustrating that we don't have a 3rd year of outreach on this. It could be great to be able to point people to the demonstration project while doing outreach and to

take advantage of the demonstration in that way – we could show people something real.

- It is important to start it around Lowry so we can be ready for Harvest Fest and go north from there. Will highlight how it can be used for larger community events all year round.

III. Summer 2015 outreach and engagement updates

- Will shared an update on outreach and engagement activities:
 - Over the last month we had orientations for microgrants and for community connectors. The microgrant orientation was pretty good, but there was a concern about surveys and reaching the people who weren't surveyed last year. Most of the concerns were with neighborhoods south of Plymouth. We had a follow-up meeting and will have a hybrid system south of Plymouth/Broadway.
 - The Community connector orientation was focused on bringing them up to speed on the project to help them with their outreach so they can inform people. It went well. Community connectors are extremely dedicated.
 - One thing we're starting with is looking at route south of Broadway/Plymouth. NRRC has done some planning to look at how the greenway could move through the neighborhood, benefit residents, but disturb neighborhood as little as possible. The focus is on connecting with Heritage Park, Van White, and the Southside. Terra Cole from Heritage Park was on board with this because it's a natural connection. Talked with Shauen Pearce about this, her concerns are that the majority of the population is to the west. A compromise – focus on better connections to Van White or have a subsidiary route further west, e.g., Morgan Ave N. Also talking with JACC about how to connect the route to the north.
 - NRRC is lining connectors up to work in zones along the proposed route and working to create a small position (secretarial position) to follow connectors around to document the input the connectors get.
 - NRRC is hoping to design a Northside greenway logo – put in on a card, etc. catch people in their natural environment – bikers, joggers – give them a “get involved” literature.
- Ebony shared that she and Sarah sat down with Wilder to talk about how we can ask better questions south of Plymouth in order to get some quantitative info but still get at visioning. Also working to develop a flip book of visuals for people who are asking questions. Will is gathering pictures of existing spaces on the Northside that could help people picture what a greenway would look like (e.g., Victory Memorial). Harry and Will are interested in helping to create the flip book.

IV. Update on adopting bylaws including electing officers

7:00-7:20

- Last month, NGC voted to adopt bylaws that had been developed over a 6 month period. It was noted that the NGC is not an incorporated organization, and the bylaws are different than they would be for an incorporated organization.
- The bylaws will need to be revisited in the future. The group discussed a few parts of the bylaws that may need to be amended or have more explanation around them in the future:
 - The section of the bylaws that says that the NGC should strive to reflect the diversity of the community – it should be made clear that this clause is not meant to be

exclusionary. Instead, this clause is meant to ensure that the NGC regularly assesses and works to diversify its membership.

- Requiring no fewer than 9 NGC members is a high number – this may need to be lowered, depending on membership levels and participation.
- The group discussed ways increase membership and participation in the NGC. Ideas include:
 - Revisiting the time and date of meetings, since there are some existing conflicts with the first Tuesday of the month
 - Consider having a more social meeting like a BBQ and/or a bike ride as an opportunity to have fun and get to know each other, and to be a more visible presence in the community.
 - Think about ways to streamline emails and social media announcements for the NGC and related groups, like NMBAC.
 - Create a logo and print t-shirts to make a public impression and give the group more of an identity.
 - Make sure that the MGC is not just about biking and has representation from people who are more interested in other things, like walking and gardening.
- Everyone at the meeting agreed to invite one person (a new member or someone who hasn't come for a few meetings) to the July meeting. At this meeting, we will dedicate some time to information sharing and getting people up to speed on the project. It will also include something social, like a BBQ. Consider tying it into the Webber Pool opening. Sarah and Ebony will look into a new date for this meeting.
- The NGC unanimously accepted the nominations of the following people to the council: Georgianna Yantos (resident), Daniel Maddox (NOC), Alicia Holder (Northside Arts Collective), Will Lumpkins (NRRRC), Jim Skoog (Camden Lions and Ward 4), and Scottie Tuske (JACC)

V. Announcements

7:25-7:30

- Russ is invited to be on a panel for the next Railvolution conference and will be talking about the greenway.
- The National Brotherhood of Cyclists Conference will take place from July 15-18 in Minneapolis. More information [here](#).
- On Saturday, June 6 from 1-3 at North Regional Library, the Healthy Connections group will make a presentation about research findings related to biking and walking in communities of color. RSVP [here](#).
- The first greenway Ride and Read event will happen on Saturday; this event might tie into the Healthy Connections presentation.

Upcoming meetings and events:

- Outreach and Communications Subcommittee (second Mondays)*: 6/8/15, 1:30-3:00, Sumner Library –**CANCELLED**
- Technical Subcommittee (second Wednesdays)*: 6/10/15, 9:00-10:00, **CANCELLED**
- Northside Greenway Council (first Tuesdays)*: 7/6/15, 6:00-7:30 PM, North Regional Library
- Greenway Demonstration Taskforce: meeting time and location TBD

**Meeting dates, locations and times may change based on the availability of members who are interested in participating. All members will be notified of changes with a minimum of a 24-hour notice.*