



STEVENS SQUARE COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION

Serving the Stevens Square-Loring Heights Neighborhood

1900 Nicollet Avenue South, Suite 216 ♦ Minneapolis, MN 55403 ♦ 612.874.2840
www.stevenssquare.org

Meeting of the Board of Directors

Agenda for Tuesday, May 7, 2024 at 6 PM

Plymouth Church room 215, and on Zoom

Join [meeting via Zoom](#)

Meeting ID: 865 7062 5115

One tap mobile: +19292056099,,86570625115#

Dial-in: +1 312 626 6799

The Board of Directors

Ken Strobel *Chair*

[Vacant Position] *Vice Chair*

Karen Ives *Treasurer*

Tay Sullivan *Secretary*

Members at Large

Kevin Washington Maureen Wells

Jodi Podulke Ann Hite

Scott Dickman Glenn Everette



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The purpose of this meeting is to conduct the business of the SSCO Board, which makes its decisions based upon the work of the committees, and to have committee chairs make their reports to the Board. Only Board members can vote on motions and when appropriate, motions can be opened to the floor for discussion. Discussions will follow parliamentary procedure.

Any person who wishes to be on the agenda for a Board meeting should contact the Board Chair in writing at board@stevenssquare.org ten (10) days in advance of the next scheduled Board Meeting. The Executive Committee reviews all requests and prepares the agenda.

SSCO recognizes that name and gender identity are central to most individuals' sense of self and well-being, and that it is important for SSCO to establish mechanisms to acknowledge and support individuals' self-identification. One way we can support identity is by honoring the name and pronouns that each of us go by.

Many people might go by a name in daily life that is different from their legal name. In our gatherings, we seek to refer to people by the names that they go by.

Pronouns can be a way to affirm someone's gender identity, but they can also be unrelated to a person's identity. They are simply a public way in which people are referred to in place of their name (e.g. "he" or "she" or "they" or "ze" or something else). At all SSCO Board and committee meetings, you are invited (if you want to) to share what pronouns you go by, and we seek to refer to people using the pronouns that they share. The pronouns someone indicates are not necessarily indicative of their gender identity.

City of Minneapolis Land Acknowledgement: *As we meet here today, we are reminded that Minneapolis is situated on the homelands of the Dakota people. An area that is steeped in rich Indigenous history, and today is home to Indigenous people from more than 30 different nations. As a City, we have a responsibility to care for the land on which we live and work and all of its natural surroundings. This stewardship is an integral part of our involvement in SSCO, and we honor it as we begin our meeting.*



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6:00pm: Intros (Name, Pronouns, Connection to the neighborhood)

- Ken Strobel (he/him), Jody Podulke (she/her), Tay Sullivan (they/them), Scott Dickman (he/him), Maureen Wells (she/her), Karen Ives (she/her), Ann Ludlow (she/her), Ann Hite (she/her), Emily Mara Kroth (she/her).

Minutes & Agenda

- Approve minutes from the April board meeting. [Find them here.](#)
- Maureen Motions, Karen Ives Seconds, unanimous vote.
- Approve today's agenda.
- Maureen Motions, Karen Ives Seconds, unanimous vote.

New Business:

Review and approve amended [Conflict of Interest Policy](#)

- Primary change is that we added an up to \$2,000 stipend allowed for board members so that Jody may complete the rental rebate and receive a stipend while still being a board member.
- Maureen motions to approve, Scott seconds, unanimous vote.

Committees:

Finance:

Vote to submit taxes

- 990 EZ (we don't pay taxes because we are a non-profit, but we have to file still)
- Our net income was about \$32,000 and we have leftover money and assets.
- We should have a board retreat to do financial training with Robert.
- Tay motions to approve, Scott seconds, unanimous vote.
- Tay will add this to the website.

Reimbursement for LaSalle Garden water hook-up

- Alex Young paid the utility bill (\$180) and we reimbursed him for this.
- Maureen motioned to approve, Scott seconded, unanimous vote.

Hiring Committee update/Community gardening

- Adam had his first day today (5/7). Tay got him set up with his email and phone number, gave him a tour of the gardens, and helped to begin development of short, mid, and longterm goals.
 - Short: organize and formalize processes for the LaSalle Garden
 - Mid: Monitor and help to move forward Robert Skafte memorial projects
 - Long: increase engagement and equitable access to our greenspaces
- ED job description and communications person description will be sent out to folks interested in continuing to be on the hiring committee. A meeting



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will be set to solidify these descriptions so that they can be posted ASAP. Updates will be provided to all who are interested as the process progresses.

Events and Engagement

- Community Cookbook: Rough draft of the cover done with patchwork for the cookbook and hoping to make May 18th event an opportunity to collect last recipes
- Ann Ludlow is working on finding food trucks (or ice cream trucks) for Juneteenth (June 19th from 5-7)

Safety

- Had first meeting in April, next meeting is May 23rd - it would be hybrid.
- At first meeting had a local beat cop attended and the Crime Prevention Specialist.

Neighborhood Development Committee

- First meeting was held on the 18th
- Heard back from Osman's office and they are starting the lighting project this week.

Old business:

Website and Newsletter

- Karen suggests hiring a communications person ASAP to take over the website, newsletter, and social media.

Calendar Updates

- Add Safety committee, exec meeting, may 18th and juneteenth

Wrap up and vote to adjourn

Scott motion to adjourn, Jody second, unanimous vote.



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UPCOMING EVENTS AND MEETINGS

Visit stevenssquare.org to view the time and location of each event

[Events and Engagement Committee](#)

Monday, March 18, 2024 6-7pm
Usually Third Monday of every month

Gardening at the Overlook

Over for the season!

[Board of Directors](#)

Tuesday, March 5 2024 6-7:30pm
First Tuesday of every month

Stevens Square Community Organization Mission Statement

SSCO provides a respectful forum for community involvement and leadership that builds on neighborhood strengths to promote and improve Stevens Square-Loring Heights as a fun place to live, work, and play. SSCO works to strengthen Stevens Square-Loring Heights by initiating, integrating, and implementing key priorities:

- *Economic development (housing and commercial development)*
- *Community safety*
- *Clean green environment*
- *Building community through the arts*
- *Community involvement*