

St. Anthony Park Community Council
Board of Directors
Thursday, January 11, 2007
South St. Anthony Park Recreation Center
890 Cromwell Avenue (Territorial and Cromwell)
Draft Minutes (approved . . . , 2007)

Presiding: Ranae Hanson.

Board Members and Alternates Present: Ray Bryan, John Dodson, Chris Donaldson, Greg Haley, Chris Kalla, Hannah Longley, Brian Longley, Rick Macpherson, Paul Mix, Roger Purdy, Gregg Richardson (recorder), Bruce Weber, Emily Woodall.

Board Members and Alternates Absent: Belinda Escalante, Steve Haselman, Mia Perron-Deeb, Jeff Huff, Lisa Nicholson, Ferd Peters, Arnold Ramler.

Staff: Amy Sparks (Executive Director), Nina Axelson (Community Organizer).

Guests: Linda Jungwirth, County Commissioner Janice Rettman's office; Lauree Stolarczyk, resident.

Meeting opens at 7:02 p.m.

January agenda approved with adjustments. (B. Longley moves, Bryan seconds).

Consent agenda

Executive Committee recommends instituting a consent agenda as a trial method of streamlining non-controversial resolutions. All such resolutions will be sent to Council members in advance and voted on as a whole at the beginning of each meeting. Any item on the consent agenda may be removed at the request of any Council member for individual discussion as part of the regular meeting agenda. Purdy moves and Haley seconds the motion: **St Anthony Park Community Council adopts the procedure of using a consent agenda for full Council meetings.** Motion passes unanimously.

A consent agenda is presented to the Council. B. Longley moves and Mix seconds the motion: **St. Anthony Park Community Council approves the following resolutions:**

Land Use Committee resolution: St. Anthony Park Community Council should form a subcommittee to prepare a draft requesting U-Plan assistance to study transitional zoning ½ mile each side of the University Corridor.

Land Use Committee Goals for 2007, which includes following the progress and pushing for implementation of the D12 plan, revise the TN design standards to delete vinyl siding for residential property, developing design standards and possible rezoning for Como Avenue through the work of the Como Avenue Small Area Plan Task Force, reviewing the current policy for variances, determining a policy for committee process regarding transportation issues, and learning more about Transit Oriented Development, Community Benefits Agreements, LEED for neighborhoods, and U-Plan.

Motion passes unanimously.

Land Use Committee

Mix says that City Council is considering an ordinance to expand the Fire Certificate of Occupancy, and begin regular inspections of all non-owner-occupied rentals, including duplexes and single family houses. Inspections of these two categories was previously only complaint-driven. Inspections will be scheduled on a one, three or five year rating system, with problem

properties inspected yearly, and problem-free properties every five years. Hanson points out that this item was not placed on the consent agenda because the resolution in support passed Land Use Committee by a four to two vote. Kalla says Land Use concerns about the proposal include the cost—how will the city fund more inspections? Currently inspections are self-funded by landlord fees. Haley moves and Macpherson seconds the motion: **The St. Anthony Park Community Council supports the concept of expanding the Fire Certificate of Occupancy.**

Discussion: Haley says the proposed expansion will improve safety of rental properties. Mix says he supports the principle, but does not believe that it can be carried out equitably. Purdy agrees, saying that it does not help landlords to improve their properties. Axelson asks if the motion could express concerns with the process. Linda Jungwirth from County Commissioner Rettman’s office suggests that the motion could be worded in a way that would express specific concerns. Weber says that Land Use’s original resolution says that the committee supports the “concept.” Sparks says that the original Land Use resolution mentioned costs, etc. Kalla reads the original Land Use motion from the Land Use minutes as passed by the Committee. Haley and Macpherson accept this version as a friendly amendment to their motion. Final motion before Council now reads: **St. Anthony Park Community Council supports the concept of expanding the Fire Certificate of Occupancy because of the large number of student rental in the neighborhood, the desire to increase safety increasing in the face of growing density, and because this proposal is consistent with what other cities are doing. St. Anthony Park Community Council further expresses concern that the cost of the program not becomes burdensome for the City or the landlords.**

Visitor Lauree Stolarczyk expresses concerns that this might lead the city to evict more at-risk tenants from substandard properties. How might the city assist such tenants? Mix points out that when a landlord buys a property, it requires an inspection to obtain a mortgage, and the lender’s inspector may be at odds with the city inspector. Haley agrees that this could be true regarding the city in any transaction. Kalla concurs that this won’t necessarily change anything, but we could recommend in our letter accompanying the resolution that the city institute a program to assist tenants in this situation. Sparks says that this can also be brought up at the public hearing before City Council. Richardson says that as a rental property owner, he believes that he and other property owners should abstain from voting on this resolution due to a potential economic conflict of interest. Resolution passes with 8 in favor, 1 opposed, and 3 abstentions.

Nominations and Elections Committee

Axelson says the Committee has not met yet. The filing deadline for Council elections is mid-March. She sends around a sign-up sheet for all Council members to volunteer for various tasks facilitating the elections. She is currently trying to negotiate a third polling site at the Dunn Brothers on University, in order to encourage participation by residents in the new apartment and condo complexes on University. Brief discussion on recruiting candidates. We want to particularly recruit under-represented populations, including more members from multi-unit housing.

Roster for Transportation study task force

A list of task force members recommended by Executive Committee to advise the city on its northwest quadrant transportation study is distributed. Purdy moves and Weber seconds a motion: **St. Anthony Park accepts the recommendations by Executive Committee for individuals to serve on the citizen task force advising the city’s transportation study of the northwest corner.** Discussion: Sparks says the list tries to represent a broad set of community interests. One individual on the list, representing trucking, has not yet confirmed that they can serve. Kalla asks whether there is a prescribed size for the task force, or are we just trying to

make sure various interests are represented? Hanson says representing interests, while keeping a manageable size. Suggestion to reword the motion to leave the trucking position vacant until a representative is confirmed is accepted as a friendly amendment. Final motion reads: **St. Anthony Park accepts the recommendations by Executive Committee for individuals to serve on the citizen task force advising the city's transportation study of the northwest corner, leaving the trucking position vacant to be filled later.** Motion passes unanimously. Task force members will be:

Lois Braun, Josh Brotemarkle, Megan Carney, Sue Conner, Sherm Eagles, Brian Longley, Gordon Murdoch, Christine O'Connell, Russ Stark, Britta Stein, Michael Sweet, Marc Culver.

Mission and goals

Hanson begins a discussion of Council mission and process for making annual goals. Three questions: 1) Is Council satisfied with the current mission statement? 2) How do standing committee goals relate to Council goals? 3) Does Council want specific Council goals apart from its committee goals?

Question one: Haley asks whether there is dissatisfaction with the current mission statement? Sparks notes that it says nothing about citizen participation per se. Kalla asks whether "working together" has that meaning? Discussion of wording to include the concept. H. Longley says citizen participation should be one of our goals. Macpherson asks that the discussion be more concrete. He moves: **St Anthony Park Community Council inserts the words "---" in the Mission Statement, after the words "---."** Weber seconds. Discussion: Dodson says that the mission statement originally said this, but when did it change? Macpherson says he does not object to revising the mission statement, but doesn't want to do it in a full Council meeting. Weber moves to table the motion, Kalla seconds. Motion to table passes unanimously. Council asks that a draft mission statement be brought back from Executive Committee next month.

Question two: How should we do goals? Haley asks whether this question should be handled in the same way? Weber says the Council may want communication between Council and committees before doing goals—there needs to be more communication, as committees can become somewhat insular. Haley says the Council can provide feedback on whether the committees are on the right track. Longley says the committees should have specific goals, but the Council should look at the bigger picture to see what they're missing. Richardson says this is a chicken or egg question—does the Council drive the committees' work, or do the committees drive the Council's work? Haley says the Council should provide overarching policies. Dodson points out that our funding sources also require specific goals, some of which the Council needs to delegate to the committees. Hanson reminds Council not to forget the District 12 Plan, as it provides the most consistent overall direction for the committees, even more so than Council, since Council often has greater turnover than the committees.

Question three: Does Council want its own goals, apart from the committees? Macpherson asks whether Executive Committee can make a set of implicit goals we already have from funding sources and task forces? Richardson suggests we need to rationalize our calendar to bring our goal-setting, elections, and fiscal year into line. Macpherson points out that new Council members are not really in a position to set goals. It would be better for new members to come in with a set of goals in place. They can change them later if they wish. Bryan says that the financial goals need to be tied to the fiscal calendar, and the election cycle is tied to April. Goals should correspond to the budget, and should be done in October to be ready for the next budget. Dodson says our goals help create institutional memory, and many are already implicit in our funding. Sparks points out that the Executive Director submits goals each year to the city, regardless of whether the Council makes goals or not. Kalla says the task forces should see the

recommended goals. Weber says Council should be looking at increasing citizen participation, block workers, etc. Axelson says Community Connection Committee is working on those right now. Woodall says it is difficult for Council to brainstorm because we don't know what other committees are doing. Weber says it would be good for Land Use Committee to meet at some point with Environment Committee. Axelson says she keeps hearing that we need to set priorities, but she's still concerned with overreaching. We need to know what each committee believes is most important, so we can identify what to cut back on. Dodson suggests that Executive Committee should merge the goals of standing committees and task forces, and add goals arising from grants. Haley says we've wanted to have an open discussion, but don't seem to have the energy right now for brainstorming. Perhaps if the committees bring recommendations, we will do better. Donaldson asks whether the Executive Director could return with some draft goals? Sparks agrees to do so.

Interactive updates

Sparks opens the meeting for general questions or news. Weber would like to hear a Community Connections Committee update. Longley says the primary focus has been on the block club idea. People who had signed up for the crime meetings were contacted, but there were no responses. Axelson says this community thrives more on social networks than on issues. They are also reevaluating community-building strategies, looking at welcome kits, especially for University Avenue. Haley says the blockworker programs were started in the 1970s, but they had to be the "right" people to work. Weber suggests starting up with "demonstration" blocks.

Kalla asks what's happening with the asbestos problem in the south rec center? Sparks says they have money to replace the gym floor, but she doesn't know when. Weber says the Booster Club is trying to cover some of the cost of the floor.

Meeting evaluation

Kalla says we all need to be more diligent in preparing for meetings if we use a consent agenda. Richardson says that with a consent agenda, if we as Council members don't prepare sufficiently, we could easily lose touch completely with the committees' work. Dodson says the consent agendas should include the wording of resolutions. Hanson asks what we should or shouldn't talk about in Council meetings? Mix says brainstorming may not work so well in this large of a group, but when we get to specific discussions, we don't have enough time. Kalla says that resolutions that we haven't had time to consider in advance should be directed more by the chair. Dodson says we don't need to be wedded to two hour meetings—we may have some 45 minutes agendas, and use techniques to streamline the discussions. Bryan says in the past we have often had outside speakers. Macpherson says we should act on resolutions mainly to give direction to staff, if we don't have that much on the agenda, invite outside speakers to provide us perspective on issues. Purdy says the education piece is most important to him; issues like LRT, City Council activity, other community council activities. Haley says most of the heavy lifting should be done at the committee level. B. Longley says we should use more time during Council meetings to explain basic functions of Council and committees, and what other committees do.

Linda Jungwirth of County Commissioner Rettman's office announces that there will be informational events about Central Corridor LRT development on February 15-16.

Meeting is adjourned at 8:40 pm. (Donaldson moves, Mix seconds)

Respectfully submitted,
Gregg Richardson, Secretary

St. Anthony Park Community Council

Board of Directors

Thursday, February 9, 2007
South St. Anthony Park Recreation Center
890 Cromwell Avenue (Territorial and Cromwell)
Draft Minutes (approved . . . , 2007)

Presiding: Ranae Hanson.

Board Members and Alternates Present: Ray Bryan, John Dodson, Steve Haselman, Chris Kalla, Brian Longley, Hannah Longley, Rick Macpherson, Paul Mix, Ferd Peters, Roger Purdy, Gregg Richardson (recorder), Bruce Weber, Emily Woodall.

Board Members and Alternates Absent: Chris Donaldson, Belinda Escalante, Greg Haley, Mia Perron-Deeb, Jeff Huff, Lisa Nicholson, Arnold Ramler.

Staff: Amy Sparks (Executive Director), Nina Axelson (Community Organizer).

Guests: Linda Jungwirth, County Commissioner Janice Rettman's office; Joe Spencer, Mayor Chris Coleman's office.

Meeting opens at 7:05 p.m.

February consent agenda approved. (Peters moves, Kalla seconds). Includes February agenda, January minutes and a Land Use resolution: **SAPCC will apply to U-Plan for a TOD Planning Study along University Ave in District 12 to compliment efforts of the Central Corridor plan and District 12 Plan.**

Land Use Committee

Weber moves, and Bryan seconds a resolution from Land Use Committee: **St. Anthony Park Community Council requests that the City establish a Transit Oriented Development overlay district for University Avenue in District 12 to complement the efforts of the Central Corridor plan and District 12 Plan.** A document with details of the overlay district is distributed. Weber says the overlay district was originally intended to cover the entire length of University Ave., which Land Use supported, but the City never approved that plan. Land Use met with Brian McMahan of University United, and are proposing that the overlay be implemented only for our part of the Avenue, ranging from Territorial on the north, to Interstate 94 on the south.

Discussion: Kalla asks whether we are requesting the same details from the Proposed University Ave Interim TOD document as did our previous resolution? Weber says yes. Peters asks if only our district is making this request? Weber says yes, and that some other districts along University Ave. are opposed to the idea. Kalla says he previously had some objections to the language about automobile-based businesses, and still does. University United had removed that language, but Land Use Committee wants to include it. Peters says that this is the same language used by SEED-SEMI. Bryan says we keep hearing rumors about big box developments such as Sam's club in our area of University. Weber says that University United is not opposed to big box development *per se*, but only low density, one story development. Haselman points out that RockTenn job density is only 12 jobs per acre, so is this resolution only restricting commercial development, not industrial? Bruce says yes, plus the overlay would affect only new developments, not existing businesses. Kalla asks whether businesses could still apply for variances? Bryan says yes. Haselman asks whether RockTenn would be affected if they wanted to expand facilities on their existing site? Weber says not according to his understanding, but we could discuss the language of the resolution if he wants? Purdy points out an error in the more detailed document, in which a 0.1 standard should be corrected to 1.0. Bryan says that businesses would have less service parking. Peters remarks that RockTenn is zoned for industrial. Haselman asks whether this would change that zoning? Weber says no, it's just overlaid

requirements on existing zoning. Sparks points out that it is only a one-year overlay. Haselman says that there is a lot of industry in the area, and the transit oriented development principle is concerned with jobs as well as residences. Weber says that the amount of local manufacturing has been considerably reduced in recent years, but this shouldn't affect them, it is mainly concerned with stopping land grabs and quick, inappropriate development. Haselman says that District Energy is considering developing an energy source that might encourage more industry to locate in the area. Weber says that this overlay district is not intended to affect industry, only the gradient areas between industrial and commercial/residential areas. Purdy calls the question. Resolution passes with one opposed. Weber will contact Jay Benanav's office, and Sparks will send a letter to the City.

