



Cedar Riverside Business Association

Abbreviated Meeting Minutes For 06/21/07

Safety Committee

Although safety is a priority issue in the neighborhood there is a problem getting participation in the block groups. The safezone work site (web site) is a good resource for impact statements etc. City seminars are available on trespassing, solicitation. Tom Subject, our beat officer, has presented this information in the past and is our contact to Luther krugar. For info on how impact statements are prepared call 673-5701 Lois Conroy City Attorney. Tom is looking for input from business owners on incidents in the area. CRBA will be contacted when available booking photos of repeat offenders will be available in PDF format .

Cam Gordon's office has hired four young people to serve as Community Outreach Interns this summer and into the fall, leading efforts in the following neighborhoods: Annie Welch (Seward and Cooper), Mustafa Adam (Cedar Riverside), Paul Kristapovich (Prospect Park), and Adam Engleman (Southeast Como). They will work with neighborhood associations and police department crime prevention specialists to help organize block clubs, National Night Out events, "Welcome to the Neighborhood" events for new student renters, walking groups and work on problem areas.

Parking Committee

Impark, Corey Olson. Propose a rate increase. Fees haven't been increased for 6 years- contract parking increase 10% validations to decrease 15%. After an informational discussion about the business validation program and how Impark operates, a motion was passed approve these cahnges increase with a volume discount when a large number of contracts billed to one person a discount will be given.

Approval is sought for Parking lot A to be Closed on Sunday August 19 for an AfiFest Celebration (pan African event/music). Music events and food booths, no alcohol will be served. This is a first event for Nextainment.

A discussion was held as to festival related issues including permits, insurance, additional parking, Red Cross availability, Port-a-Potties and additional venues. Due to first event challenges, and CRBA's non participation, A motion

was passed to "not block" the festival and request that organizers contact affected businesses. CRBA does not oppose the festival but asks organizers to meet with the affected businesses (The Mixed Blood, Theater in The Round...). Also, an invitation was extended to organizers speak at the next CRBA meeting.

7 Corners Ramp

The City is accepting proposals for the parking ramps for sale in the city. Alatus has purchased the Grandma's Saloon site on 7 Corners. They would also like to purchase the Seven Corners Ramp. After meetings between Alatus and CRBA parking it was agreed that restrictions would be written into the deed that the structure would remain a ramp 15-25 years. Future conversations may include pricing and the building height of future development. CRBA looks forward to working with Alatus in the future. The company's intent is to have the market drive options for development which may include upscale condos and additional retail. No development decisions have been made at this time.

NRP

An Economic Consultant is being hired. The Home Buyer program has begun \$800,00 - \$900,00 of first step monies are to be spent on housing. More resident input is needed. Please attend meetings. For more information, please contact NRP Coordinator, West Bank Community Coalition, at 612.338.5282 x224 or nrp@westbankcc.org.

Dania Partners

The issue was raised as to the inclusion of the CRBA name in the Dania Partners documentation: Memorandum of agreement, fund-raising etc. This will be discussed at next month's meeting. CRBA wanted to be removed from documentation until approval is given.

Change of name for CRBA

It was suggested there be a name change from the Cedar Riverside Business Association to the "West Bank Business Association". Change to be discussed at the next CRBA meeting.

National Night Out

August 7, 2007 Get to know your neighbors! Gatherings are being planned. This year, one process makes it possible to register your NNO event and apply to close your street. To do one or both visit www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/nno or if you don't have Internet call 311 or 612-673-3000. Many groups meet in yards, parks, vacant lots, or inside. If you apply to close your

street by July 24, street closure will be free. Between July 25 and August 2, street closure costs \$100. Applications for street closure will not be accepted after August 2. Businesses are being asked to support this events by supplying incentives (coupons etc.)

Bohemian Flats Days

Gera Pooda. "Bohemian Flats Day is August 18th from 12-5pm on the Bohemian Flats. We are looking for donations from businesses in any amount. \$25-\$100 donations are appreciated. A \$50 donation will secure a spot in the Bohemian Flats Day brochure (distribution of 1000) and our poster (1000). A \$100 donation will secure a spot on our T-shirt. (100) Target audience for the festival are people between 30-80 years old who are interested in Minneapolis history, immigration, and community and cultural activities.

Bohemian Flats Day would like a \$200 donation from CRBA to pay for flyers and advertising. CRBA's logo appears on the advertising and has since 2005. Bohemian Flats Day is a West Bank event."

West Bank School of Music

West Bank School Of Music building purchase at 1813 6th Street South, a proposed "Revisions to Terms of Sale" was discussed as to the release of the improvements clause, The property was sold to the school based on improvements being made to bring the property up to code from a "fund" of \$250,00 that was raised. CRBA supports the West Bank School of Music It was never realistic for the original proposal. A new board is managing the sale and asks for a release of requirements for the funding but has plans to do the repairs and updates. \$25,000 -\$30,000 is available immediately, The school would like an exact list of repairs needed from the City. Funds in escrow will be released by the City as valid repairs are made. Additional funding will be sought. A motion was passed to support the Revision of Sale Terms.

Dania Encroachment

Jessica Hatch, representing management for the Holzerman building spoke about the major fall backs that have occurred during the project. She would like to have the site occupied, ASAP due to loitering and continued break-ins. A discussion followed echoing last months comments as to CRBA's concerns with both the Holzerman encroachment and potential development of the Dania Hall site. Management

concerns are that the building be occupied and the building not sit empty, the encroachment issue be resolved and that a complete tear down is not financially feasible or the best solution.

