

**CARAG**  
Calhoun Area Residents Action Group  
**Monthly Neighborhood Meeting Minutes**  
**Jun 20, 2006**

*Subject to Approval at the July 2006 CARAG Meeting*

**Board Members Attending:** Jill Bode, Rick Bojko, Cindy Christian, Thatcher Imboden, Ellan Meyer, Bill Morton, Aaron Rubenstein and Howard Verson. (Absent: Kay Nygaard-Graham)

**Welcome:** The CARAG Board is made up of volunteers who also volunteer time on other neighborhood committees and organizations. Scott Engel, the CARAG community coordinator, can be reached at 612-823-2520. CARAG is a democratic organization; membership and voting privileges are open to residents, property owners, and business owners in the neighborhood.

**Approve Agenda & Minutes:** Motions were passed to approve the agenda and the May meeting minutes.

**Treasurer's Report:** (Cindy Christian) CARAG has \$7302.30 in the operations account and \$7089.14 in asset accounts. For the Hennepin-Lake Community Wine Tasting Benefit, CARAG sold 110 tickets, generating an income for CARAG of \$2750. As discussed in prior meetings, one CD was closed, and two new CDs were opened. A 2006 spending report and a proposed 2007 budget were presented; this will be discussed at future meetings.

The UNN bank account has a balance of \$2083.65 as of Apr 30, 2006. The April issue saw a net loss of \$115.46, but that month included several one-time expenses.

**Bryant Square Park:** (Julie Sandin) The park's ice cream social will be Wednesday July 12th, 6-8 pm. There will be live music, pizza, games, activities, and of course, ice cream.

**Pizza Luce Block Party:** (Aaron Jaszewski) Pizza Luce will host a Block Party, on Saturday, August 12, from Noon-10pm, with food, live music, and lots of children's activities.

**Midway Greenway Open Spaces Plan:** (Chris Shaw) Twelve possible open spaces adjacent to the Greenway have been identified, and the Midtown Greenway Coalition is asking neighborhoods to support a resolution affirming that this open spaces plan is desirable. The motion failed on a 12-12 vote.

**NRP Updates:** (Cindy Christian) The Housing and Economic Development Committee recommended approval of a scope of services providing up to \$6000 of NRP funding from Strategy 10.3 "Break In Lake" for an improved landscaping design for the median at the Lake/Lagoon/Dupont intersection. Approved unanimously.

The committee also recommended an NRP Plan Modification reallocating approximately \$81,000 from Strategy 1.3 "Housing Preservation Program" to Strategy 2.1 "Rental Property Improvement Program." This serves as the required 30-day public notice; a neighborhood vote will occur at the August CARAG meeting.

The Livability Committee recommended the use of up to \$4000 of CARAG NRP funding under the existing 15.2 Public Gardening contract to fund a feasibility study for a garden store co-op. Approved by a 6-1 board vote.

The SPACE committee recommended approval of the "Schools" Scope of Services providing \$5000 in CARAG NRP funds under Strategy 21.2 "Schools" for literacy education and outreach for Joyce Preschool. Approved by an 8-0 board vote.

**City Council Member Remington's Report:** (Ralph Remington) The Uptown Small Area Master Plan Steering Committee held their first meeting, with the next meeting scheduled for July 12, 7-9 pm. All welcome to observe. This group is not defining the plan, but the process by which the plan will be developed.

**Southwest Corridor LRT:** (Thatcher Imboden) Thatcher recommended approval of a letter to be sent to the Southwest Transitway planning organizations expressing the desire for improved transit connections through Uptown. Approved unanimously.

**Lake Street Reconstruction:** (Gay Noble) Progress continues on the planning process. There will be an extended discussion of the plans and issues, including alternatives for 5-lane intersection configurations, at the next CARAG transportation committee meeting, scheduled for Wednesday, July 5th, 7 pm, at Bryant Square Park.

**Lyn/Lake Business Association:** (Bill Morton) The Lyn/Lake Business Association continues to struggle to find a funding source to implement their street-scaping plans as part of the upcoming street reconstructions.

**Zoning:** (Aaron Rubenstein) Brief Updates: No update on Calhoun Square. The Midtown Greenway Land Use and Development Plan draft is still not available for public review. AfterBar, a new restaurant proposed for 913 W Lake St, plans to seek a full liquor license as well as a conditional use permit to serve food until 4 a.m. There will be a public hearing on these applications after they have been filed with the city. The developer of the GRECO project near Lyn/Lake is planning to attend the July CARAG meeting to discuss the project. A new second alternate is needed to represent CARAG on the Uptown Small Area Plan Steering Committee as Jill Bode was appointed to the committee by CM Remington. The Zoning Committee recommends that Howard Verson be selected as he was the next-highest vote getter at last month's meeting. A motion to appoint Howard passed unanimously.

**Adjourn:** Motion to adjourn passed unanimously.