Mission Statement

Richardson and Hanson present a new draft of the Mission Statement they were charged to revise, for Council approval. This draft incorporates all the changes recommended at the last Council meeting, and they request that we not spend time in the meeting doing further wordsmithing. Dodson asks what specific wording has been changed. Hanson points out the changes. Macpherson moves and Weber seconds the motion: **St. Anthony Park Community Council approves the new mission statement as presented at the February 9, 2007 meeting of the Council.** Discussion: Bryan suggests several changes to the draft. Hanson asks if Council wants to return it to the committee. Peters moves to table the previous motion, Purdy seconds. Discussion: Macpherson calls the question. Motion to table passes unanimously. Mission statement is sent back to Executive Committee.

2007 Goals

Sparks says she was directed by the Council to draft goals for the Council, plus incorporate goals approved by the standing committees. She presents a draft of the goals, and notes that our only obligation to the city are the goals that we propose, but Council is responsible for assuring that goals proposed by the committees are met by the committees.

Discussion first of Environment Committee goals: Kalla asks what is meant by Hampden Park beautification. Axelson says this is a followup on phase two of the former beautification plan. Richardson adds that many trees in and around the park have died, and many are continuing to suffer storm damage and to die, and this plan intends to comprehensively address revegetation, recreation, traffic calming and esthetics. Discussion of Community Connection goals: Kalla asks what is meant by welcome kits? Dodson says this is meant as an introduction to new residents, with items such as the D12 plan, Lanergan book, current neighborhood information, etc. Discussion of Land Use goals: Hanson asks why it is only a Land Use goal to push for City adoption of the D12 plan? Weber says that Land Use actually intends to push for adoption of the Land Use portions of the D12 plan. Hanson says she believes this should be a Council goal, not just Land Use. Peters points out that the reference to working with the Environment Committee on resolving transportation oversight seems superfluous. Sparks points out that there is still confusion about jurisdiction on transportation issues. Hanson says she believes that this resolution should be a full Council oversight issue. Macpherson says these goals could appear in both places. Kalla moves and Peters seconds a motion: **St. Anthony Park Community Council approves moving draft 2007 Land Use goals on D12 Plan implementation, and resolving oversight of transportation issues, to 2007 Full Council goals.** Passes unanimously. Discussion of full Council goals: Richardson remarks that the goal regarding oversight of finances, committees and task forces is not a really a goal, but an ongoing Council function. Peters says that the first goal addresses Board-building, the second addresses finance, the next two address oversight, and the last two address outreach. These are all in line with Board functions. He moves and Kalla seconds a motion: **St. Anthony Park Community Council**

approves the draft of the 2007 Board and Committee goals as previously amended. Passes unanimously.

Board Education

Executive Committee has decided that it wants to implement an educational component in monthly Council meetings, giving the committees two half-hour slots per year to present on issues within their purview, with two more months reserved for task forces. A proposed calendar is distributed. Discussion: Kalla says that if we want to encourage community members to come for the presentations, we should put the presentations at the beginning of our monthly agendas.

Funding Sources for District 12 Council

The first Board educational session, regarding Council funding sources, is presented by the Executive Director. Sparks passes out a document detailing funding sources and amounts. Our primary source is a base of \$37,000 a year from the City for citizen participation. Other districts may receive more, based on a formula reflecting poverty levels, non-English speakers, etc. We are the second smallest district, and we get only the base amount. We sign a contract each year with the City to receive our funding in return for working toward our goals. Dodson points out that this amount is about one-third of our total annual revenue. Sparks continues, saying our second major source is \$15,000 also from the City in crime prevention funding, and this funds our half-time community organizer position. We have also received \$2700 in discretionary COPP funds from City Council member Benanav's office to make up recent citizen participation funding shortfalls, but we have no guarantee this funding will continue after Benanav leaves office this fall. Peters points out that in some districts rival citizen organizations apply and compete for these city funds. Sparks continues, saying that our annual fundraising events and letter raise \$9,000 to \$13,000, with \$1700 in fundraising costs involved.

CHORE service, which provides direct services to seniors, is under our oversight, and serves ten neighborhoods throughout the city, partly with paid staff, partly with volunteers, and partly with Sentenced to Serve workers. It is funded by \$25,000 from the Metropolitan Area Agency on Aging (MAAA). We also received \$12,000 in COPP funds this past year to expand the program from five to ten neighborhoods. Originally, we administered this program only for SAP. The senior population actually decreased between the 1990 and 2000 censuses. Dodson points out that this program has doubled in size twice in the past six years, and although it is self-supporting, it is becoming a bigger portion of our balance sheet, and we should consider fiscal agency for the program. Sparks points out that it does pay a substantial portion of our office expenses. Hanson says that we do have oversight for the program, so as a Board, we are obligated to understand it and it does take up a substantial part of the ED's time, so perhaps we need to try to recover some of the revenue from it. Sparks says that MAAA is a federal program, and they require matching funds, and that match is basically her time and volunteer time. Weber suggests that we should have CHORE come to a Council meeting and report on their activities. Hanson says they should also be included in our goals.

Sparks also distributes a document comparing Council income over the past ten years. Weber remarks that we haven't increased revenue over that period. Sparks says this indicates that we may not be able to keep a full time Executive Director indefinitely.

2006 Year-end financial statement

Dodson distributes a 2006 year end financial spreadsheet. He points out that the net current assets at the bottom of the balance sheet of about \$46,000 are the reason that we are seeking a line of credit from the bank. Our assets are dominated by the land we are only holding on behalf of the community gardens. Richardson points out that this land appearing on our balance sheet as an

asset makes it difficult for us to look poor when we are asking for money. On the 2006 Budget vs. Actual spreadsheet, we ended up around 1% over our budget, after adjustment, much better than last year. Purdy says we get a lot done with little money, but it is a static picture—we couldn't do more, couldn't give staff raises. We need to come up with other income streams. Axelson says we are exploring more grants. Dodson says we are growing mainly through earmarked grants. Macpherson points out that this funds new programs, but not general operating expenses. Axelson says that some grants they are exploring do pay for operating expenses. Dodson says we need to be better at fundraising. Joe Spencer of the mayor's office tells the Council that coming within 1-4% of a the projected budget is practically miraculous. He cautions against simply raising more money, since it costs money to raise money. Instead, look for opportunities for earned income. For example, the U of M School of Social Work is not strong in community organizing—they could learn from us. One way to make it worth a foundation's investment in your organization is to be a source of research, to try an innovative way of land use planning, for example. Partner with the U of M or other college. Axelson says Hamline-Midway has done that with Hamline University, and Community Connections has talked about the idea.

By-laws committee

Macpherson says that the *ad hoc* By-laws Revision committee reviewed the by-laws in response to the Jerry Trooien/WESCO issue, and found that the by-laws do not define eligibility requirements for voting, only for delegates, but they do define districts and areas of representation. They also do not define who can vote for which delegates (NSAP vs. SSAP), The committee's proposed language says that only residents are eligible to vote, while workers are only represented by the business delegation. They are also proposing a clause stating that NSAP and SSAP residents may vote only for the delegates from their respective areas. They are not addressing business delegates. They question whether the system currently works, but believe we should look at it in the future. The bigger issue to address is how to include the new populations along University Ave. Create a new subdistrict? Redraw all the current lines? They have not tried to answer this. A proposal to limit voting eligibility to those over 18 passed the committee by a 2-1 vote. Council is required to notify the community of votes on by-laws changes, and they must pass by a 2/3 majority. He recommends that Council consider the two unanimous recommendations separately from the 2-1 recommendation. Macpherson moves that: When Council votes on proposed by-laws changes currently recommended by the *ad hoc* By-laws Revision committee, they will vote separately on the unanimous and non-unanimously recommended changes. There is no second.

Bryan says that the Nominations and Elections committee wants to make alternative recommendations to those of the By-laws committee. Axelson says that they and the business delegation want to remove all the Midway Chamber of Commerce language from the section on selection of business delegates. Hanson says the meeting is already running late, how do we resolve this before next time? Peters says each amendment can usually be changed before a single vote. Hanson asks whether Executive Committee can decide how to approach this? Macpherson says we do need to act on these, because currently, technically anyone can vote in the upcoming election. Bryan says that Nominations and Elections committee is given authority in the by-laws to determine eligibility. Macpherson reminds all that we would need to get an announcement published ahead of time if we are going to be voting on by-laws changes. Peters then moves and Weber seconds the motion: **St. Anthony Park Community Council accepts the *ad hoc* By-laws Revision committee's report.** Passes unanimously.

Interactive updates

Axelson says that Woodall is currently laying groundwork for reactivating block clubs. The March Council meeting would be preceded by our annual open house. Each Council member is

asked to invite 10 neighbors to the open house before the meeting at 6pm. Community Connections Committee is currently working on material for welcome kits and leader kits.

Meeting is adjourned at 9:10 pm. (Kalla moves, Purdy seconds)

Respectfully submitted,
Gregg Richardson, Secretary

St. Anthony Park Community Council
Board of Directors
Thursday, March 8, 2007
South St. Anthony Park Recreation Center
890 Cromwell Avenue (Territorial and Cromwell)
Draft Minutes (approved . . . , 2007)

Presiding: Ranae Hanson.

Board Members and Alternates Present: Ray Bryan, John Dodson, Chris Donaldson, Greg Haley, Steve Haselman, Chris Kalla, Brian Longley, Hannah Longley, Rick Macpherson, Paul Mix, Arnold Ramler, Gregg Richardson (recorder), Bruce Weber, Emily Woodall.

Board Members and Alternates Absent: Belinda Escalante, Jeff Huff, Lisa Nicholson, Ferd Peters, Mia Perron-Deeb, Roger Purdy,.

Staff: Amy Sparks (Executive Director), Nina Axelson (Community Organizer).

Guests. Russ Stark, Bernie Hesse, Randy Sebring, Marc Culver, Linda Jungwirth (Janice Rettman's office), Mimi Jennings, Len Jennings, Steve McCormick, Dave Healy, Betty Wheeler

Guests at the Open House proceeding the meeting: Sue Conner, Lisa Voigt, Bernie Hesse, Steve McCormick, Michael Webster, Matt Carlson, Bob Carpenteur, Betty Wheeler, Russ Stark, Elizabeth Neils, Marc Culver, Mimi Jennings, Len Jennings, Dave Healy

Meeting opens at 7:04 p.m.

Consent agenda.

By-laws resolution removed from consent agenda, new Mission Statement added. Text of proposed Mission Statement: **The St. Anthony Park Community Council is a community organization where resident and business representatives work together to facilitate and increase citizen participation in vital neighborhood activities, including maintaining and enhancing our quality of life, supporting the residential character and vitality of the community, and shaping social, economic, and physical development in St. Anthony Park and greater St. Paul.** Dodson moves and B. Longley seconds the motion: **St Anthony Park Community Council accepts the March 8, 2007 consent agenda.** Passes unanimously.

City Council Ward 4 Candidates

The three announced Ward 4 candidates introduce themselves.

Randy Schubring has served on two district councils in Ward 4 during the 1990s. He would like to use the councils more effectively. He would like to add more resources to crime prevention, and bring officers to community council meetings. In a pilot project in District 5, officers meet with citizens on a weekly basis. Also wants to educate residents to identify minor exterior code violations, and work to solve them at a neighborhood level. Wants police to work with local social service agencies on crime prevention. Also wants to encourage local "mom and pop" businesses on University Avenue, and in neighborhoods.

Bernie Hess has lived in the Midway neighborhood for 23 years and St. Paul for 30 years. He is a labor organizer who works on the living wage issue, worker safety and health care. He believes St. Paul has a lot of strong neighborhoods and that the development of light rail (LRT) needs to provide the opportunity for everybody to be at the table. He has worked with the Ramsey County Workplace Investment Board on improving youth employment, and wants to bring vocational education back into the schools. He believes that RockTenn provides 500 good jobs for the area, wants to keep neighborhoods safe, and is also working on a way for everyone to win on the Ford Plant closing, to bring good jobs in there. He believes that too much St. Paul property does not generate tax revenue, and the city needs to find a way to increase the prosperity of those properties.

Russ Stark is running for one reason—we need to take charge of our future, since big changes are coming due to LRT. He has heard from St Anthony Park residents that they want more basic retail services, and not just a new Grand Avenue. They also want new housing options as they age. We need to move toward more energy efficient living, and need to invest now as fuel prices are growing rapidly. He wants to build more connected communities on a grassroots level. We need to bridge the disconnects between neighborhood needs and the policies and priorities of the city government. In working for University United and the Transportation Management Organization, he sees these issues as front and center for the next ten years.

Questions: Bryan asks the candidates' views on the potential Granary Road extension toward Pierce-Butler? Hess says it is not something that should just be dismissed, although it is not going to solve traffic issues—"if you build it, they will come." Stark doesn't believe we should add more car capacity, and doesn't think it makes any sense. Schubring says "congestion is our friend," that building roads from Roseville to Eagan doesn't help the problem, we need "street diets," perhaps periodically closing streets. Macpherson asks whether parks and rec centers should be consolidated more? Schubring says we should bring resources back to the city, with local government aid infused at the grassroots level. Ask neighbors what programming they want. Stark believes that if rec centers are so far apart that we have to drive to them, we've defeated the purpose. Look at other neighborhood centers like schools. Make programs more mobile, but local. Hess says we need to use the resources to get kids back into parks, engaged. Need to do a census of needs and ages, get rec centers, schools and libraries to interact, and listen to the neighborhoods. Kalla asks whether, given constraints on the likely budget for LRT development, do the candidates advocate trade-offs on various stops, the proposed tunnel, etc.? Stark says the tunnel may need to be cut, but it's largely a false dilemma—ridership is going to grow, and the budget may not have to be cut. The University Avenue streetscape will be crucial to successfully building ridership. Hess says the depot is very important, but the [proposed downtown] loop is "Disneyland"—it takes away riders. He says Stark is right about University Avenue, but he doesn't see how the tunnel can be done. He believes we're being scared on the economics. Schubring says we need to focus on the economics of the LRT development, and that developing University Avenue façade to façade is crucial to bringing many businesses into the tax base. It's also crucial to get many pedestrians to the Avenue with bikes and buses. This is why he's running.

