

Citizens for a Loring Park Community (CLPC)
Livability Committee Meeting Minutes
Wed., June 18th, 2008

Those present: Bob Hansen (chair), Reggie Prim (Restorative Justice), Don Davis (guest), Luther Krueger (CCP/SAFE), Diane Moe (Loring Park Director), John Van Heel (CLPC Board President), Jana Metge (CLPC staff), Jim Daly (resident), Gary Gliem (St. Mark's), Tommi Stevens (AccessWorks), Lauri Wollner (AccessWorks), Jack Balasa (resident), Neil Carlson (resident), Dennis Dillon (resident), Michelle Brunch (Downtown Journal).

The meeting was called to order by Bob Hansen at 6:35 p.m.

The following announcements were made:

FIREWORKS IN LORING PARK: Don presented on the concern of shooting fireworks in Loring Park. There was worry that the pond area was just too small and that the proximity to the buildings in the neighborhood, too close. There was also concern about possible disturbance to the wildlife.

Motion: CLPC supports that no fireworks should occur at Loring Park.

Gary/Reggie M/S/Unanimously approved. John did state that in the years past he enjoyed watching the fireworks from his home.

A letter will be sent accordingly once CLPC Board approval stating CLPC's stance on this issue.

DOWNTOWN 100: Jana and Reggie reviewed the presentation made at the May Livability meeting by Downtown Community Prosecutor Lois Conroy and Assistant County Attorney Gail Baez. Handouts were distributed about this proposed project.

The ultimate goal of the pilot program would be to reduce crime and the fear thereof in the Downtown Minneapolis area. The pilot will use a team-based "holistic" approach to downtown livability-related crime. The primary team for the pilot would include the police, prosecutors, probation, business representatives, private security and community representatives. In developing this pilot program, the Minneapolis City Attorney's Office and the Hennepin County Attorney's Office team utilized the CJCC Livable Community Initiative Report (2007).

The pilot program would be led by the Hennepin County Attorney's Office Community Prosecutor and the Minneapolis City Attorney's Office First Precinct Community Attorney, with the involvement of the Hennepin County Attorney's Office Juvenile Division when appropriate. The prosecution team would prosecute 100 chronic offenders focusing on livability, drug and property crimes. All prosecutors would be deputized by both the City and County Attorney's office thereby having jurisdiction over City and County cases. This is a key component in obtaining vertical prosecution of the Downtown 100.

The Downtown 100 Pilot Program would include the creation of a Downtown Court Watch. The

Downtown Court Watch would be modeled after the Community Law Enforcement Action Network (C.L.E.A.N.) in other Minneapolis neighborhoods. In developing this pilot program, the collaborative team also drew heavily from the Community Prosecution Division's experience with the Little Earth of United Tribes and the Franklin Avenue Safety Center Court Watch models. These Court Watch groups have become much more than groups that monitor chronic offenders. Both of these Court Watch groups bring police, county and city prosecutors, probation, private security, property management, business and citizens to the table on a monthly basis. At the end of each meeting, the systems people and citizens discuss problem properties, crime patterns and how to address them with police, prosecution, probation, and community resources. Solutions to long-standing problems have sprung from the court watch process. Many in the community credit these collaborative efforts with enhancing safety and livability within those communities.

Jana also spoke on the holistic approach and that they (Jana and Reggie) had held a meeting with Lois and Gail to meet Richard Gardell, Director of 180 Degrees, to incorporate re-entry solutions to this approach. 180 Degrees is located in the Loring Park neighborhood.

Reggie spoke to Restorative Justice and that their focus is on 1st time offenders, low-level which the Downtown 100 project is focusing on the chronic offenders.

Motion: That CLPC endorses the Downtown 100 Project and will send a letter of support.
Gary/Neil M/S/Consensus – Unanimous support

Motion: That \$5,000 per year for 3 years as well as the Downtown 100 description be added to the Loring Park NRP Phase II plan. *Reggie/Gary M/S/Consensus-approved unanimously.*

Bob Hansen proposed this request as a method to get Committee support for inclusion of NRP program dollars into our draft Phase II plan.

NATIONAL NITE OUT – Bob reported that this event is coming up on the 1st Tuesday of August. Diane stated that Loring Park would again host the event and provide the music. We will need to secure food and volunteers. If we want to do dog events, we will also need to line this up. Diane will talk with Lee, from Friends of Loring Park about doing a Garden Tour again this year as part of the event.

Meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m

Respectfully submitted, JLMetge