

CARAG
Calhoun Area Residents Action Group
Monthly Neighborhood Meeting Minutes
MAY 15, 2007

Subject to Approval at the June 2007 CARAG Meeting

Board Members Attending: Rick Bojko (Vice President), Stephen Eisenmenger (Secretary), Ellan Meyer, Bill Morton, Dan Qualy, Aaron Rubenstein, Howard Verson (President), Anna Matthes, and Jill Bode.

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.

Introductions & Announcements (Howard Verson)

Approve Consent Agenda (Howard Verson)

- Treasurer's Report: (Jill Bode) CARAG has \$11,592.26 in the bank account and \$7,106.80 in asset accounts. Total balance as of 4-30-07 is \$18,699.06.

Approve & Sign Minutes, Howard Verson (Vote)

Crime & Safety MPD Update: (Tom Thompson/Marie Przynski) 5th Precinct Report: The homicide at 31st and Pleasant was not a random event and it's an ongoing investigation. 31st Street will get really busy with the Lake Street construction and Tom and Marie would like any feedback if problems arise. Public meeting is tentatively scheduled for June 5th on the "Mobile Drug Selling" vehicles – report such activity via 911 and email Tom and Marie with a car description, plate number or any other information – DO NOT put yourself in harms way to gather this information.

Thomas.thompson@ci.minneapolis.mn.us and marie.przynski@ci.minneapolis.mn.us 673-5595

Bryant Square Park Update, Julie Sandin (canceled)

Council Member Remington's Report (Discussion) Monthly Email Newsletter sign-up is available. Monday Gigi's appointments 2-4 pm are available, call Ralph's office to set up an appointment, 673-2210. Happy Hour with Ralph is the last Friday at Leaning Tower of Pizza, 5:30 to 6:30. Restaurant Miami is requesting an earlier public hearing due to a loss of revenue caused by the Lake Street construction. Overhead signals will be going in on 31st Street, Ralph handed out an email from City staff showing a direct relationship between signal visibility and accident rates. Additional beat cop or two will be available in CARAG from the \$750,000 allocated for overtime hours. Ralph and Paul Ostrow have introduced an aggressive panhandling ordinance. McMansion proposal is still under discussion.

25th Annual Community Wine Tasting Benefit The Tasting is on for Wednesday, June 13th, 2007 from 6-9 p.m. in Campiello's parking lot and CARAG will be providing volunteers. CARAG received about \$4500 last year. CARAG receives 100% of the ticket sales we sell. This is the biggest fundraiser for CARAG operations. We need volunteers to sell tickets and volunteer at the event (volunteers have to purchase their own ticket for the event). Tickets are \$25 in advance and \$30 at the door. Call Cindy to volunteer, purchase tickets or to sell tickets: 824-4096

Capital Long Range Improvement Committee., Skyler Weinand (Discussion)

- 2008-2009: Lyndale Ave Reconstruction: No future capitalization required.

- 2010: Overhead Signals along 31st Street @ Bryant, Dupont, Emerson & Hennepin: Skyler is trying to get these projects separated out as individual projects. Total project cost is \$900,000. 1/3 funded by Minneapolis property taxes, the remaining portion funded by Federal Government, Municipal State Aid and Hennepin County. Because of this large amount of external funding, the city staff is interested in pursuing this project.

- 2011: Walker Library Improvements: Mainly an attempt to make room for more computer space. Although the library situation is up in the air, this is still on the planning list. Bonding would not occur until 2010 which is when a final determination would be made.

NRP Updates Cindy Christian

- 4+ Unit Matching Deferred Loan Program Issues (Vote) Passed. The Fremont Plaza Condo Assoc claims to have

submitted an entry for the lottery held April 5, 2007. However, the form never arrived to CARAG and therefore was not drawn during the lottery. The Association requests that their name be placed at the end of the waiting list to receive funds through this program.

- Allow subordination of property owner name change on the condition that he will transfer title back to his name in the process. (Vote) Passed. Ray Goetti transferred ownership of his property to his LLC's name after receiving a CARAG 4+ Unit load in 2005. He would like to refinance (and subordinate) the loan, but the name change violates the terms of the loan.

- Bryant Square Park Video-Making Media Camp Scope of Services (Vote) Passed. CARAG will partner with Bryant Square Park and artist Lisa Ganser to provide a "video-making" media camp for youth (11-17) at BSP this summer. Video-making activities will include filming, editing, and post-production of short movies to be broadcast on MTN cable access. The two-week camp will empower participants to express themselves through the fun and educational process of short moving making. CARAG to provide \$950.

- NRP Phase I Evaluation (Update) Phase I's budget was \$2,418,053 and included about 40 revitalization projects. The Detailed Plan Review is available by contacting Scott Engel at CARAG's office, 823-2520. There will be a vote to approve the final version of this document at the June meeting.

CARAG By-Laws Review Rick Bojko (Update) The CARAG Constitution & Bylaws Revision Working Group has worked on the fourth round of changes. One issue that pervades throughout the documents in 9 separate places about what the Board does and what CARAG does. The way we work is that everything we do goes before the whole neighborhood. There are NRP conditions that require the CARAG Board to vote on fiscal issues. Another important issue is the election of officers which today is done by the elected board members which was not discussed and will be discussed at the June CARAG Board Meeting. Contact Rick Bojko for questions, rjb5@cornell.edu, the current constitution and bylaws are posted at www.carag.org.

Zoning Committee Report Aaron Rubenstein (Update) Uptown Small Area Plan meeting is May 24th at the old Borders Store.

Business Associations Report Bill Morton (Update) New Executive Director was introduced at today's Uptown Business Association. They discussed their vision, mission and goals. They moved, seconded and passed a motion to give a board seat to each of the four neighborhoods. The Lyndale Association heard a report from a graffiti removal specialist.

City Pages Beer Fest Popcorn Booth - Sat, June 2, 5-9pm Lake & Hennepin. We made \$150 last year. No volunteers spoke up, but Cindy Christian will work with Scott to call last year's volunteers and see if they are willing to help out.

Community Input & Announcements (Update) Restaurant Miami is requesting longer hours to offset the Lake Street construction. They would like an earlier review than the originally scheduled one in August. RM has changed their open days to Thursday-Saturday. A motion was made and seconded for CARAG to support Restaurant Miami's request for extending their hours. The motion failed by a 10-9 vote. The CARAG Board encourages everyone to shop and dine at Lake Street businesses during the construction.

Adjourn (Vote) Approved.

Upcoming Meetings & Events

* Next CARAG Neighborhood Meeting Tuesday, June 19, 2007 7pm @ Bryant Square Park