Como Small Area Plan update

Sparks says the "Como 2030" committee is planning six public meetings beginning March 21. They are getting help from the Center for Neighborhoods on the meetings. The next meeting will include a block exercise for attendees to practice planning and its economic consequences.

Board Education for the month

The Land Use Committee invites Brian MacMahon from University United to present

background on Transit Oriented Development (TOD). MacMahon says land is an asset, and we need to look beyond just ownership—the value comes from the context of the individual parcel, the infrastructure, proximity, etc. It provides jobs, housing and other goods. He distributes a handout comparing types of businesses along University Ave., comparing value and direct vs. indirect costs between Snelling and Lexington. There have been hundreds of millions of dollars of public improvements in this area. Transit Oriented Development (TOD) comprises a variety of elements. TOD criteria allows measurement of outcomes for different types of development, for example job density at key intersections. There the standards for development should be higher, due to greater public investment. The bus barn proposed by Met Council has only 20-25 jobs per acre. St. Anthony Park has housing density of probably 12-15 units per acre. Large transit nodes should have 50-60 units per acre (Emerald Gardens has probably 70-80). Key on making them work is design. Different problem is the environmental footprint, the question is how to create a tool to integrate these criteria to measure optimum development. For example, the proposed Home Depot has 110,000 square feet with parking on top—its an advance, but is it enough? Most customers will not take the bus, it's 90% auto-oriented, but only 10% of those by freeway. Freeway frontage is supposedly auto-oriented. They have a high Floor Area Ratio (FAR) the most important measure of all. FAR is single story on the entire lot. It is twice as efficient in terms of jobs, but does it relate to TOD? University United (UU) suggests that the city require them to double the customers who use transit, looking more at performance standards than physical standards. What if they fail? They have to pay up because of public investment on that corner. Another factor is property tax. Handout shows that local Midway Books pays three times the property taxes per square foot as the national chain Target. The same is true with restaurants—locally owned are paying more than national chains, due to a density penalty.

Questions: Richardson says that green development costs more up front, but recovers costs in the long run—are there incentives to help with those up front costs? MacMahon says they are looking at the environmental impact of development as part of the cost, mainly saving by reducing the use of cars. Ramler asks whether UU is pro-small business? MacMahon says yes, but they represent a variety of interests. The national chains know how to develop, but UU is trying to help smaller businesses. Steve McCormick from the audience asks how you can get 3 million new cars to Home Depot? MacMahon says that will push congestion into a category F, which is unacceptable. Weber says UU is not against big box retail per se, just a particular type of development.

Variance request for 925 Cromwell

Kalla first raises a point of order—is it appropriate to bypass Land Use committee on this request? Sparks says yes, it's a time constraint due to the request being received too late to meet the city deadline before next Land Use meeting. Macpherson is recusing himself from voting, due to his proximity to the project. Jorg Pierach describes his project. He has lived at 925 Cromwell for 13 years, and his house is too small now. There was once another house on this lot, which has since received a lot split. He is proposing to split the lot and build a new house on the lot for his family. He doesn't need a variance for the house. It is an irregular lot, and the rear setback prohibits a double attached garage; he needs a 14 foot variance. He could do a single detached garage in the same space without a variance.

Questions: Weber asks whether he currently has an attached garage. No, a detached garage. Will it still be there? Yes. Will there be no other changes? He will demolish part of the existing deck. Macpherson says he lives across the alley and has some concerns. One is the short distance from the alley to the garage which will make turning in difficult, requiring a tendency to swing wide. Richardson asks whether he can reorient the garage to ease the turn? Pierach says no the easement prevents it. Kalla asks is it a double lot, but one parcel? What is the hardship

requiring the variance request? Pierach replies that it's a funky little lot, and rather than a single garage, he wants a double with an indoors entrance. Hanson says she has a detached garage, but can get along with some hardship. Mix says this clearly does not fit the criteria for code variances, and he reads the four criteria. Kalla says he has objections to the City staff report, he believes that they are clearly wrong on the issue not being created by the landowner, and also on not intending to increase the value of the property. Richardson says that code is written with regular rectangular lots in mind, and that in this neighborhood with hills and irregularly-shaped lots, we may make it difficult to create the amenities that make it a desirable place to live if we stick too rigidly to code. We also need to recognize that as an urban core neighborhood, we need to recognize the importance of appropriate increases in density. Pierach points out that Macpherson has added to his house in a similar way. Kalla moves and Mix seconds the motion: **St. Anthony Park Community Council recommends that the City deny the variance request at 925 Cromwell.** Dodson asks if we can remove the negative wording of the motion in order to clarify the meaning. Kalla rejects this as not a friendly amendment. Motion fails with 4 in favor, 6 opposed, and 2 abstentions. Haley encourages Pierach to explore more creative ways of solving the space problem.

Proposed Bylaws revisions

Richardson begins with a statement about the proposed revisions. He notes that the Bylaws Committee revisions don't appear to close the loopholes they were intended to address. The revisions don't address the selection of the business delegation, which means that the Midway Chamber of Commerce, most of which is not even in our district, could still theoretically appoint one-third of our Council with no input from us, and since the revisions don't actually define what constitutes a resident, a slate of write-in candidates of questionable residency could finish the job. Since the main motive was to prevent a Jerry Trooien-type takeover of the Council, these changes don't appear to prevent that. In addition, a second set of proposed revisions from the Nominations Committee unfortunately does not offer actual language for the by-laws, which would need to be changed in about a dozen different places to accommodate their first and third proposals, and the second doesn't require a by-laws change to begin with—it is a procedural matter that they are already authorized to implement without any change required. He recommends that we should consider tabling all the proposals for this month, recognizing that this would not allow us to change our by-laws in time for the upcoming elections. He believes that we would not be seriously at risk next month, since there don't appear to be any controversial issues at hand. The existing subcommittee or a new one could then take time to address these issues, with better guidance from the Executive Committee.

Macpherson says that how we operate is not reflected in the current bylaws. His recommendation is to adopt the first two recommendations now. Currently, north residents vote for north candidates but it's not required by the bylaws. Even though resident isn't defined, it is sufficient for our purposes now and we can add to it later if we want to add a period of residency. The business delegation issue does need to be better addressed. Kalla says that the subcommittee had intended for the resolutions to be put into place by this election. Kalla suggests that we adapt the definition of residency that St. Paul uses and waive the citizen requirement. Bryan says the Nominations Committee can address these concerns by asking voters to show an ID or a utility bill, which is what is required in St. Paul. Hanson asks whether we should go ahead and vote on the first proposal.

Macpherson moves, and Dodson seconds the motion: **St. Anthony Park Community Council approves the Bylaws Committee proposal for By-law 4.4.d.1: In order to eligible to vote in elections to select Directors (Delegates and Alternates), voters must meet the following**

criteria: A voter must be a resident of the District. Motion passes unanimously, with one abstention.

Macpherson then moves, and Kalla seconds the motion: **St. Anthony Park Community Council approves the Bylaws Committee proposal for By-law 4.4.d.2: Residents who live in North St. Anthony Park may vote only for delegates who will represent North St. Anthony Park and residents who live in South St. Anthony Park may vote only for delegates who will represent South St. Anthony Park (as those districts are defined in Article 4.2).**

Discussion: Bryan says he is opposed to the motion due to the philosophical distinction implied between North and South St. Anthony Park. This is no longer the community issue it once was, the differences are insignificant. Dodson says he agrees with Bryan, and that people in each part of the neighborhood should be interested in each other's candidates. Woodall says she also agrees, and says there is currently more of a difference in the eastern and western parts of South St. Anthony. Macpherson says he is not in disagreement with these points, but this split occurs in several sections of the bylaws and we need further discussion and community input before making this sort of change. Kalla says we can always revisit this issue later, and points out that we currently have people in the middle of a two year term. Weber calls the question. Motion fails with 4 in favor, 5 opposed and 2 abstentions.

Haley moves and Bryan seconds the motion: **St Anthony Park Community Council agrees to table the remaining bylaw changes on the agenda.** Discussion: Kalla says this is a mistake, it now leaves things too much in the hands of the Nominations and Elections Committee. Motion passes with 1 opposed and one abstention.

Macpherson expresses frustration, and asks what we are supposed to do now for the upcoming election? A few moments of confusion. Macpherson moves and Kalla seconds a motion to approve the proposal for by-law 4.4.d.2, with a provision to ask the by-laws committee to examine the North/South issue. Axelson points out that the Nominations and Elections Committee does have documented procedures for running the election and that they take their job seriously. Kalla asks if Council could get a copy of those procedures? Hanson says it is getting late, and asks Macpherson to draft his motion in writing, and meanwhile Council will move onto the next agenda item, until the motion is ready.

Liquor license changes

Hanson says Senator Ellen Anderson is currently carrying a bill to remove the provision that addresses alcohol licenses in proximity to the State Fairgrounds and is willing to amend it to include removing the St. Paul campus provision, as well. Executive Committee recommends we agree on a process to address this issue. Should we have a process for community input? She says regardless of our response, Senator Anderson plans on proceeding with this bill. Dodson says that the District 12 Plan already implicitly supports it. Weber says that this affects North St. Anthony more than South St. Anthony. Several agree that we should discuss it. Dodson suggests that we ask Land Use Committee to discuss it further and bring it back to the next meeting.

Proposed by-laws revisions, continued

Macpherson moves and ___ seconds the motion: **St. Anthony Park Community Council approves the revision to by-law 4.4.d.2 proposed by the Bylaws Committee, and that a Bylaws Committee be directed to consider removing the distinctions between North and South St. Anthony Park that currently exist in the Bylaws and propose recommended changes on or before February 1, 2008.**

Discussion: Haley asks whether we just tabled this motion? Dodson says the north and south distinction is a separate issue from garnering votes. Macpherson says the Bylaws divide us that way, and say that there will be delegates from each district. We have operated without a bylaw that says who votes for each delegate. We are addressing that issue, and for now we can't just remove this language. Haley says Council was originally set up for 2/3 residential and 1/3 business representation, and this has been a good model. Hanson points out that this motion directs the Bylaws Committee to address this. Motion passes with 2 opposed and no abstentions.

Interactive updates

Haselman says there is lots of community discussion currently happening around RockTenn, and he encourages community members to call RockTenn, and they can answer many questions.

Sparks says we still need more candidates for the April Board elections.

Meeting is adjourned at 9:15 pm. (Kalla moves, Haselman seconds)

Respectfully submitted,
Gregg Richardson, Secretary

St. Anthony Park Community Council
Board of Directors
Thursday, April 12, 2007
South St. Anthony Park Recreation Center
890 Cromwell Avenue (Territorial and Cromwell)
Draft Minutes (approved . . . , 2007)

Presiding: Ranae Hanson.

Board Members and Alternates Present: Ray Bryan, John Dodson, Chris Donaldson, Greg Haley, Chris Kalla, Brian Longley, Rick Macpherson, Paul Mix, Ferd Peters, Roger Purdy, Arnold Ramler, Gregg Richardson (recorder), Bruce Weber.

Board Members and Alternates Absent: Belinda Escalante, Steve Haselman, Jeff Huff, Hannah Longley, Lisa Nicholson, Mia Perron-Deeb, Emily Woodall.

Staff: Amy Sparks (Executive Director), Nina Axelson (Community Organizer).

Guests: Paul St. Martin, St Paul Public Works, Steven Mastey, SAPCC Traffic Calming Task Force, Kathleen Murphy, Better Ballot Campaign, Nancy Dilts, SAPCC Environment Committee, Jane Prince, City Councilmember Benanav's office.

Meeting opens at 7:00 p.m.

Consent agenda.

Haley moves and Macpherson seconds the motion: **St Anthony Park Community Council accepts the April 12, 2007 consent agenda.** Agenda includes the April 12 Council Agenda, March 8, 2007 Council minutes and three resolutions:

- A. St. Anthony Park Community Council recommends that the proposed LRT station at University and Carleton be named the St. Anthony Park Station.
- B. Motion to approve Pat Connolly as a member of the Land Use Committee
- C. Motion to approve Matt Hass as a member of the Environment Committee

Passes unanimously.

Raymond and Gordon traffic calming

Paul St. Martin of St. Paul Department of Public Works passes out a diagram of a proposed traffic calming project for the Raymond/Gordon intersection. The SAPCC Traffic Calming Task Force has been looking at three sites along Raymond Ave. and the accident at this intersection spurred quicker action. City is proposing a pedestrian refuge at Gordon. There is currently a crosswalk with school crossing signs, and the proposal is to install islands north and south of the intersection with 6 inch curbs, landscaping and additional signs, and to extend the no parking area to improve sight distance. The street needs to be wide enough to accommodate bikes. The cost will be about \$24,000, funded partly by Public Works and partly by Councilperson Benanav. Peters moves and B. Longley seconds the motion: **The St. Anthony Park Community Council supports the recommendation of the Raymond Avenue Traffic Calming Task Force to implement the City of St. Paul's design changes at the intersection of Raymond and Gordon Avenues.** Discussion: Peters asks whether southbound traffic is traveling too fast on Raymond? St. Martin says they did a traffic study at Raymond and Hampden and could do one here. They also have a couple of rotating signs they could try. Mix asks what sort of landscaping is proposed? Mastey of the Traffic Calming Task Force says it will be short and salt-tolerant, and they may get some money from the Capital Region Watershed District to do a depression to collect stormwater. Kalla asks whether they are trying to steer people to that crosswalk and away from other adjacent staggered streets? St. Martin says "No crossing" signs would not be effective. Kalla says he is more concerned about the island to the south. Donaldson calls the question. Motion passes with one abstention.

