

Loring Greenway Association
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
December 11, 2024
At 110 Grant Bldg.

Directors Present: John Van Heel, Gay Russel Dempsey, Mary Maier, Sue Jones, Tina Jones, Lee Frelich, Richard Anderson, Laura Mattson, Judy Tucker. Absent: Merry Keefe, Ron Fiscus.

Meeting called to order at 5:03pm

New Director, Tina Jones, was introduced and welcomed.

Board Administration

- Meeting agenda approved.
- Meeting minutes for October 10, 2024 approved.
- Financial Report-Laura Mattson
 - YTD Bank Balance-\$65,000
 - YTD Total Donations-\$35,270
 - Concern that donations are down and expenses will exceed donations.
 - We continue to examine cost savings options around tree fertilization and treatment. Consensus is to continue to do both, but perhaps less frequently.
 - A special tree fund raising solicitation might be an option.
 - Laura will do another email blast solicitation in January.
- LGA-DPW Agreement Renewal-John Van Heel
 - John is expecting more information from Dave Bauer re. insurance requirements.
 - John will confirm with Dave Bauer if there are any other issues that DPW has with our suggested changes to the contract especially around our added language regarding “partnership”.
 - City Council will approve the new 4-year agreement at their January meeting.
- 2025 LGA Annual Meeting (February 12, 2025).
 - Terms are expiring for the following directors: Merry Keefe, Mary Maier. John Van Heel
 - Anyone interested in running for an officer position should let John know.

Discussion Items

- Playground removal and replacement
 - John, Laura and Judy will meet (via Zoom) with City Council Member Katie Cashman on December 20, 2024. DPW will also be present.
 - John reported that he learned there had been previous playground inspections (number unknown) done by the Parks department prior to this last inspection which was done by a vendor selected by DPW (as Parks Department declined to do the

inspection this time). Neither Citizens of Loring Park or LGA was informed about the inspections, at the time, nor provided reports detailing results/findings.

- We recognize that the Community is upset with the abrupt removal of the playground and that communications with the community is critical, both in providing updates and engagement.
- LGA will determine our next steps after December 20th meeting with Katie Cashman.
- LGA Volunteers and Public Works Worker Tasks Document
 - Mary Maier requested all to review the document and provide feedback on needed changes/clarifications as eventually this will be discussed with DPW-David Bauer in our continued effort to improve our “partnership” with DPW.
 - John feels DPW (Dave Bauer) is beginning to better understand Greenway needs, processes and systems as exhibited by the removal and non-return of the red trash bins and their holding structures.
- 2025 LGA Priorities
 - Richard volunteered to do presentation on CAP budget.
 - Address income and expense issues.

Meeting adjourned 6:35pm

Respectively submitted,
Sue Jones