

**SNG Board meeting
January 27**

7:00 PM Introductions and guests

In attendance: Marne Zafar, Diann Anders, Tami Traeger, Ashley Frietag, Laura Murphy, Peter Fleck, Shell Collins, Bruce Johansen, Bob Friddle, Hannah Epstein

Excused: Trish Kirk

Absent: Tariku Belay, Jessie Wuollet

Staff: Kate Sheldon, Doug Wise

Guests: Kim Hover, Brian Miller

7:03 Consent Agenda

Minutes from December Board Meeting

CDC Motions:

The Seward Neighborhood Group researches the preliminary design and past actions, and sends a letter to the city and County requesting the installation of crosswalks on Franklin Avenue between 22nd and 26th Avenues. Garrett Peterson moved and Bob Hain seconded. Motion passed.

The Community Development Committee (CDC) recommends that SNG submit the questions as drafted to the City Inspections Department and Council Members Warsame and Gordon; and ask the City Inspections Department to provide a formal written response to the questions and be invited to come back to a CDC meeting to discuss the questions and their response. Trevre Andrews moved and Derk Scholtz seconded. Motion passed.

The Community Development Committee (CDC) recommends that SNG officially request U.S. Internet start providing fiber optic Internet service in the Seward neighborhood.

Trevre Andrews moved and Derk Scholtz seconded. Motion passed.

Diann moves. Marne seconds. All in favor. Consent agenda passed.

7:08pm Executive Report and Discussion issues

Strategic Planning review and 2016 Goals discussion

Setting a date to discuss Strategic Plan specifically. An email will be sent out.

New fundraising goals

Looking at fundraisers to see what is worth doing. We are in the last year of the \$25,000 McKnight. Marne mentions that we should look into grants and other big funding. She suggests that we set another time to dedicate to fundraising and which expenses to cut. Ashley states that some of the information discussed at the Strategic Plan meeting could shape the fundraising discussion as well.

7:11pm Redesign and SNG discussion--Brian Miller

Brain discusses the history of Seward Redesign. Redesign is focused on neighborhoods and what makes them healthy communities. Advocate for infrastructure improvements--especially on and around Franklin. Seward Commons development, Blue Nile has sold. Brian passes out information and states that if you have any questions or concerns feel free to reach out.

7:31pm Public Discussion Issues and Guests

Cam Gordon's 2nd Ward Report

Cam passes out reports on his 2015 Accomplishments and plans for 2016. The report includes 2016 Budget, Lawless Distillery, Hi-Lo Diner, limited Production and Processing Ordinance, Franklin Ave bike lanes, Governor's Bonding Bill, Neighborhood revitalization fund, emergency shelters, green zones, openings on Boards and Commissions.

Bob asks about the Roof Depot property to expand the Public Works facility near Little Earth. Cam discusses what he knows about the controversial subject.

Also, there is a CPED online survey in regards to the downtown Farmer's Market on Lyndale--what can we do to improve the market? How can it be better managed?

7:55 pm Executive Report and Discussion continued

Affirmative inclusion statement

Bob drafted a statement to show our support of diversity in this neighborhood, and is open to fine tuning. Diann requests we fix "has" to "have" in the first sentence.

Laura moves to adopt the affirmative inclusion statement. Marne seconds. All in favor. Motion passed.

Crime and Safety Committee

The SNG Crime and Safety committee will be absorbed into the Community Building committee. This is in order to maintain organization that does not just rely on "crime" happening, and will hopefully draw more consistent volunteers.

Seward Towers Finance closing announcement

Diann announces that on January 13th Seward Towers Corp closed on the refinancing on the Seward Towers. Construction will start March 1st. Residents that had to relocate are pretty much out of the building.

Taco Bell Triangle

Doug speaks to the changes that will be made to the Minnehaha Ave north of Franklin. A discussion group is working to brainstorm what to do with the Taco Bell triangle so that it does not become a no-mans-land. The county will be at the February CDC meeting to discuss.

8:11pm Finance Report

Diann found money! \$16,000+ rather than a deficit as previously reported. Working on finalizing the 2015 numbers with the accountant. Nearly ready to close out 2015. Received a check for

\$7,000 for the Towers closing. We will be getting 4% of development fees through this deal (over \$100,000). We need to figure out how to use it wisely. Any questions? The financials should get simpler this year without SPOKES.

8:13pm Staff reports

Housing

Working on a notification policy. Marne and Peter are wondering about USI wireless. Cam will look into it.

8:21pm

Bob moves to adjourn. Marne seconds. All in favor.

Adjourn and clean up