Instant runoff voting

Kathleen Murphy of the Better Ballot Campaign and a resident of St. Anthony Park describes voting problems in St. Paul. There is a non-partisan primary with very low turnout in the 15% range, which results in less diversity and a narrower candidate field. Voters don't vote for their preferred candidate, fearing they may help elect their least favored. Instant runoff voting (IRV) offers a better choice. It would replace the primary, allowing third party candidates to run. The winner has a clearer mandate and ends the "spoiler" problem. This could clean up campaigns and reduce polarization. IRV ranks candidates by preference and results in a winner with at least 50% of the vote. In each round, the candidate with the lowest vote total is eliminated, the candidate's votes are reassigned to the voters' second choices, and this continues iteratively until one candidate has 50%.

Weber asks whether she is looking for a resolution in support from SAPCC? Yes. Weber moves and B. Longley seconds the motion: **St. Anthony Park Community Council would like the St. Paul City Council to put Instant Runoff Voting on the ballot in St. Paul for consideration by voters.** Discussion: Peters says Minneapolis has adopted this, what are the results? Murphy says it has not been implemented yet. Kalla asks what are the criticisms against IRV? Murphy says she doesn't know, the only groups opposing it are special interests, and they haven't been able to get the major unions on board. Donaldson asks what the effect of caucuses would be? Murphy says none, but it would increase the importance of endorsements. Peters asks whether this has increased turnout elsewhere? Murphy says yes, where it has been used. Kalla asks whether this would work for multiple vacancies, for example on a school board? Murphy says yes, it will be used for Minneapolis School Board race, and organized differently, with a lower threshold. Resolution passes unanimously.

Board Education for the month

Bryan assumes chair for this item. Nancy Dilts, chair of the SAPCC Environment Committee leads Council in an exercise to describe the urban environment in St. Paul. This environment divides into natural, social and built environments. All three interact. Focusing specifically on the proposed Hampden Park project, the committee is considering connecting habitat in wildlife

corridors, naturalized plantings and paths connecting natural areas for people. Richardson describes the condition of current trees in the park. Many have been lost over the past decade due to damage caused by storms, lawnmowers, problems arising from improper planting and pruning, and mortality of non-native species not well-adapted to the area. Nearly half of remaining trees are seriously compromised, and are likely to be gone in another decade. Mastey describe the importance of native plants, adapted to local conditions, which don't require as much protection and provide resources for wildlife. Native grasses help conserve the soil and improve stormwater infiltration, and can be used in rainwater gardens. They also sequester carbon to help ameliorate climate warming. How widely they disperse seeds helps to determine their adaptation to the local area. Carefully designed native plantings don't necessarily have to look "wild," but can be incorporated into more formal plantings. Mastey provides handouts with examples. You can find plants with resistance to salt, drought, heat, etc. Money is available from various organizations for rainwater gardens.

Questions: Dodson asks whether earthworms, which are non-native are an invasive species? Mastey says he believes they have more negative impact on native woodland flowers. Dilts says the committee is asking how we can improve this space in a way that incorporates both recreation and naturalized areas. Weber recommends that the committee be sure to factor maintenance into the plan, that the city will certainly want plantings that are easily maintainable. Session ends with a time for Council members to talk to Environment Committee members individually.

Land Use Committee

Haley says SAPCC passed a motion several months ago in support of a proposed Transit-oriented Overlay District, but the city has passed an ordinance that would allow big-box retail, excluding areas east of the St. Anthony Park LRT stop, also the KSTP site, RockTenn site, and others.

Land Use restore the previous boundaries. He moves and Weber seconds the motion: **For the purposes of supporting the District 12 Plan, the St. Anthony Park Community Council supports the PED staff recommended interim ordinance for Central Corridor with the following exceptions:**

- 1. That the boundaries be as previously proposed by District 12 along University Avenue extending the northern boundary in D12 north to Territorial Road and vacated Territorial Road and extending the southern boundary in District 12 south to I94, and**
- 2. The industrial zone between Prior and Hampden not be exempted from the minimum Floor Area Ratio.**

Discussion: Peters asks why did PED make these exclusions? Haley says because they weren't near the station, and it sounds more political. Kalla asks if this is enacted, would there be a complete moratorium, or would it require a variance? Jane Prince of Councilmember Benanav's office says yes, it would require a variance. She believes that developers are looking at this area. The motion passes with one opposed.

Election results

Sparks reads the results of the election. Business delegation is not yet selected. Bryan moves and Haley seconds the motion: St Anthony Park Community Council accepts the results of the April 2007 Council elections. Discussion: Dodson asks whether we should publish the vote totals for each candidate? Peters says he doesn't believe that discussion is appropriate to this motion. Motion passes unanimously.

Dodson moves and Peters seconds the motion St. Anthony Park Community Council agrees to post to the SAPark listserv and the website the names and vote totals of all candidates. Discussion: Kalla says SAPCC is the only organization that doesn't publish vote totals, and there is no reason for anyone to be embarrassed by a low number of votes. Motion passes with one opposed and one abstention.

Hanson asks Council to adjourn early without finishing the agenda, due to substantial fumes in the building from the recently refinished gym floor. Council agrees.

Meeting is adjourned at 8:29 pm. (Peters moves, Haley seconds)

Respectfully submitted,
Gregg Richardson, Secretary

St. Anthony Park Community Council
Board of Directors
Thursday, May 10, 2007
South St. Anthony Park Recreation Center
890 Cromwell Avenue (Territorial and Cromwell)
Minutes approved June 14, 2007

Presiding: Ranae Hanson.

Board Members and Alternates Present: Ray Bryan, Matt Carlson, Vincent Chan, Chris Donaldson, Greg Haley, Chris Kalla, Brian Longley, Hannah Longley, Jackie Lunde, Rick Macpherson, Paul Mix, Ferd Peters, Roger Purdy, Gregg Richardson (recorder), Emily Woodall.

Board Members and Alternates Absent: Steve Haselman, Arnold Ramler.

Staff: Amy Sparks (Executive Director), Nina Axelson (Community Organizer).

Guests. Harry Boyte, Humphrey Center; Traci Warnberg-Lemm, SAPCC Community Connections Committee; Matt Hass, SAPCC Environment Committee; John Dodson, Treasurer; Linda Jungwirth, County Commissioner Janice Rettman's office.

Meeting opens at 7:00 p.m.

Consent agenda.

Purdy moves and B. Longley seconds the motion: **St Anthony Park Community Council accepts the May 10, 2007 consent agenda.** Agenda includes the May 10 Council meeting agenda, April 12, 2007 Council meeting minutes and a resolution approving Ed Elliot as a member of the Land Use Committee. Kalla makes a motion to add a discussion of recent Community Council election issues to the agenda, Mix seconds. Motion fails with 4 in favor, 6 opposed, and 2 abstentions. Kalla asks for point of personal privilege, granted by chair Hanson. Kalla resigns from Council and leaves the meeting. Motion to approve consent agenda passes unanimously

Board Education for the month

Traci Warnberg-Lemm, of the SAPCC Community Connections Committee, says the committee is relatively new, and started with only a few members. They have been discussing what we mean by citizen participation, and reviews the committee's 2007 goals. Woodall says the committee is also reinvigorating the blockworker program, creating packets for block club leaders, and reaching out to multi-unit housing residents. Axelson says that there have been several incarnations of the blockworker program over the years, and that Woodall is doing great work on this, to the applause of Council. Warnberg-Lemm then introduces the speaker Harry Boyte of the Humphrey Center, and a SAP resident.

Boyte shares some of his biographical background. He says that just as few people believed that there was a civil rights movement in the 1950s, we may also not be aware that we are entering a new era of civic involvement. The neighborhood movement started in the 1970s. He hands out photographic images of New Deal era public art. These programs were a response to the Great Depression of the 1930s, and reflect community energy in response to social and economic challenges. He then passes out images of more contemporary George Segal public statues. These seem to reflect isolation and apathy. This, he says, is the era we are leaving now, and moving into a new era of energy, participation, and activism. He hands out a sheet charting three models of politics, citizenship and democracy—“liberal,” communitarian and populist models. He says we are returning to the idea that government is our partner, not our fixer. Talking about bigger ideas is part of the great tradition of American civic life.

Questions: Sparks asks why he thinks participation is going up not down? Boyte says there are some studies showing decline, but others showing countertrends. Purdy asks whether there is a way to get the government to lead more, and is that good? Boyte says it is a disaster to pretend that government can fix our problems, but also wrong to presume that government *is* our problem—it is a partnership. Hanson asks how this affects what we do? Warnberg-Lemm says that the more the Board can process the idea of citizen participation, the better. Axelson says the Board is elected by a very small percentage of the neighborhood. We should ask how else we can represent and engage our neighbors. Richardson asks whether Community Connections can post some selected resources on our web site? Warnberg-Lemm says we need to think about how to make this part of our community “DNA.”

Environment Committee

Axelson says that the RockTenn Interested Neighborhoods (RTIN) group was created by SAPCC, and introduces Matt Hass of the SAPCC Environment Committee, who is SAPCC’s representative on the group. The St. Paul Port Authority will be overseeing the balance of stakeholders’ voices on this issue, and we’re recommending the formation of a RockTenn Community Advisory Committee (CAC) to facilitate this. The legislature has approved a bill allocating \$4 million to do research on the energy options. Axelson has already sent out an FAQ document to the Council on this proposal.

Questions: Peters asks whether the bill passed by the legislature excludes RDFs (Refuse Derived Fuels)? Axelson says no, only municipal solid waste. Peters asks whether the bill requires public input? Axelson says yes, a great deal. Bryan moves and Richardson seconds the motion:

Whereas Rock Tenn Interested Neighbors (RTIN) was created by the St. Anthony Park Community Council; and

Whereas St. Anthony Park Community Council has provided representation and staff time to RTIN meetings and initiatives; and

Whereas RTIN came together to share information, promote environmentally progressive energy sources, consider long-term potential health impacts, and monitor the planning and permitting of the Rock-Tenn energy proposals in order to protect the common interests of our neighborhoods; and

Whereas RTIN has outlined a purpose, structure and function for the Rock-Tenn Community Advisory Committee; and

Whereas this Community Advisory Committee structure has been created with input from Senator Ellen Anderson, the Port Authority, District Energy and Rock-Tenn; and

Whereas the membership structure will consist of District Councils 11, 12, 13, and 14, Rock-Tenn, City of St. Paul, District Energy, St. Paul Port Authority, Ramsey County, and 5 at-large representatives, to be appointed by the current members of Rock-Tenn Interested Neighbors; and

Whereas the current structure allows for substantial District Council and community representation and input; and

Whereas the current structure and legislation for funding places the decision making authority in the hands of the District Councils; and

Whereas the intent of the Community Advisory Committee is to discuss fuel selection, construction and traffic mitigation, final outcomes of the Environmental Assessment Worksheet and Environmental Impact Statement, including final determinations for energy choices and funding, and scope of energy supply and production; and

Whereas the Community Advisory Committee meetings will be open to the public; therefore

Be it resolved the St. Anthony Park Community Council approves the purpose, membership structure, and function proposed for the Rock-Tenn Community Advisory Committee and delegates authority to Rock-Tenn Interested Neighbors to finalize the negotiations for this agreement.

The motion passes unanimously.

By-laws revisions

Executive Committee is making a recommendation for creating several by-laws changes. Bryan moves, and Purdy seconds a motion:

Executive Committee recommends that a bylaws subcommittee be created to:

- 1. Define resident**
- 2. Make recommendations regarding changes to business delegation which propose alternatives to the Midway Chamber appointments**
- 3. Make a recommendation regarding maintaining [or changing] current delegations (North, South, Business) after considering option(s) such as a grid system**
- 4. Make recommendations regarding maintaining or changing system of delegates and alternates. (Should alternates be retained or should all members be delegates? If so, should we maintain the existing quorum or revise it?)**
- 5. Put together specific language that would be in the bylaws as well as identify related portions of bylaws that would need to be revised.**

Hanson offers a friendly amendment to add the words “or changing” in recommendation number three, accepted by Bryan and Purdy. *[Secretary’s note: This change appears in square brackets in the motion above.]* Motion passes unanimously. Former Council member Suzanne Garfield has volunteered to be on this committee, and Hanson asks for more volunteers. Macpherson, Peters, Longley, and Mix volunteer. Council agrees.

Treasurer John Dodson says he has only received the annual financial statement for form 990 from the accountant yesterday, so he is not ready to recommend approval, because he is uncertain about some of the numbers. Peters says the balance sheet page does not add up, and believes it is because the purchase price of the community gardens has been omitted. He says that these 990 forms are posted by the state and are searchable, so many people look at the mission statements printed in them. Sparks says we can file for an extension and bring it back to the full Board next month. Hanson asks whether the Executive Committee can act on it when they have all the information? Richardson says that as Directors, we are all legally liable, so the full Board should vote on it. Peters moves and Purdy seconds a motion that Sparks ask for a filing extension. Passes unanimously.

Caucuses

Council breaks for a period of delegation caucuses. After the meeting reconvenes, the new chairs are announced: Purdy will chair the NSAP delegation, Hanson will chair the SSAP delegation, and Bryan will chair the business delegation. Chairs are applauded. Richardson is willing to run for Secretary again. Dodson's term on Council has ended, and there are no volunteers for Treasurer. Dodson is willing to continue as interim Treasurer, until Council finds a new one, since by-laws do not require Treasurer to be a Council member. The business delegation will try to recruit a new Treasurer. Haley moves, and Purdy seconds the motion: **Council approves Gregg Richardson as Secretary, and John Dodson as interim Treasurer for the 2007-2008 term.** Passes unanimously.

Interactive updates

Sparks says the U of M has purchased land north of KSTP for a busway stop. Dodson asks who bought the Korean church on Buford and Cleveland to use for parking? Peters says the new townhouse development on Long has broken ground. Purdy says there has been good public attendance at the Como 2030 meetings, some 50-60 people. Lots of good ideas were generated, and there was a panel of several local business people. Residents seem to know that if we want something positive to happen along Como, we need to work more actively. One of the barriers to development is shortage of parking. Hanson says we should be thinking about housing opportunities for downsizing neighborhood retirees. It is difficult to build affordable new construction. Macpherson says one way to address this is a community development corporation, rather than other developers who need to make a bigger profit. We do have money in this community that may be available for investment. Bryan wonders whether the church at Buford and Cleveland may be developed as affordable housing? Macpherson says that we need to keep an eye on developments regarding the Pierce-Butler route extension, as that still seems to be moving. Sparks says she doesn't think it is moving right now, and that we are keeping an eye on the transportation study task force. Purdy says we do need to look at our elections procedures for next year. Axelson says she has made a summary of recommendations by the Nominations and Elections Committee. Peters says Carleton Lofts are selling well, and the new Catholic Charities building is nearing completion. The two new business delegates are asked to introduce themselves. Jackie Lunde is the manager of the Subway on University, and Vincent Chan operates Victor Real Estate. Council welcomes them

Meeting is adjourned at 8:58 pm. (Mix moves, Purdy seconds)

Respectfully submitted,
Gregg Richardson, Secretary

St. Anthony Park Community Council
Board of Directors

Thursday, June 14, 2007
South St. Anthony Park Recreation Center
890 Cromwell Avenue (Territorial and Cromwell)
Draft Minutes (approved . . . , 2007)

Presiding: Ray Bryan.

