



WEST SEVENTH STREET / FORT ROAD FEDERATION

882 7th St W Suite 6, St Paul, MN 55102 • 651.298.5599 •
fortroadfederation.org

D9 Fort Road Federation Annual Meeting April 25, 2023

This meeting will be held at Summit Brewing.

- I. Call to order **7:00 pm** by Karen Voracek, Board President
- II. **Land acknowledgement** We respectfully acknowledge the sacred land upon which the Fort Road neighborhood resides. This is the traditional homeland of the Dakhóta Oyáte (Dakota People), unfairly ceded in the Treaties of 1837 & 1851, who stewarded it for millennia. The Ojibwe and other Indigenous nations have cared for this land as well. We invite all in attendance of this meeting to learn more about the true history of this land, and to search out the wisdom and stories of the Dakota, Ojibwe, and other Native people still here.
- III. **Introductions** (name and neighborhood) - [Digital Sign-In](#) for guests
 - A. Board Members Present
 1. Karen Voracek, President
 2. Maria Sarabia, 1st Vice President
 3. Ruthanne Atkinson, Secretary
 4. Jessica Nelson, Area 1 Coordinator
 5. Kelsey Peterson, Area 2 Coordinator
 6. Annie Reiersen, Area 2 Coordinator
 7. Steven Tacheny, Area 2 Coordinator
 8. Tanya Fabyanske Beck, Area 3 Coordinator
 9. Sara Fleetham, Area 3 Coordinator
 - B. Community Members Present
 - C. Staff Members Present
 1. Julia McColley, Executive Director
- IV. **Community**
 - A. **Elected Officials**
 1. Brief speeches by Rebecca Noecker and Rafael Ortega
- V. **Board Business**
 - A. **West 7th/Fort Road Federation Strategic Work by Karen Voracek**
 1. Introduced new vision, mission, values for the West 7th/Fort Road Federation
 - B. **Transportation and Land Use Committee Update by Meg Duhr**



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1. Overview of past year's work and upcoming priorities
 - a) Saved Justus Ramsey house – deconstruction and storage for future restoration
 - b) Boulevard tree maintenance – Emerald Ash Borer has hit neighborhood hard, need to restore urban canopy
 - c) Little Bohemia Bike Trail (i.e. 35E bike trail) – restoring plantings with native shrubs at Pleasant Place

C. Community Outreach & Engagement Committee Update by Tanya Fabyanske Beck

1. Overview of past year's work and upcoming priorities
 - a) Get community involved in community safety, homelessness education
 - b) Plan on starting an initiative to highlight interesting people in the neighborhood – community members encouraged to nominate folks.
 - c) West 7th T-shirt contest – winning design by Pip Arnes!

D. District Plan Update by Karen Voracek

1. Gathered feedback from over 150 community members
2. Will submit draft to City in June.
3. We always welcome community input - contact the W7th/FRF office!

E. Bylaws Update by Karen Voracek

1. Meet 9 times/year instead of 10 – counting the annual meeting
2. Require that Area Coordinators are active in at least one committee.
3. Combine Community Engagement and Fundraising Committee. Establish a new committee: Governance Committee

F. Speaker: Noel Nix, Director of Community Initiatives with the City of St. Paul

1. Spoke about the West 7th neighborhood's history, character, and the value of community involvement

G. Community Service Awards

1. Presented to Jerry Rothstein and Diane Gerth

H. Election Results

1. President: Meg Duhr
2. 1st Vice President: Maria Sarabia (incumbent),
3. Treasurer: Andrew Greenlee
4. Secretary: Ruthanne Atkinson (incumbent)
5. Area 1 Coordinators: DJ Devin, Ryan Bresnahan, Paul Hardt
6. Area 2 Coordinators: Annie Reiersen (incumbent), Maggie Rock
7. Area 3 Coordinators: Tanya Fabyanske Beck (incumbent)



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VI. Adjourn – 8:26 pm