

EPIC/MPNAI Board Meeting

September 7, 2024, 10:00am – 11:30am

EPIC web address: eastphillips.org

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Office: 2433 Bloomington Ave., Minneapolis, MN 55404

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In attendance: Kelly, Karen, Nikolas, Nataly, Mair, Steve, Virginia

Guests: Jarumi, Luke, David

2023 990s, financial statements, and policy and procedures manual

- Sent 2023 990s to board to approve
- Kelly makes a motion to approve the 990s and attorney generals report
- Karen seconds it
- Board unanimously approved
- What are the projected financials for next year
 - The reason for the large negative number is because we were the fiscal sponsor for EPNI
 - Next week Kelly will show operating costs
- Policy and Procedures
 - Annual review
 - Are policy and procedures board driven?
 - The board is reviewing the policy and procedures – staff make those changes
 - Changes are voted on and documented well
 - Policy meeting after the joint meeting in October
 - Luke connect with Kelly on policy review – suggested edits that everyone will review in October
 - All board members can suggest in the document
 - Final board approval in November

Update on merger staff collective

- Trying to unite the board meetings
- MPNAI has been struggling for a long time - demonstrates their need
- Each neighborhood needs to vote separately – do we need to make both neighborhood needs
- MPNAI is the weak link
- The neighborhoods are so close - more presence within the city
 - History of the neighborhoods

- Legalities of it – have to ask hard questions
- Need documentation in place to move forward
 - Must get in compliance with our own minutes and ourselves
- Fiscally responsible, administratively responsible
- Moving through this quicker will get us in compliance quicker
- Midtown is a different conversation than Phillips West
- Phillips West
 - Shared events, shared programming, and staff collaborative
- Community meeting for open discussion
 - Drafting new bylaws - in late October or early November
 - 2-part community board meeting
- The bylaws between East and Midtown largely match and reflect one another
- Advisory seats, specific board member seats (Little Earth, x number of seats for midtown, x number of seats in east Phillips)
- David send powerpoint to board
- Concern: how are resources being shared? Supposed to be a good relative, how do we take the service work and not lose sight of what we are doing it for
- The lines have been arbitrarily drawn – do we want to rethink this
- Can staff pick the community meeting times?
 - One meeting - avenues for residents to talk to staff
 - Set dates at our next meeting
 - Send out examples of future board with the type of representation and advisory member – vision of what this would look like
- October 10th Community Meeting – joint community meeting on merger - 7PM - on Zoom – put in the Alley
- Voting is open for a week – November 7th-14th
 - Staff could post open office times
- Include Karen Clark in outreach

Bike-to-farm Ride

- Sept. 28 from 11-4
- A tour of four farms in the East and Midtown Phillips neighborhoods and a community feast at Four Sisters
- Please register!

Crime and safety conversation

- See what statement is for Southside Harm Reduction – refine it
- Crime in neighborhood
- Shooting at the American Indian Center

- This neighborhood association is responsible for making sure we communicate with the homeowners and renters and businesses
- Need to do more with Little Earth
- Very serious issue that we need to do more with
- Overpromising what a neighborhood nonprofit can do – getting neighbors together to talk about crime & safety
 - How do we empower people together
- Nataly and Kelly could get together
 - Nataly met with Mr. Chavez
 - Accountability is getting lost because people are doing so many different things
- Lighthouse Network has a conversation with block leaders
 - Next Saturday Lighthouse Network
- EPIC create a subcommittee to work on crime and safety
 - Nataly and Kelly
 - Kelly makes a motion to create a Crime and Safety crime committee
 - Nataly seconds
 - All board members approve
 - Seeing if someone from South Side Harm reduction can come to those
- This is a life and death issue

MN Humanities Center grant

- We received the MN Humanities Center grant for 250 air filters for community members and for stipends for the Sept. 21st event for community organizations
- Total: \$17,650

Shut Down Smith Coalition

- Priorities moving forward: getting the site, remediation, what does a green foundry look like?, amortization bill, solidarity with other foundries

Clean and Green trash initiative

- Mapping out the neighborhood of where we need to put trash cans
- Goal: Have a trash can on every block
- Create relationships with businesses to sponsor the trash cans
- Start with one per neighborhood and grow