Board Members and Alternates Present: Vincent Chan, Chris Donaldson, Greg Haley, Steve Haselman, Brian Longley, Jackie Lunde, Rick Macpherson, Jason Merkel, Paul Mix, Ferd Peters, Roger Purdy, Arnold Ramler, Gregg Richardson (recorder),.

Board Members and Alternates Absent: Matt Carlson, Ranae Hanson, Hannah Longley, Emily Woodall.

Staff: Amy Sparks (Executive Director), Nina Axelson (Community Organizer).

Guests. Linda Jungwirth, County Commissioner Janice Rettman's office; Joe Spencer, Mayor Coleman's office, Jack Groktin.R.J. Ryan;

Bryan opens the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Consent agenda.

Bryan pulls the meeting agenda for adjustment. Haley moves and Donaldson seconds a motion to accept the consent agenda. Motion passes unanimously. Consent agenda includes following motions:

Land Use Resolutions

- St. Anthony Park Community Council supports the change of liquor license at Café Biaggio from wine/beer to hard liquor
- St. Anthony Park Community Council approves passage of a combined plat to create five industrial parcels at 2340 Capp Road and 2325 Endicott Street

Environment Committee Resolution

- Approve new environment committee member Megan Manhatton
- SAPCC encourages the City of St. Paul to use native plantings, whenever possible, for median installations along Raymond Avenue.

Executive Committee Resolutions

- Approve Ferd Peters as interim treasurer
- Voluntary Contributions Policy
- Approve Jason Merkel as South St. Anthony Park alternate

New South St Anthony Park delegate Jason Merkel introduces himself.

Three items added to agenda, agenda passes unanimously.

CSM building construction

Jack Grotkin of R.J.Ryan Construction is building a second building on the CSM property on Energy Park Drive, west of Raymond, and has new drawings that were not available for the last Land Use Committee meeting. New building footprint will be 20,000 sq. feet, three stories, one third the size of the original footprint. They are adding two new stormwater ponds, so all stormwater runoff will be contained.

Questions: Bryan says the plan originally was to add a pedestrian connection toward the ponds west of TH280. Ratkin was unaware of this, is willing to talk to the Environment Committee about it. Purdy asks about landscaping. Ratkin describes retaining walls and ponds, plus a fountain. Axelson asks about vegetation mix. Mix asks about intended purpose of the building? Secure Computing will be using the entire building. Ramler asks whether retention ponds are

adequate for unusually wet years? Ratkin replies that there are now more retention requirements than there used to be. Purdy asks about the construction schedule? Will start mid-July and end the first of February. Axelson asks about potential for interior light pollution, that was initially a problem with the first building—this building will be taller, light could be more of a problem. They'll follow up. Windows can use darker glass.

Park Midway Bank construction

Bryan says bank submitted a request at Land Use meeting to try to work a deal with Luther Seminary for additional employee parking, which required a conditional use permit (CUP). Discussion: Macpherson says he voted against the request because of concerns about meeting parking requirements, not by increasing capacity, but trading off existing parking. Haley says zoning allows this if there is a long term lease. Lunde says the bank pointed out that there was usually plenty of space in the seminary lot. Bryan says a neighbor said he frequently sees that lot full. Purdy says the Lutheran church's parking problems are often from other sources. Mix said he had asked how many employees would be driving, and was told there would be an extra 8-15 spaces required—do we really know? Bryan says the bank wanted to pull additional University Avenue employees back to the Como building, and that will also add more customers. Merkel says the numbers are retrospective, but future needs are probably a better measure—is a shorter lease possible? Bryan says the city requires a ten year lease. Lunde says the city is only requiring 5 spaces, but they are adding 7 voluntarily. Haley moves and Mix seconds the motion: **St Anthony Park Community Council approves the Conditional Use Permit permitting shared commercial parking in Luther Seminary's parking lots.** Discussion: Macpherson cautions that we need to be careful about approving added use without parking. Axelson says this issue is going to be a big part of the Como 2030 initiative discussion. Purdy says we will be discussing more shared parking in the future. Mix asks are we representing the views of the citizens, or trying to make good decisions on behalf of the citizens? Merkel asks whether others can use this lot outside of Bank hours? Yes. Motion passes with two opposed and one abstention.

Board's fiduciary responsibility

Peters offers handouts from the Minnesota Attorney general's office. Board fiduciary duties are very serious, as news of problems at other district councils has made clear. Board tax liabilities could become personal liabilities for individual board members. Duties are care, loyalty and obedience to law. Important to clarify internal controls in small organizations, to separate duties as much as possible. Sparks describes the recent problems in the Highland District Council. They had not been paying into payroll taxes or filing 990 forms. Initially the problem was thought to be \$30,000 liability, now closer to \$90,000, and board members are responsible. Peters says the treasurer should report regularly to the Executive Committee. Sparks asks whether we should review internal controls? Richardson says yes. In Executive Committee? Yes. Lunde asks who writes checks? The accountant, and the Board chair signs them. Who reconciles the account? The accountant—this should be changed. Haselman says on another board he serves on, the board approves all checks and there is an annual audit. Sparks says full audits were too expensive for our budget, but we did do a financial review. Haselman asks whether we have errors and omissions insurance. Peters says we should look into that. Macpherson says he doesn't believe it is necessary for the board to approve every check, it is a drain on our resources. That's why we have a treasurer and Executive Committee. Former treasurer John Dodson has done a good job of reporting. Bryan agrees, he signs checks every two weeks, and requiring the board to approve would create a hardship in paying bills. Macpherson reiterates that we as a board are not responsible for every check, that's why we are a corporation, there are some specific things we are responsible for. Peters says that only exception is federal and state trust funds, and there are legal defenses if this happens. Haley says he is satisfied with

the current delegation of powers and responsibilities. Sparks says there is a weakness in the lack of training for the Executive Director. Haley says we should see if the city can help.

Review and accept annual 990 form

Sparks says that Peters and John Dodson found some errors in the financial report, and the accountant has corrected them. Peters says this shows how much support we get publicly and privately. Macpherson asks whether there are restrictions on the sale or use of the community garden lands? Peters says no. Macpherson says so this is the board's responsibility—we could decide to sell it or not? Peters suggests that we could get a conservation easement—this might be a future topic for the board to consider.

Bryan makes a motion, and Mix seconds: **St. Anthony Park Community Council approves the annual state form 990 as presented.** Passes unanimously.

“What’s New” photo project

Sparks says What’s New? is a two-year project by Overexposure Media to artistically document the changing demographics of Twin Cities neighborhoods. Photographers will work with specific neighborhoods, and we would have rights to some of the resulting photos for one year. She has a contract from them. Axelson says Community Connections Committee looked at this project, but there wasn't enough information available to make a decision.

Discussion: Mix asks what do they need Council for? Axelson says we help them connect their art to the community. Mix asks who owns the photos after one year? Axelson replies, the photographer. Macpherson says he likes the idea, but is concerned with the one-year limit. What if we want access to some photos later, or to use them in a brochure or website? Longley says they are making a living, and we should buy them if we want them. Merkel asks when the year begins? Not sure. Lunde is concerned that we don't know the provisions of the partnership agreement. Purdy points out that we are only deciding whether to apply to the program, not assured that we would be accepted. Richardson points out that they will have artistic control, and can choose whatever pictures they want to represent our community. Bryan moves, and Longley seconds a motion: **St. Anthony Park Community Council authorize the Executive Director to apply for the What’s New photography project, sponsored by Overexposure.** Sparks reads the partnership agreement information. Chan asks how negotiable are these terms. Sparks believes they are not. It seems like a lot of commitment for only a one year use of photos. Motion passes with 7 in favor, 2 opposed, and 4 abstentions.

Raymond Ave. Traffic calming

Axelson reports that the Raymond Ave. traffic calming CIB request is moving forward to the city this spring. The bike lane striping project was not part of it. We requested CIB funds for a traffic study and changes at Hampden Park and at Long. We should hear something by the end of June. Raymond is a county road with city maintenance. Paul St. Martin wants to submit a proposal for all of Raymond under a Met Council program, with a deadline of July 13. Macpherson asks whether this is instead of the CIB request? Axelson says, no in addition to. Richardson asks whether Met Council would draw the plans. Axelson says no, still the city. Purdy asks whether there could be a downside to this? Axelson says it could always result in a bad design that we don't want, but that St. Martin has been very responsive to our desires so far. Bryan moves, and Richardson seconds the motion: **St. Anthony Park Community Council supports the Department of Public Works submitting the Raymond Avenue streetscaping and traffic calming improvements to the Metropolitan Council Regional Solicitation of Federal Transportation Projects. This support is contingent on SAPCC reviewing the final proposal before its submission on July 13.** Motion passes unanimously.

District Council funding formula

Sparks provides a handout on the proposed new District Council funding formula. District 12 has not received an increase in 7 years. As we replace our community organizer, we may not have the funds necessary to hire a new one. There are questions whether our fall home tour can really raise as much as we have budgeted. The new formula would raise our base funding by \$5,000. Richardson notes that the executive directors' previous attempts to revise the formula were very contentious, were they in consensus this time? Sparks says yes. Macpherson says that this year the base will give us a \$5000 increase, but the formula itself would decrease our funding. Sparks says all Councils will get at least the base of \$42,000. Are we agreeing to a formula that will hurt us in the future? Sparks says that this is the existing formula, they are just raising the base funding. Haley moves, and Mix seconds the motion: **St Anthony Park Community Council supports the proposed revised District Council allocation formula.** The motion passes with 1 abstention.

Interactive updates

Axelson says there is a RockTenn forum sponsored by Neighbors Against the Burner at Macalester College next week. The RockTenn Citizen Advisory Committee will be meeting soon. Axelson will be working as an independent contractor for District Energy to get it running. Sparks says the Executive Committee discussed this. The CAC wants a full-time staff person. There are different ways this could be configured. One would be that Axelson contracts directly with the Port Authority. A second would be that the Port Authority contracts with us to expand our programs to cover this committee. There are activist groups strongly opposed to even discussing this, and they will be opposed to our involvement. Axelson says the Port Authority got \$4 million from the state to research this over the next six months. The legislature says the Districts 11, 12 and 13 get to approve the project—this is a very unusual approach. Haselman says that RockTenn wanted to do this very transparently. Sparks is contacting the Port Authority for more details.

After a few brief announcements, the meeting is adjourned at 9:02 pm. (Haley moves, Longley seconds)

Respectfully submitted,
Gregg Richardson, Secretary

St. Anthony Park Community Council
July 12, 2007
890 Cromwell Ave
Draft Minutes

Present: Matt Carlson, Brian Longley, Hannah Longley, Roger Purdy, Chris Donaldson, Ranae Hanson, Emily Woodall, Jason Merkel, Ray Bryan, Jackie Lunde

Visitors: Matt Hass, Erin Bonner, Brandon Wiarda, John Dodson, Vlad Fogel, Joleen Rudeen, Joe Spensor

Liquor Licenses

Consent agenda moved by Purdy, seconded by Longley. Approved unanimously.

City Budget Update

Joe Spenser from Mayor Coleman's office gave an overview on the city budget. There are huge challenges with no easy fixes. They are predicting a 15\$ million deficit for fiscal year 2007. Although tax bills are up, it is not due to City taxes increasing. The city tax rates were held flat for 12 years. The State has not increased local government aid in the latest state budget which will have a very negative impact on City revenue. Expenses have shot up due to inflation. August through December, the City Council will consider the budget. The Mayor will be offering his version in an August 14 budget message. To comment, go to www.Stpaul.gov or 651 251-8510. Questions were answered about Port Authority revenue and commercial taxes.

Quarterly financials

John Dodson presented last quarter financials. Net current assets \$46926 on 30 Jun down from \$47130 on 31 Mar but year end 2006 was \$46,700. We do have a line of credit that could support one month of salaries. Budget not rosy nor in need of urgent action either

The home tour is not on the docket for fund raising as of now for this year since there is no one to lead it. Approval of report moved by Purdy, seconded by Longley. Unanimous approval.

A discussion of fund raising followed. Hanson wants to brainstorm some fund-raising options. Woodall suggested splitting the tour responsibilities. Lunde suggested sponsoring something like a realtor – that runs the tour while proceeds still go to SAPCC, Longley suggests every member of board be assigned to a specific part of the tour. Chair suggests an ad-hoc committee to come back with fund raiser options. Emily Woodall and Brian Longley agree,

Rock-Tenn:

Axelson and Matt Hass presented information on the Rock Tenn issue and the Rock Tenn Community Advisory Panel.. This issue involves public health, energy and environmental concerns as well as loss of recycling locally. Rock Tenn sits on 43 acres on central corridor..

The Xcel plant closing has been known for 2 years and the Rock Tenn plant will be bringing on line #6 fuel oil boilers for replacement which will generate greater amounts of airborne carcinogenic particulates than the current natural gas plant. Refuse derived fuel will be part of study but solid waste is not in study. Neighbors Against the Burner wants no burner at all.

Matt Hass will be serving on the Rock Tenn Community Advisory Panel. Nina will serve as staff to this group to provide communication and liaison. See the FAQ sheet that Nina provided. RCAP will not make a recommendation nor approve any option - the district councils will have that role.

Axelson said that environmental review is important but the decisions for this will have critical effects upon future development in the area – SAPCC needs to keep an ear to this issue and process information as it comes.

Land Use

A liquor license will be requested for the Metro Lofts project on University (across from KSTP). There is usually a 45 day waiting period for liquor licenses--on Wellington/Metrolofts restaurant project land use forwarded recommendation to SAPCC recommend approval of the 45 day waiver this was not unanimous vote at LU . The restaurant will be upscale with liquor. In addition, next to the restaurant will be pizza place with take out—possibly a Pizza Man franchise or open their own. The restaurant will include locally grown fresh produce and finest ingredients \$ 7-9 meals in restaurant. In an effort to respect residential neighbors, there will be no live music. There will be 82 seats in the restaurant; 10 stools at the bar.

