

**Windom Community Council**

WCC / Windom Community Center - 5843 Wentworth Ave. S., Minneapolis

**Meeting Agenda for Thursday, March 10th, 2016**

7:00 - Call to Order, Welcome, and Introductions

Guest Speakers:
William Wells, Architect for new 6-unit apartment building at 5605 Nicollet Ave

7:15 - Approve Minutes

7:20 - Committee Reports:

**Events:**  TOTS ROCK (Pat, Nikki, Connie); **Communications:** Newsletter (Steve), Social Media, Website, Gmail (Nikki), Advertising (Doug); **Welcome Wagon** (Robyn); **Community Garden** (Brian); **Shared Use** (Pat)

7:50 - Community Coordinator Report: Nikki

Committee action plan, May meeting, Bike racks, Utility box art wraps, Class ( [Accessible Event Planning: Ensuring Your Nonprofit is Welcoming to People of all Abilities](http://www.minnesotanonprofits.org/events/2016/04/27/accessible-event-planning-ensuring-your-nonprofit-is-welcoming-to-people-of-all-abilities); member rate is $45 for the class, Apr 27, 2016 from 1:00-03:30 PM)

8:10 - Treasurer Report

8:15 - New Business

8:30 - Adjourn

**WCC Vision Statement**

The Windom Community seeks to be recognized, locally and beyond, as an attractive, supportive and involved neighborhood that takes pride in its cultural diversity and rich history. We are a community of people who strive to provide a safe, clean, educational and prosperous haven for all our residents and businesses.

**ACRONYM GLOSSARY**

NCR – Neighborhood Community Relations Dept. with the City of Mpls.

CPP – Community Participation Program – How we get our funding from NCR

Secretary Notes:

**Date:** 3-10-16

**Meeting start time:** 7:02

**Attendees:** **Board Members:** Pat Soulak, Doug Sweet, Patrick Barrett, Trudy Barrett, Steve Rawlins, Liz Lohman, Barb Hanson, Robyn Hansen

**Guests:** William Wells, Architect for new 6-unit apartment building at 5605 Nicollet Ave

**Guest Speaker/Topic and talking points:**

Wells presented a brief history of the development planned for this lot. The original design was for a 4-unit townhome to include 3 off-street parking spots. After evaluating the rent levels that would be associated with this design, the builders instead proposed a 6-unit townhome with no off-street parking. It was explained that because it is near a bus stop, no parking was required. Parking could be added, but would require a variance.

Residents expressed concerns and shared ideas:

* Current residents have been denied the opportunity to remodel properties because they can’t provide additional parking.
* Underground parking could be an option (water table, geological make up suitable).
* Wells believes only two parking spots could be created via the variance. Neighbors want at least one per unit (six spots).
* A bus rapid transit route on Nicollet would further reduce parking.
* Both cross streets are snow emergency routes,
* Immediate neighbors to the proposed construction expressed concerns about damage to their foundation, and loss of sunlight and backyard privacy.
* Residents see parking by transit users, also adding to parking issues.
* Residents were also surprised it could be developed as a multi-family unit, as it was previously a single family home.
* Would there be a way to require renters to not have a car?
* Residents expressed frustration with the City wanting more density, and perhaps seeing this as a way to force people to use transit. However, even those who commute or use transit often typically also have a car. If this unit is focusing on a higher end price point, the likelihood seems even greater that they would own at least one, if not two cars per unit.

**Minutes approved:** A motion was made by Doug and seconded by Liz, and the February minutes were approved

**Committees/Action items:**

**Events:**  Tots Rock will take place on the 19th. Robyn offered to help buy healthy snacks (such as clementines). Nikki will be doing most of the set up Friday night before the event with the park staff. Some help is still needed with food (selling pizza and managing snacks).

**Communications:** Newsletter (Steve) Next issue will go out in April (and will promote May meeting). Pat has article on JoVu Salon. Robyn will talk with Foxy Dogs and write an article. Barb has a neighbor who was a journalist and she will ask if he would be willing to write for the newsletter.

Social Media, Website, Gmail (Nikki) All continue to be updated and monitored. Because of an online discussion, information regarding the City’s Clean Sweep program was raised. Barb offered to complete the application and find a date to host a Clean Sweep Saturday in Windom. As an aside, Nikki mentioned that the areas on the neighborhood side of highway walls (along 35W and 62) are the responsibility of the neighborhood and residents to maintain.

Advertising (Doug) We recently made $750 depost for advertising.

**Welcome Wagon** (Robyn, Trudy) Robyn got the reusable grocery bags, and asked the board to please grab information that you see that you think a new resident would like to know so that it can be included in these bags. Resident Fran Morgan may also have some stuff to contribute.

**Community Garden** (Brian) Brien held his first meeting. Contracts for plots are out. Fruit trees have been purchased. $350 in plot fees have been received to date.

**Shared Use** (Pat) The small council met on Monday. An addition to the school may happen this summer (dividing a current room and adding one to create three additional classrooms).

**Annual meeting (May 12)**  We can’t use TMORA this year because of a conflict with a current exhibit. The board brain-stormed ideas of alternative venues: the Park multi-purpose room; Wild Mind Ales (if they are willing since in mid-construction); DanceLife Studio; a community room at one of the are apartment building; space at Mt Olivet day services building; Washburn Library; area church. Currently the Park room is being held and we will look into options.

**New business, issues:**

A discussion occurred regarding information that is included in the minutes. The board was reminded that the review time given to the board is when items that have not been included or need clarification, etc. are to be raised so the minutes can accurately reflect the business of the board. It can be very hard to capture everything especially if the secretary is involved in a discussion or when there are several comments being spoken at once.

It was also commented that the work of the board is as the decision making body. But, Windom also has what is called an active board, and it is an expectation that board members will be active in at least one committee. Committees are where the actions of the board happen. The role of the coordinator is to support these actions and help keep things moving forward, facilitating communications and representing the organization as needed.

There will be a City Conference, targeted to neighborhood organizations and their ilk, on Saturday, April 2. It is free and open to anyone interested in attending. Nikki cannot attend, and hopes someone from Windom board may be able to attend and provide an update on this event.

**Meeting adjourned time:** 8:34