CRBA would like the City to take another look at this situation and find a solution that better serves the area. There are more options than only a tear down or buyout. Is a City purchase possible, a lease situation etc. etc. Why is the Survey company not being held accountable? The original surveying mistake led to the discussions for the sale of the encroached land by the City to Bina. This land issue needs to be resolved. This is a continuing discussion. Jessica Hatch was asked to return for further discussion of this issue.

Central Corridor LRT And West Bank Station Concerns

The Metropolitan Council is holding a series of public meetings related to the Central Corridor LRT project to let the public know that they are starting Preliminary Engineering. During this phase of the planning process, decisions will be made about final station locations, additional stations, the Union Depot, street reconstruction and streetscaping, 2 or 3-car trains, a tunnel under the University of Minnesota campus, and other issues. Neighborhood and citizen engagement is critical to this process. For more information see <http://www.metrocouncil.org/transportation/ccorridor/calendar>.

As a Pedestrian Overlay District the neighborhood and the City can better guide development along the University corridor, taking advantage of the Central Corridor LRT line to produce a more pedestrian-friendly environment.

From Cam Gordon:

We're Number Two! According to U.S. Census Bureau statistics released this month on the 50 cities with the most workers, Minneapolis has the second highest percentage of people who bike to work. The bureau said 2.4 percent of Minneapolis' 189,294 workers (16 and older) pedal to their jobs, which is second only to Portland, OR, and several times higher than the national average of 0.4 percent. It is my hope that the infrastructure projects above can help us move towards our goal of doubling bicycle commuting mode share in Minneapolis. We still have a long way to go, however. I believe we need to implement creative ideas like the ones employed by Copenhagen, whose bicycle mode share is a stunning thirty-plus percent, and build a reliable, high-quality bike grid in the whole metro area.

I'm extremely pleased by the many bi-

cycle infrastructure projects in the Second Ward that will be funded by the recently-announced Non-motorized Transportation Grants. The City will add bike lanes on E Franklin Ave from Riverside across the bridge, along the whole length of Riverside from Franklin to the Cedar Riverside LRT Station, Minnehaha from 31st to Franklin, 20th Ave S from Minnehaha to Riverside, 19th Ave S from Riverside across the bridge to 10th Ave SE, the University bike trench, SE Como from 10th Ave SE to St. Paul, and 27th Ave SE from E River Parkway to University. I'd like to acknowledge the good work of City staff members Don Pflaum and Shaun Murphy for their work on these grants, and my Aide Robin Garwood for editing drafts of the projects in the Second Ward. I think that this represents a significant shift in how we think about transit in Minneapolis and throughout the country and shows that people really are making connections about how important it is to focus on, and invest in, making walking and biking more appealing and possible ways to get around in Minneapolis. I want this to be a beginning and plan to keep pushing to improve our system of bike and pedestrian transit in the City and the region. If we consider what has been done in some areas of the world we still have a long way to go before we have the kind of bicycling-friendly walkable City so many of us hope for. For more thoughts on these projects, and a map of all funded projects citywide, please see my blog: <http://secondward.blogspot.com>

Meeting Adjourned

Great Streets Neighborhood Business District Program.

Recognizing that healthy neighborhood business districts are an important component of the high quality of life we enjoy in Minneapolis, the City is pleased to announce the new Great Streets Neighborhood Business District program: http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/cped/great_streets_home.asp. Applications for business loans and real estate development gap financing are available on the Great Streets website There is no deadline to apply.

Great Streets focuses on areas of the City that have been identified in The Minneapolis Plan and other land use policy documents as places where the City supports commercial activity and development. These areas are: eleven designated Commercial Corridors, 45 designated Neighborhood Commercial Nodes, five downtown neighborhood business districts defined as eligible by City Council, and seven Hiawatha LRT station areas. City assistance is available for business loans, real estate development gap financing loans and business district assistance funding for such activities as market studies, retail recruitment efforts and business technical as-

sistance programs. A Great Streets façade improvement matching grant program will be available in the fall of 2007.

City assistance is prioritized for areas with demonstrated need and for activities supported with funding from business, non-profit, foundation and/or neighborhood partners. Priority will also be given to activities and programs that are consistent with recent planning efforts or recent or pending infrastructure investments.

Business district assistance funding will be offered through a Request for Proposals (RFP) process. The draft RFP is available for 45-day interested party review at: http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/cped/docs/great_streets_rfp_draft.pdf. Please provide comments by August 16, 2007 to Kristin Guild at kristin.guild@ci.minneapolis.mn.us.

CRBA Annual Membership - \$240.00

It's time to send in your membership dues to the Cedar Riverside Business Association! Membership dues are annual and provide a valuable return to you and your community. We recommend an annual contribution of \$240.00 but would appreciate and recognize whatever amount you can afford. Send your check made out to the Cedar-Riverside Business Association to our office to:

CRBA
P.O. Box 141552
Minneapolis, MN 55414

CRBA Meetings:

Meetings are held on the third Thursday of the month at 4:00 p.m. at Augsburg College in the Century room of the Christensen building.

*July 19, 2007 Meeting to be held in the Kennedy Center across Murphy Park!

From Bedlam Theater

Thanks so much for all your help and support in Bedlam's move to its new location. As you may know, most every detail of our licensing/zoning/coding process has been successfully completed. This is to notify you that in addition, Bedlam Theatre is making a General Land Use Application to vary the Indoor Building Requirement in order to hold outdoor events on our property at 1501 S. 6th St. as an accessory to our indoor Theater License. This proposal will go to a Public Hearing before the Board of Adjustment, most likely the hearing on July 26, 2007. Our March performance of *Infiammato* was allowed under a temporary permit. Completing this next step will allow us to continue with an hour-long Shakespeare play this August, rehearsals for the annual Barebones Halloween show and the like.