Purdy moved and Donaldson seconded approval of the 45 day waiver. Passed unanimously .

Rock Tenn Contract:

A draft contract with the Port Authority was presented. the Legislature mandated that there be a citizen participation process in the Rock Tenn energy decision. Axelson explained the draft contract. District Energy has hired her to begin the role of getting the Rock Tenn Community Advisory Panel process started.

It has been proposed that we hire Axelson as a contract employee to manage the Rock Tenn community process. She would be assisting the work of the Rock Tenn Community Advisory Panel. The dollars would come through the Port Authority from the State of MN. The proposed contract was reviewed by the Board.

There was a question about work product and one about the mailing list. It was suggested that the mailing list should not become property of the Port Authority because these contacts would not be seen as confidential to people signing up on the list of attendees.

Purdy said that an umbrella for information would be beneficial. It is a hot seat for controversy but is important that information must be free flowing, fair and unbiased— if we are the administrator., we can ensure that this happens.

Donaldson proposes motion re approval with following provisions: Jason 2nd

Lunde proposes such financial protections as provisions
-SAPCC asserts neutrality
-that we have a 30-day termination clause instead of a 5 day one
-costs incurred prior to termination of contract will still be honored

Motion passed unanimously.

Motion to adjourn H, Longley 2nd B. Longley passed unanimously

Minutes submitted by Ray Bryan.

St. Anthony Park Community Council
Board of Directors
Thursday, August 9, 2007
South St. Anthony Park Recreation Center
890 Cromwell Avenue (Territorial and Cromwell)
Draft Minutes (approved . . . , 2007)

Presiding: Ranae Hanson.

Board Members and Alternates Present: Ray Bryan, Matt Carlson, Chris Donaldson, Greg Haley, Brian Longley, Jackie Lunde, Paul Mix, Arnold Ramler, Gregg Richardson (recorder), Emily Woodall.

Board Members and Alternates Absent: Vincent Chan, Hannah Longley, Jason Merkel, Rick Macpherson, Ferd Peters, Roger Purdy,.

Staff: Amy Sparks (Executive Director), Renee Lepreau (Community Organizer).

Guests: Joe Kiesling, Ned Wesenburg, Unidentified representative of BP.

Meeting opens at 7:02 p.m.

Consent agenda.

Sparks introduces Renee Lepreau as the new Community Organizer. Donaldson moves and Purdy seconds the motion: **St Anthony Park Community Council accepts the May 10, 2007 consent agenda.** Agenda includes the August 10th Council meeting agenda, July 2007 Council meeting minutes, and Land Use Committee resolutions supporting sound variances for the Saints stadium on September 1st and 21st, and a sound variance for outdoor music at 2350 Territorial on August 15th. Sparks asks for the meeting agenda to be pulled from the consent agenda for an adjustment. Motion to approve the remaining consent agenda passes unanimously. Bryan moves and Woodall seconds a motion to move Chuck Repke's presentation to the top of the meeting agenda. Motion to approve the meeting agenda as amended passes unanimously.

RockTenn/Port Authority contract

The Council is considering a role sponsoring the information dissemination function for the RockTenn Community Advisory Panel (RCAP), which would be funded by the St. Paul Port Authority, and which would hire former SAPCC community organizer Nina Axelson as an independent contractor to provide the staff support. Chuck Repke, chair of the District 2 Council, and a lobbyist for District Energy, says that Councils need to deal with controversial issues. He encourages SAPCC to communicate with neighbors on the RockTenn energy issue. He admits that some will be irritated at SAPCC for mediating rather than advocating on the issue. Also should make sure there is enough money to cover administrative responsibilities, and insurance. Other agencies and community development corporations play this role frequently, but district councils don't as much. He encourages SAPCC to remember that we will have authority to supervise the staff person, as well as a right to fire them—this vests more power in the community, not just the Port Authority.

Questions: Hanson asks whether we are actually supervising the position? Sparks says we are "monitoring" more than "supervising." Hanson says that Council should look at three points: 1)

gathering information; 2)benefits; 3)drawbacks. Donaldson says that the independence of the staff person means we have no control over her approach—it is worth noting that the funds came from the legislature, so they hold the power, and that makes him more comfortable. The independent contractor makes her own decisions, we only make sure she abides by her contract. Ramler asks what are our liabilities? Donaldson says very little—we can't take a position. Richardson points out that this is true only until the process is complete, then we need to take a position one way or another. Lunde says she hopes that this RCAP staff support role is to not take a position. She asks whether we are reimbursed for our staff time in contract enforcement? Sparks says yes, \$300 per month in administrative costs. Hanson asks whether Sparks can really limit her administrative time to what equals 3 hours per week? And this doesn't count SAPCC volunteer time. Repke encourages council to separate out the fact that this is in our district, and we will have to deal with it in some way regardless. Sparks says we have a Board decision to make, and there's the RCAP, and we're not supervising, so the line of authority is unclear. Repke says that the Port Authority is getting a kick in the rear from us as district council, and we need to give the staff person feedback. Ramler asks who the staff person ultimately answers to? The RCAP and this contract. Sparks reiterates that we have the ability to fire. Repke says it takes two (SAPCC and Port Authority) to hire, and one to fire. Either SAPCC or the Port Authority could fire her if dissatisfied. Lunde asks whether RockTenn can fire? Sparks says the Port Authority can. Lunde says that this should be in her contract. Ramler asks whether there will be net profit for SAPCC? Hanson answers that Sparks will need to give up 3 hours per week of our other work. She says as an Executive Committee member, she already sees the stress this extra responsibility puts on us. Sparks says the agreement is dated to begin September 3. Donaldson moves, and Bryan seconds the resolution: **The St. Anthony Park Community Council approves the contract with the Port Authority for outreach via the Rock Tenn Community Advisory Council.** Passes unanimously.

Nina Axelson contract

Lunde asks how will Axelson report hours? Sparks says Axelson will provide invoices to Sparks. Lunde asks about a line under compensation that Axelson will not exceed the allocated \$100,000. Sparks says she will add a clause referencing the printed budget in the Port Authority contract. Lunde moves, and Donaldson seconds the motion: **St Anthony Park Community Council approves the Nina Axelson Professional Services Agreement with St. Anthony Park Community Council, as presented with amendments:**

- 1. Not to exceed attached budget without additional approval from SAPCC**
- 2. Consultant understands that SAPCC is not able to contribute more than three hours a week to supervision of this contract.**

Passes unanimously.

Light Rail update

Rita Rodriguez of the Metropolitan Council Says the draft Environmental Impact Statement of June 2006 examined proposed routes of the LRT, and the preliminary engineering is on track. Final design should be finished in 2009, then federal funding needs approved, and construction would begin in 2010. A wide range of people support the LRT, some are opposed and some are neutral. She is the Met Council representative for our area, including Fairview, Raymond and Westgate stops. Preliminary engineering should take two years, is currently 5% finished, when it's 30% finished, they can apply for federal funds. Current discussion around whether the LRT can go over the new I35W bridge. Another big question is a tunnel on Washington Avenue. Hiawatha line far exceeded expected ridership, they will learn to anticipate more on University Avenue. Funding will be 50% federal, 33% state and 12% county. Met Council is focusing on the rail itself, the city will address the surrounding land use issues.

Questions: Bryan says there is talk of insufficient physical support for the campus bridge—will that hold up the project? Rodriguez doesn't think so, they were already considering that. Ramler asks what has been already decided? Rodriguez says there will be 33 trains, down the center of University Ave., and 16 stations. There are concerns about parking and not taking any houses or businesses. Parking may be eliminated in the vicinity of stations. Haley asks about the cap on total funding—will the Washington Ave. bridge, etc., be funded elsewhere? Rodriguez says no, we have to cut costs somewhere or we won't qualify for federal funds.

Changes to Como-Raymond BP site plan

Haley says Ned Wesenberg and the BP representatives presented a site plan at the Land Use Committee meeting, and the plan was approved by the St. Paul Planning Commission, but Wesenberg wants to change four items in the plan. Land Use did not approve this new plan unanimously, and the presentation was confusing and the items that were requested did not match the plan that was presented. Donaldson asks how accurate is this current plan? Joe Kiesling from BP points out changes on the plan. Visitor Erik Jordan, a neighbor of the BP, points to reductions in the number of plantings, some of which are considerably fewer than the original plan as approved. Haley expresses frustration that there still seems to be many differences between these plans and the actual intention as stated by Joe Kiesling, and the presentation does not seem to be addressing the discrepancies. He believes that Council is not being told exactly what is going on, and asks whether this is primarily about saving costs. Wesenberg says he is willing to spend whatever it costs, but he is primarily concerned about safety issues on the corner. Mix agrees and says he does not want to obscure the view at that corner. Richardson says that turning south from eastbound Como onto Raymond is already dangerous due to a curve and yield sign rather than a stop sign, so drivers are trying to merge into traffic over their left shoulders, while often confronted at the same time with pedestrians crossing the curve from their right. Donaldson asks whether we are voting on the same site plan the city would be considering? Ramler asks whether Wesenberg is funding this project himself. Wesenberg says yes. Carlson says that this is really a single issue that can't be separated—aesthetics vs. safety. Jordan says there have already been several opportunities to discuss safety. Mix and Bryan disagree with that. It's pointed out that the original designer Steve Mastey says that adding vertical vegetation would slow traffic, and that those contradicting that are challenging highway engineering practice. Donaldson says we should forget the original plan and discuss this one only. He believes we should support the changes in parking places, and the change to allow supply trucks to turn around. Haley says this is not necessarily a whole new ballgame, because there is still a previously approved plan. The neighborhood also has many other buildings and corners that are not safe. A representative from from BP says that obscuring the corner also increases the potential for vandalism, by making it more difficult for police surveillance from the street. Jordan says on the truck turning radius issue, we're being asked to rely only on the site owner's assertion. Bryan temporarily assumes chair, so Hanson can speak. Hanson says we have a mistaken notion that everything has to be flat to be safe. She is also frustrated that BP is claiming that there are only two changes, when there are really numerous changes. Lunde says she doesn't see that there were other changes that were not pointed out. The changes in plantings were mostly to accommodate the needs of truck turning radius. Hanson makes a motion, and Donaldson seconds:

**St. Anthony Park
Community Council approves the following changes to the Como Raymond BP site plan:**

- 1) change in orientation of the four north stalls**
- 2) leave the curb as it currently exists on site which means a reduction in the landscaping as presented on the approved site plan for the area.**

This does not include changes in landscaping to other parts of the site plan.

Several questions about what is actually being requested. Mix asks if we can just vote on the plan as it appears on the paper? Sparks points out that that is not the motion on the floor. Richardson says he is abstaining because he doesn't understand what we are voting on. Motion passes with 5 in favor, 3 opposed and 1 abstention.

Home tour fundraiser

There is a committee willing to work on the home tour. All Board members will still be required to volunteer this year.

I35W bridge collapse

Lepreau reports that Minnesota Pollution Control Agency is waiving noise standards, and the Federal Highway Administration is waiving air and water quality standards adjacent to TH280 in response to the collapse. Mississippi Watershed Management Organization will monitor water quality in the adjacent ponds. Bridge debris will be hauled to Bolander in the industrial park east of Raymond. MPCA may still enforce jake-braking bans. There will probably be no resurfacing of TH280. Bryan asks if anyone talked to the state or county about traffic problems on Raymond. Lepreau did talk to Senator Ellen Anderson, who said please call her with traffic concerns. Mix asks if there is a way to require prescribed truck routes for hauling to Bolander? Lunde asks whether we can get a patrol officer to override traffic signals during peak hours at problem intersections? She asks whether we can do this in anticipation of the I94 closing next weekend? Carlson says to start with the St Paul Western District supervisor. Sparks says the city is so far not on top of this at all. The mayor was just briefed by MNDOT today. Hanson asks if the transportation task force could meet soon. Also the Environment Committee should take on the water quality issue.

Meeting is adjourned at 9:12 pm. (Mix moves)

Respectfully submitted,
Gregg Richardson, Secretary

St. Anthony Park Community Council
Board of Directors
Thursday, September 13, 2007
South St. Anthony Park Recreation Center
890 Cromwell Avenue (Territorial and Cromwell)
Minutes approved October 11, 2007

Presiding: Ranae Hanson.

Board Members and Alternates Present: Ray Bryan, Chris Donaldson, Greg Haley, Matt Hass, Brian Longley, Jackie Lunde, Rick Macpherson, Paul Mix, Ferd Peters, Roger Purdy, Arnold Ramler, Gregg Richardson (recorder), Emily Woodall.

Board Members and Alternates Absent: Matt Carlson, Vincent Chan, Hannah Longley, Jason Merkel.

Staff: Amy Sparks (Executive Director), Renee Lepreau (Community Organizer).

Guests: Jon Schumacher, St. Anthony Park Community Foundation; Nina Axelson, RockTenn Advisory Panel.

Meeting opens at 7:00 p.m.

Consent agenda.

Haley moves and Peter seconds the motion: **St Anthony Park Community Council accepts the September 13, 2007 consent agenda.** Agenda includes the August 7, 2007 draft Council minutes, the September 13 Council agenda, the following motions from the Land Use Committee: **The SAPCC supports the liquor license application at 2650 University Ave. (This is a liquor license for Canopy Restaurant Holdings doing business as Metro Grill—a restaurant which will be serving liquor on the ground floor of Metro Lofts across from KSTP);**

The SAPCC supports the approval of a variance for a temporary parking lot to serve the Court International Building (767 Eustis). The SAPCC supports a future use consistent with the district plan;

The SAPCC approves the site plan for the Alarm Products Distributors (2350 Territorial Road) building addition;

the following motions from the Environment Committee:

SAPCC approves Brandon Wiarda and Erin Bonner as Environment Committee members;

SAPCC requests MNDOT and its contractor Bolander see that the trucks carrying the debris from the I-35 bridge through St. Anthony Park have the loads covered, avoid speeding, avoid engine braking and avoid residential streets, especially Raymond Avenue;

and a motion to Reappoint Chris Woodall to the Stadium Area Advisory Group.

Richardson moves and Longley seconds the motion: **SAPCC approves Matt Hass as an alternate delegate to the Council, representing South St. Anthony Park.**

Motion passes unanimously.

Motion passes unanimously.

