

Attending:

Parrish, Ireland, Norman, Anderson, Jackson, Pavlica, Olson, Dietz, Cortes, Samuelson

Agenda and minutes approved.

Brief discussion -- how much to do around minutes? Agreed that we want to set

Steve noted that Bill McGuire is going to meet with the stadium taskforce.

Action items:

Discussed reappointing/electing ALL positions.

President -- Scott K is willing, but not present--so we'll return to affirmation next month.

Secretary -- Mike Reynolds threw his name. Approved.

Treasurer -- Pavlica threw her name. Approved.

Vice-President -- Anderson threw his name. Approved.

New Community Engagement Committee

Faith and Amy produced a new version of this committee, pulling specific template from the other committee charges.

Amy noted a desire to create a more formal, intentional time of service -- so that we don't have committee members just hanging on forever, out of inertia -- but to create more explicit and regularized openings, to keep new members coming in.

Steve asked if that was something that would apply to all committees? No; we would have to formally revise the rules/charge for others if we wanted to do that.

We discussed that few have ever exceeded that time frame. (Steve's impressive service made us all not want to rule him out! We discussed a Samuelson amendment to prevent...) But generally our discussion was: this is a reasonable rule, and may not need this -- but the rule for time limits ties into the vision/mission, that we want to keep the committee on community engagement formally and functionally continuing to revise itself with new members.

Some discussion of Board member tenure, generally, as well as committees.

Decision-making procedure: captures what is done in other meetings.

Broad and consistent appreciation of the description, of the plans. Will go into Monitor to solicit and recruit membership.

DISCUSSIONS:

Community Engagement -- overview of questions and approaches to community engagement from Faith and Amy [here](#).

We liked the proposed blurb. Some conversation about the facebook page, about how (and whether) people see themselves as maybe excluded -- how do we get the broadest, inclusive sweep of interested parties?

Question -- can we establish a formal committee email through HMC email org? Yes, we can -- anyone who wants in can be given login; easy to set up. Committee chair would

be responsible for general engagement with/responses to the email list. Faith will take on the Comm Engagement committee?

We'll post in social media; we'll put in Monitor. Put in businesses -- Faith plans a flyer -- we'll help coordinate in posting around at various spots. (Faith, send flyer to Mike electronically -- he'll circulate at HU and to a few other networks....)

Melissa and Michael Jon have begun discussing how staff could/will support this new committee.

Organizational Communication issues

--Committee reports to Board. What is the best/right mechanism for reporting to Board, and to community? What should that look like?

Steve noted verbal reports work well. Melissa noted conversation from last meeting -- maybe those reports shouldn't come from staff, but from Board reps... which sort of does already happen.

Melissa noted: chair of Transportation committee always sends her notes (even though she is there); these include questions from the committee, that helps the staff AND the Board follow up on action.

Amy asked about getting notes from the committees onto the website - so that people in the community know what's been going on, *and* can know what's coming up on the agenda--and then attend.

Erin Parr noted that a written report beforehand can help her process, and maybe reflect on and bring more substantive questions and issues into the Board meeting. Erin Pav noted that some committees meet after Board meeting, but that reporting can just come "later." Strong affirmation from all about transparency, and getting the neighborhood more information about discussion and action.

We don't want that to be a lot of staff work. Melissa didn't think it'd be too much. But having a common template from across the committees could help. In addition to action items and discussion -- add questions to Board/staff, future agenda items, etc.

Some discussion about timeliness of our reporting out.

Faith had reached out to Jane McClure and Frederick Melo about how they keep track of all the meetings -- and noted some lists/email contacts they have. (How we find out about meetings or action items in the city. There are a lot of places to do sign-ups.)

Maybe put an email address--for the committee--at the bottom of minutes, so that people with questions, or thoughts, can follow up immediately.

Do we want verbal reports, in addition to written reports from committee?

Erin Parr and Andy noted that people could read the reports--and then if people want to discuss further, they can reach out to add to the agenda. There's no attempt to inhibit conversation - but trying to streamline and make effective Board meetings.

There might be some things we want standing reports on, still -- namely, the joint task force on stadium. So we'll keep that.

Committee reporting to community. Could be the same thing -- if a form collects minutes, then we could take the reports to Board to also be the Community reports--posted on site, social media. COuld also be put into e-newsletter. We do have access to print in Monitor no cost, but we probably don't have room to print all committee reports. Could circle through Community Engagement committee -- who could define/curate what goes into Monitor.

Goal is to get all this on the webpage -- maybe a standing sidebar. Also in enews in shorter form.

How do we convey what Board/committee work means? (I.e., that the committees recommend to the Board; that the Board largely just recommends to the City.)

Every committee will have an email (MJO and MC will create); committees can define who will manage and define.

Guidelines for communication. We don't have right now. Not just what goes out, but maybe guidelines for how we speak "for/about" our work (when we're publishing or posting or speaking publicly), etc....

Michael Jon noted some concerns/challenges that other councils have had to address -- intemperate representatives speaking up, saying things that would present their opinion as the determination of the whole Board.

Faith had questions, but wasn't necessarily a set of specific concerns from any action at the moment.

Greg noted that he generally routes through HMC staff.

Faith asked: do you need to submit/funnel through staff or the exec committee? No -- sense of sharing and communicating is and ought to be open. Some discussion of when and how individual opinions and voice differ from official Board position.

Block Clubs -- could we re-establish these, once the Engagement committee is up and running?

MJO asked for further clarification about what people are thinking -- and then we'll talk through some history.

Amy noted that there had previously been meetings hosted by HMC, to set up resources for existing or future block club leaders, to connect with one another. Erin Pav noted that she'd enjoyed those gatherings -- good way to build community, to learn more about what others are doing. Encourages block clubs to be more consistently active. Steve asked if this fits/aligns with Engagement committee, and Faith and Amy affirmed that vision. (Also noted that it's another way to get the word out.)

Michael Jon thought it would be great to reenergize through Engagement committee - Melissa will send the list to Engagement committee and get going.

Outcomes for 2018 --

Last meeting we discussed setting up some concrete outcomes for what we want to accomplish in 2018. Do we want to brainstorm here, carry over to next -- assign to a subcommittee or exec? -- set up a retreat?

Andy noted that he'd prefer a subcommittee to develop and then refine -- otherwise we can get stuck in neutral, spinning wheels and never getting action.

Outcomes -- a way to set core vision/goals, which would then drive a way to prioritize what we actually work on.

Budgeting and staffing would come out of/develop from clarity about outcomes and plan.

We'll likely let staff and exec committee take a first stab at outcomes, to bring back and discuss -- to set action items.

What are people's priorities for the neighborhood? Melissa asked for us to weigh in...

Steve -- stadium, and its impact on economic development and businesses.

Erin Pav noted: real, significant investment in this neighborhood. Why is it so hard (Hamline Station, or the eternal North Snelling challenge, and now the former HU bookstore)? North Snelling and University as key (per Amy) -- potential for a community investment fund? City resolved that they'd like to see investment, but didn't formally require. (Thursday meeting of taskforce with McGwire has this on its agenda...)

To these issues -- what are our policies and vision for community investment and development? Similar to the Frogtown small community investment principles....

E.g. -- a meaningful survey of neighbors to get what people want....

Community conversations -- how to help build a better public commons

Transportation/pedestrian stuff -- always an issue -- particularly around issues at the Snelling/University corner

Melissa noted that Transport committee don't really know what's going on at Board, or even know Board members.

If you have topics or priorities that you want exec comm/staff to be on the topic -- let us know.