Jon Schumacher, St. Anthony Park Community Foundation

Schumacher says that the Como 2030 Plan is currently moving along well. The Foundation will continue to support a planner, and there is some money from the Andersen Foundation as well. The “Keep it in the Neighborhood” campaign is a way to support local assets. An October 6 fundraising event is intended to be led by neighbors, not just donations by businesses. Also, the annual board meeting will feature speakers on “Greening the Community,” to compliment planning for Central Corridor LRT, which includes reducing energy use. Five new members will be joining the Board.

Questions: Purdy asks about the history of the Foundation? Schumacher says it was started in 1998, he himself came in 1999 to assess needs and funding available. A neighborhood report laid the groundwork for the new District 12 plan. There are 29 Board members, who provide a cross section of the community. Funding comes from the annual campaign. Grantees include schools, arts organizations, Music in the Park, the block nurse program, SAPCC, etc., as well as administering a number of endowed funds. Purdy asks what is the state of local businesses? Schumacher says some are doing very well. The old bank building will house the Emily Program, treating eating disorders. Hanson asks about advice on raising money? Schumacher replies that it’s hard to do on an annual basis—they have some endowments. Hanson asks whether SAPCC might do its fundraising through the Foundation, and be more free to focus on our own work. Schumacher says it’s worth a conversation. Purdy mentions Neighborhood Energy Ideas, organized by Eddie Krakhmalnikov at University United, to reduce the carbon

footprint of University Avenue development. Purdy and Schumacher are sitting in to see what D12 could do on ideas such as community-based energy coops.

Environment Committee

Lepreau passes out the Hampden Park survey, developed by the Environment Committee, with the U of M Metropolitan Design Center. Committee members will be doorknocking and leaving copies at several businesses and the library. These are for anyone interested in the renovation of the park. She is also writing an article for the Bugle. Financial partners are the Ramsey County Soil and Water Conservation District and the Capital Region Watershed Organization. The city is not willing to invest unless we form a “Friends of Hampden Park” organization to follow-up.

RockTenn Citizens Advisory Panel update

Hass passes out an update and copy of a flyer with a public meeting schedule. There is video of the full meetings on the RCAP website, and will soon be a blog with opportunities to respond. We have contracted with the Port Authority to do the public outreach, with Nina Axelson as the staff member. The budget is on the website, as well as timelines. The September 10 meeting was intended to establish ground rules for the group and the project scope. Port Authority had no representative at the meeting, and there was confusion about the scope. RockTenn started up their new interim power plant on August 31. Emissions so far stay within MPCA standards. Their energy use is high, many on the RCAP are interested in reducing that. They are inviting everybody to a public tour.

Questions: Peters asks whether the highbridge plant is now switched over? Nina Axelson says no, only the steam production has ceased. Peters asks whether the role of the RCAP has been resolved? Hass says experts are conducting research, and RCAP’s role is to see who the applicants are, what studies are being done. Peters asks who is the proponent, RockTenn? Axelson says RCAP is way behind where they should be. RCAP is being asked whether the energy scope should extend beyond RockTenn, but someone needs to oversee this process, and no-one currently is. Some want to move fast, and others are opposed. Part of the struggle is how to get the rest of the community involved in this. Purdy asks if the Port Authority is not at the meetings, do we just have opposed groups? Axelson says the Port Authority has to step up for this to succeed. Hass says transparency is the key. Richardson says it is important to get information to the media, because other groups are already doing so. Hanson asks what RCAP needs from SAPCC. Axelson says watch the videos, if the Port Authority does not step up, it may take a resolution from the District Councils to push them.

Board financial update

Sparks passes out an updated 2007 budget, and says the budget revisions are due partly to additional funds from the RCAP administration. SAPCC has not raised the funds desired for the Como 2030 plan for a land-use consultant. There are also changes in advertising and outreach. Peters moves and Purdy seconds a motion: **SAPCC accepts Sparks’ draft of a revised 2007 budget.** Motion passes unanimously.

Comments, questions and updates

Woodall has “thank you” cards for people who have opened their homes for the home tour fundraiser, for Board members to sign. We have 10 houses including the old Lutheran church building on the seminary campus. We still need three times as many volunteers as we currently have.

Donaldson asks what route the Bolander trucks are following, who are hauling the I35W bridge debris? Answer is not clear. SAPCC has requested that the trucks be covered.

Peters says that it is impressive that we have so many political campaigns headquartered in the neighborhood. Also questions whether the condo development on Long actually looks like the plans that were presented?

Lepreau says the Neighborhood Cleanup is September 22, and we have enough volunteers. She also has information from the Neighborhood Leadership Program about training for leadership.

Woodall says Chris Woodall, her husband, was reappointed to the Stadium Advisory Taskforce. They have \$1 million available to mitigate stadium impact on surrounding neighborhoods. There might be funds available to SAPCC if we think of ways we might be impacted. Macpherson says we should get a traffic study. Richardson asks what is the current status of the northwest quadrant traffic study? Sparks says there have been two meetings so far, and they haven't hired a consultant yet, but should in the next couple of months.

Peters says that in a MNDOT presentation on TH280, they said they can only use federal funds for temporary measures, all these improvements will have to be taken out when the bridge is finished. Sparks says she's had a call from the neighborhood group that originally got the sound walls; they're organizing again to get more improvements. Hanson asks what committee this would go to? We need to get our transportation committee organized again. Sparks says that Jon Commers says we should ask MNDOT for all information related to TH280 and the bridge collapse, through the Freedom of Information Act. Peters asks whether there is any funding for a part time staff person for a transportation group? Woodall says we may be able to get some from this stadium fund. Peters and Macpherson are willing to form such a committee, if someone would replace Peters on the LRT Citizens' Advisory Committee and SEED/SEMI. Lunde will take over on the LRT committee. Executive Committee will bring a motion to the next meeting.

Macpherson describes the temporary parking lot for Court International approved by the Land Use Committee. The building owners own both lots, and are considering how to develop them, as office space, retail or a hotel. SAPCC should keep an eye on that development. Owner has offered to involve us in the development plans.

Meeting is adjourned at 9:06 pm. (Peters moves, Haley seconds)

Respectfully submitted,
Gregg Richardson, Secretary

St. Anthony Park Community Council
Board of Directors
Thursday, October 11, 2007
South St. Anthony Park Recreation Center
890 Cromwell Avenue (Territorial and Cromwell)
Minutes (approved November 8, 2007)

Presiding: Ranae Hanson.

Board Members and Alternates Present: Chris Donaldson, Greg Haley, Brian Longley, Jackie Lunde, Rick Macpherson, , Jason Merkel, Ferd Peters, Roger Purdy, Gregg Richardson (recorder), Emily Woodall.

Board Members and Alternates Absent: Ray Bryan, Matt Carlson, Vincent Chan, Matt Hass, Paul Mix, Arnold Ramler.

Staff: Amy Sparks (Executive Director), Renee Lepreau (Community Organizer).

Guests. Mary Hamel, Home tour coordinator; Connie Sullivan, Southeast Como Improvement Association; Linda Jungwirth, County Commissioner Janice Rettman's office; Peter Ellwell, Park Crossing Building.

Meeting opens at 7:05 p.m.

Consent agenda.

Hanson removes the meeting agenda from the consent agenda for adjustment. Haley moves and Longley seconds the motion: **St Anthony Park Community Council accepts the October 11, 2007 consent agenda.** Agenda includes the September 13, 2007 draft Council minutes, and a motion from the Environment Committee to approve Ross Jackson as a member of the committee. Motion passes unanimously.

Meeting agenda adjustments are proposed. Haley moves and Purdy seconds the motion: **St Anthony Park Community Council accepts the October 11, 2007 meeting agenda.** Motion passes unanimously.

Mary Hamel, Home tour planning committee

Hamel reports that the home tour planning is in good shape, but needs more volunteers to staff homes the second half of the day. Woodall says we need about 20 more. Council members who have not signed up are urged to do so, and all are urged to recruit family and friends as well. Volunteers get a free pass, and shifts are only two hours.

Community Connections Committee

Longley shows contents of the welcome kit the committee is preparing to give to new residents, which includes coupons for many businesses, as well as information on various community services and organizations. They plan on getting information on new homebuyers from local realtors. Sparks urges council members to introduce themselves to new neighbors and get a welcome bag from the council offices to take to them. Woodall says the committee is working on a marketing plan, which will eventually come to council for approval. They are also preparing an "elevator speech" for members to learn and use to publicize the council in personal conversations.

Como Small Area Plan

Purdy says the task force work is winding down, they have a first draft of about 80 pages, which is being edited down, and will present it to the community on October 25. It will be a work in progress, with a goal in each of six main categories, and strategies for achieving them. The final public meeting will be scheduled for December, and will include actions items for the SAPCC, city council, etc.

Board financial update

Peters passes out the third quarter report. The income differential is due to reimbursements not yet received. The home tour proceeds do not yet appear either. Income is a little behind overall, but expenses so far are behind as well. Question: Lunde asks what items are assigned to the accounts payable category? Sparks is not sure, but will find out and report back. Brief discussion of possible items in that category. Haley moves and Longley seconds the motion: **SAPCC accepts the third quarter Board financial report.** Motion passes unanimously.

Grand Rounds connections

Connie Sullivan from the Southeast Como neighborhood in Minneapolis, who is a member of the citizen's advisory committee on the Grand Rounds project, reports that the proposed network of parkways in Minneapolis was never completed east of the river, and is now in planning stages.

They are considering how to connect into St. Paul. There are some potential plans for the Southeast Como neighborhood that could take 80 houses, some churches, and part of Dinkytown. There is a possible alternative that would add two one-way streets, that would not add any green space, but would take some sidewalks in order to accommodate bikes. They hope there might be a way to develop a route to the east, into St. Paul, in a way that would not threaten wetlands west of TH280. The industrial area in that direction was underdeveloped 20 years ago, but a parkway there today threatens many jobs. The University is developing its own master plan, but is unwilling to share details, and they have the power of eminent domain. This citizens' group would like somebody from SAPCC who knows the wetlands to identify a possible eastern route that would not threaten them. They need a decision by November 1. Discussion: Peters says they want to begin construction in May of 2008. This is really on a fast track. SEED/SEMI is concerned that the "G" (eastern) routes proposed would eliminate jobs. Lepreau asks whether the Minneapolis Park Board is determined to make a parkway? Sullivan says yes. Hanson says that the propose new D12 plan calls for TH280 to be a parkway. Could this fulfill the need? Sullivan says that the city of Minneapolis has applied for \$7 million to extend Granary Road to the St. Paul city limits, with hopes to eventually connect it to Pierce-Butler route. Several members remark that SAPCC has always been opposed to this proposal.

Environment Committee report

The Hampden Park working group is currently gathering information from SSAP residents about preferences for improvements in the park. Currently doorknocking and distributing surveys. Could use anybody's help in this stage. It is clear that people feel strongly about parks. Questions: Purdy asks what if we do nothing about the park? Richardson replies that significant numbers of the trees will be dead in 10 years, due to planting, pruning and mowing injuries, as well as storm damage and diseases. Hanson says that there will be a public meeting at the rec center on November 7, to present some conceptual plans based on feedback from the surveys.

Interactive updates

Peters asks whether the waiver for the bistro license in Metro Lofts was granted? Sparks says yes. Peters says that Hubbard is now selling the land at Territorial and Bedford for a U of M parking lot. Haley adds that plans are now showing a transit stop there on the busway. Macpherson asks whether there is any further word on the proposed grocery on University Avenue on the site of the old "colonial" building. Richardson says he believes that project is not going forward anytime soon, as it is part of a new condo project, and condos appear to have been already overbuilt in the current market. Lepreau reports on the RockTenn Citizen Advisory Panel. Mac/Groveland Council wrote the Port Authority a letter asking them to attend the meetings, and they are now attending. They said they had been asked by some neighborhood groups not to attend. Neighbors Against the Burner will be presenting at the next meeting. There is also a letter from Eureka on the RCAP website, clarifying their relationship with RockTenn. Also letters from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency and from Xcel, clarifying its opinion on whether this project should extend beyond RockTenn's energy needs to the rest of the Central Corridor. There will be a community workshop on October 23, regarding proposals for LRT stops at Raymond and Westgate. Lunde has information on the designs. The planning includes a quarter mile radius around the stops.

Meeting is adjourned at 8:39 pm. (Haley moves, Peters seconds)

Respectfully submitted,
Gregg Richardson, Secretary

St. Anthony Park Community Council
Board of Directors

Thursday, November 8, 2007
South St. Anthony Park Recreation Center
890 Cromwell Avenue (Territorial and Cromwell)
Minutes (December 13, 2007)

Presiding: Roger Purdy.

Board Members and Alternates Present: Chris Donaldson, Greg Haley, Ranae Hanson, Matt Hass, Brian Longley, Jackie Lunde, Rick Macpherson, Paul Mix, Ferd Peters, Roger Purdy, Arnold Ramler, Gregg Richardson (recorder),

Board Members and Alternates Absent: Ray Bryan, Matt Carlson, Vincent Chan, Jason Merkel, Emily Woodall.

Staff: Amy Sparks (Executive Director), Renee Lepreau (Community Organizer).

Guests: Nina Axelson, RockTenn Community Advisory Panel; Linda Jungwirth, County Commissioner Janice Rettman's office.

Purdy opens the meeting at 7:07 p.m.

Consent agenda.

Hanson moves and Longley seconds a motion accepting the November 8 consent agenda.

Agenda includes the November 8 meeting agenda, the minutes of the October 11, 2007 Council meeting, and two resolutions from the Land Use Committee:

1. SAPCC recommends that Design Standard 15 (materials and detailing) of TN Zoning be amended to include residential buildings of more than 6 units.
2. SAPCC supports the request from residents of Seal Hi-Rise for bus benches on both sides of the street at Raymond and Territorial, prioritizing the east side.

Motion passes unanimously.

RockTenn Community Advisory Panel update

Hass says that RCAP met three times in October. November 12 meeting will feature as guest a professor who specializes in toxicology of air emissions. October meetings provided overviews of energy terminology and emissions issues. John Curry of Desnoyer Park made a presentation for Neighbors Against the Burner. They are opposed to any solid fuel burner. His main point was that RDFs have plastic content which emits dioxins when incinerated, and also particulate matter. Greg Pratt, of Minnesota Pollution Control Agency and the U of M, reiterated many of the same points. RCAP hopes in November to begin addressing the issue of energy plant size.

Questions: Purdy asks how many have been attending the meetings? Hass and Nina Axelson say usually more than fifty, including about ninety at the last meeting with NAB. Axelson says about one third were NAB, one-third other professional advocates, and one-third other interested individuals. Axelson says many RCAP members didn't anticipate how much work this would be. They are processing huge amounts of information, and the listserv has been very busy. The meeting facilitator who was hired stepped down last week. Axelson hands out a document outlining basic questions and issues to be covered through spring. Donaldson asks whether District Energy is becoming involved? Axelson says they have been since last fall. Donaldson asks whether this will lead to a new energy plant closer to us? Axelson says they don't know yet, but this could lead to a potential conflict of interest. Peters asks why the facilitator resigned? Axelson says the project was just too big, and she was handling other projects. Peters asks whether this will slow the project down? Axelson says it's still too early to tell. Hass says he thinks it could, as RCAP was still trying to iron out its working process. Peters asks whether RockTenn's energy costs have really increased by \$1 million a month? Axelson says yes. Haley asks whether this document with questions and issues will be updated with answers? Axelson

says there will be information added under “findings.” Ramler asks whether energy plant will be flexible enough to change to cheaper fuels? Axelson says perhaps to some degree, depending on what options they choose.

Axelson hands out an example of a panel self-assessment. Her work so far has been 75% administrative, and 25% outreach. This should shift as things develop. She’s looking for more server space to offer videos of meetings, etc. Additional costs need to be covered. She also needs more staff help, so the Port Authority is considering funding for more staff. She will return with more specific proposals in December.

SAPCC budget shortfall

Purdy thanks all who worked on the home tour fundraiser. Hanson says it has taken her a while to get serious about fundraising, but the Board needs to decide whose responsibility it is to raise money? The Board? Staff? Could the SAP Foundation partner on this? If the staff does fundraising, they need to cut back on other responsibilities. The home tour only raised about half of what we had hoped. Haley says the tour is great, but the best source of funding may be grants. Is reduced staff hours our only option? Sparks says yes, at this point. Richardson says that when we wrote the Executive Director job description, the Board survey showed that fundraising was a low expectation, but Board didn’t talk about whose responsibility it was. He notes that Jon Schumacher of the SAP Foundation had suggested that attempting to build endowments might be a better approach. And the Board itself needs to be committed enough to give more. Peters says we should consider the strategy of old car donations. Purdy asks what is our discrepancy between our budget and city funding? Sparks says she planned on raising \$12,000 to fill the gap. Lunde suggests that we need to spend down some of our cash reserves currently in CDs, and suggests an annual dinner and silent auction as well. Longley says that when we recruit Board candidates, we should emphasize the importance of fundraising. Purdy asks whether we should appoint a taskforce or ad hoc committee? Longley agrees. Hanson says that perhaps we should all attend their meetings occasionally. In the meantime we should spend down our cash reserves and start planning for next year. Hanson makes an initial motion to establish a fundraising committee, and Donaldson seconds. He says that whoever approves the budget should raise the funds, and that’s the Board. Macpherson would like more detailed definition of what the committee would do. Should it recommend to the Board how to do more fundraising? Decide if we do more fundraising, can we do it without more staff? It’s not practical for people on this type of Board to do much fundraising, and we’re not going to fund an ongoing shortfall of this size with bake-sales. Hanson reads a second draft of the motion. Peters offers a friendly amendment that the committee should comprise the Treasurer and three other members, representing NSAP, SSAP, and the business representatives. Hanson and Donaldson accept the amendment and she reads the final version of the motion:

St. Anthony Park Community Council will establish an ad hoc committee to oversee fundraising and the budget. Responsibilities will include:

- 1. Making recommendations to the board about how we should raise money.**
- 2. Proposing a fundraising plan for the next three years.**
- 3. Investigating coordination options with the St. Anthony Park Community Foundation.**
- 4. Determining cut-back contingencies for times of deficit.**

Members will be appointed by the chair and will include the Treasurer, and include at least one member each from NSAP, SSAP and the business delegation.

Discussion: Haley notes that if it is an ad hoc committee, it doesn’t have to be confined to Board members. Motion passes unanimously.

Hampden Park renovation project

Hanson says the community meeting on Hampden Park was well-organized and well-facilitated by Gordon Murdock. Richardson and Nancy Dilts as Environment Committee co-chairs each presented information, but wanted the facilitator to be from NSAP. There was a presentation of concepts for the park from the U of M Metropolitan Design Center, and education about storm water management from a Capital Region Watershed District representative, followed by a question and comment period. About 30-35 attended. Comments were rather anxious at first, but settled into a good give and take. There was pretty good consensus on the importance of healthy trees in the park. Questions: Macpherson asks whether anybody from the apartments attended? Richardson replies no, virtually all were homeowners who lived directly across from the park. Macpherson asked whether there were different reactions on the surveys from residents in different proximity to the park? Hanson says when she distributed surveys, people off the park seemed to her to be grateful to be asked, and did seem to be interested in more amenities. Purdy asks what's next? Richardson says the Metro Design Center will return to the Environment Committee after comments from the surveys and the meeting are compiled.

Interactive updates

Lepreau says after the last Minneapolis meeting on the Grand Rounds proposal, Option B, which caused the most community concern, was taken off the table, but a new option was presented that goes down 27th Street, and would also take homes. A St. Paul Zoning Commission vote on electronic billboards would remove the trade-down, and would not allow new billboards along 280.

Meeting is adjourned at 9:00 pm. (Haley moves, Mix seconds)

Respectfully submitted,
Gregg Richardson, Secretary

St. Anthony Park Community Council
Board of Directors
Thursday, December 13, 2007
South St. Anthony Park Recreation Center
890 Cromwell Avenue (Territorial and Cromwell)
Draft Minutes (approved January 10, 2008)

Presiding: Ranae Hanson,

Board Members and Alternates Present: Ray Bryan, Vincent Chan, Chris Donaldson, Greg Haley, Matt Hass, Brian Longley, Jackie Lunde, Jason Merkel, Paul Mix, Roger Purdy, Gregg Richardson (recorder), Emily Woodall.

Board Members and Alternates Absent: Matt Carlson, Rick Macpherson, Ferd Peters, Arnold Ramler.

Staff: Amy Sparks (Executive Director).

Guests: Nina Axelson, RockTenn Community Advisory Panel; Tait Danielson-Castillo, District 7 Executive Director, Gaye and Dan Larson, 280 sound wall resolution.

Hanson opens the meeting at 7:01 p.m.

Consent agenda.

Purdy moves and Lunde seconds a motion accepting the December 13 consent agenda. Agenda includes the December 13 meeting agenda, the minutes of the November 8, 2007 Council meeting, and three resolutions:

3. SAPCC approves the addition of Erin Shaw to the Environment Committee.

4. SAPCC encourages the Mississippi Watershed Management Organization to acquire and remediate the Koch site for their new building.
5. On behalf of the many residents in our South and North St. Anthony Park neighborhood who are harmed by the greatly increased level of noise from Minnesota Highway 280, the SAPCC asks the St. Paul City Council to promptly pass a resolution asking the Minnesota Department of Transportation to take further noise abatement actions as quickly as possible along the east side of Highway 280, including, without limitation, noise abatement in the noise wall “gap” at the 280/Energy Park Drive interchange, and south of Como Avenue where no noise wall exists, and a new pavement overlay, and communicate that request to the Minnesota Department of Transportation.

Motion passes unanimously.

Board Education-- District 7 public input restructuring

Tait Danielson-Castillo, Executive Director of District 7 says that in 2004 D7 changed their governance structure, disbanded their standing committees (Physical Planning and Social Concerns), and instead hold a monthly “Community Concerns” public meeting. Now any D7 resident can ask questions on a review of city applications, but only the members vote. The Council sends a form to the city that compiles comments, and includes results of the vote.

Questions: Longley asks if the Board wants to send a letter to the city, detailing flaws in the process, do they decide that at the Community Concerns meeting? Danielson says the Board doesn't necessarily know whether the process has been flawed at that point. In one case, D7 sent two somewhat contradictory documents to the city, and left it to the city to decide, based on the different sets of comments. City Council made a compromise decision. But D7 tries as much as possible to represent resident opinions. Hanson asks whether D7 needs to do different meetings for each request? Danielson says they do have emergency meetings when turnaround time is too short. Hanson asks whether that is heavy on staff time? Danielson says it hasn't happened often. Danielson says these Community Concerns meetings have sometimes created their own ad hoc committees, and can schedule separate special meetings for a particular topic. Hanson asks whether it's hard for neighbors to vote against neighbors? Danielson says it's usually a dialog, but also the city can easily vote against neighborhood wishes, so D7 doesn't necessarily get blamed for negative outcome. Haas asks who facilitates? Danielson says he usually does, but sometimes gets a community volunteer. Longley asks what if nobody shows up? Danielson says that hasn't happened yet.

RockTenn update

Axelson says the RCAP had a rather slow and rocky start in August and September. There is now a new facilitator, Barbara Ray. Axelson says she will be doing some upcoming workshops. She is not using the budget up very fast. She will be changing their web host for more server space.

Questions: Bryan asks whether the Port Authority has server space to host videos of the meeting? Axelson says the Port Authority is really technically behind. Axelson says there are about 140 participants in the listserv, and it is fully moderated to minimize abuse. One RCAP panelist want the listserv to be un-moderated. Whose authority is it to decide? Panel would like SAPCC to approve changing it to un-moderated. With a fully moderated list there was sometimes a delay in getting things posted. Bryan asks if there were problems with abuse? Axelson says the panelist wasn't concerned as much about censorship as transparency. Hanson asks whether users who abused the list would be moderated after one offense? Merkel says the criteria are pretty vague, that there should be more specific guidelines. A listserv is not for two participants to argue, it's for a community discussion. Haley says he is concerned about freedom of speech. Lunde says it

would save time to be un-moderated. Mix asks whether there is a place to post material that is rejected? Purdy asks what is the will of the RCAP panel? Haas says nearly all want it un-moderated, because they want real-time debate. Lunde asks whether there could be rules to temporarily bar someone for abuse? Bryan agrees we should not be supporting a “flame war.” Axelson says RCAP is not bound by the open meeting law, but chooses to be transparent. Lunde says she believes that it’s not SAPCC’s decision, it’s RCAP’s.

Axelson responds with two items SAPCC has asked for, a “players handbook,” and a timeline. At what point does SAPCC weigh in on this process? Probably May, still not clear whether before or after the Port Authority. A lot of work is getting done, but they’re still struggling with how to communicate all the information. The technical aspects are very complex. There are five renewable options eligible, only three being considered—solar, wind and biomass. Group spends some time reviewing the history and facts of the RockTenn situation. The question of “plant sizing” (just RockTenn or Central Corridor?) is still open. Also there is a question of the emission from trucks bringing biomass.

Questions: Hanson says it is inefficient for RCAP to teach SAPCC everything about the situation, that is what they’re delegated to do. We want to know if you feel the process is working—are you pressured, what do you need from us? Merkel asks what information we need to make an intelligent decision? Hass says at the last meeting RCAP decided they needed a decision matrix, they’re now trying to develop. He says this has been a bit confusing to RCAP members as well as SAPCC members. Hanson says that when you go out to groups, we need to be confident that you understand the issues. Purdy says he wants a picture of how they’ve worked through it. There are really two decisions, what kind of fuel and how big a plant? We need reports on what’s still on the table, what’s coming off the table, and why? Richardson says it would be helpful to have a political context—how do you appropriately communicate “groundless speculation” about the motives of various players? Axelson says there’s plenty of that, that she isn’t really in a position to describe, perhaps Hass could do so. Donaldson says it really isn’t linear, you don’t ever really close off one avenue for good. Axelson says at some point some options will be taken off the table. Purdy asks whether it will ever be feasible to reach some consensus? Donaldson asks whether some opinions are already set? Hass says no, RCAP doesn’t see any silver bullet. Axelson says she is optimistic, she says the Port Authority thinks biomass is still the most viable, others say natural gas, but people are still considering it. She’s been on advisory committees that don’t work, but if we can make this one work, a good outcome could set a positive precedent for future citizen advisory groups.

City Council funding of a District Council staff support position

Sparks says Jay Benanav got \$75,000 that City Council was going to distribute to the District Councils, but they decided to fund a new staff position to be liaison with the councils instead. What does SAPCC think of this? Hass asks where the money would have gone? Sparks says this could have helped with our budget shortfall. Merkel asks why we would pass a resolution to support an unknown job description? Haley says we don’t want to make a decision with no details. Lunde says she can understand City Council wanting such a position. Purdy says he’s offended that no-one from the city called us to see if we wanted such a position. Richardson suggests that since these funds are apparently continuing, we ask the city to use them to fund the Councils this year, and use the year to find out what councils want. Hass asks given the city’s financial position this year, where did this money come from? Danielson-Castillo of District 7 says it came out of every city department in order to create a discretionary fund. Longley says in a positive light, it’s a recognition of support for district councils. Sparks says that in addition, our monthly reimbursement request now must be supported by more documentation—she’s suspicious of the motives. Axelson of RCAP, says without an accompanying job description, it

sounds more like oversight than support. Lunde says it probably has to do with events in Highland district. Danielson says Pat Harris of the Highland ward pushed it through. Sparks asks if they gave us no input into creating the position, will they give us any input in crafting it? Danielson says we're in a skewed system. D7 has much more access to funding. The city funding formula is fair but it puts D12 at a disadvantage. Highland district is going to survive their situation, and there have been very few such problems over the years. There's no circumstance that warrants this kind of oversight. Mix says they could change the formula to taxes. Bryan moves and Donaldson seconds a motion: **At a time of increasing demands on the district councils, St Anthony Park Community Council asks that the city delay any action on hiring a district council support staff person until [the city ensures?] that councils have a baseline increase to cover our basic functioning and until the councils have more information about the job description and [intent?] of the support staff job. We ask further that this year the money be disseminated to cover increased council costs.** Motion passes with one opposed.

Interactive updates

Sparks says the Minnesota Supreme Court reversed the non-profit property tax exemption. This could potentially be a big expense for us because of our ownership of the community gardens. The fundraising committee has also been appointed, and the fundraising letter has already netted nearly \$3000.

Richardson asks for all Board members to return staff/Board evaluation forms to him, either by e-mail, US mail or personal delivery.

Meeting is adjourned at 9:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Gregg Richardson, Secretary