# Providing tools to grow GREAT neighborhoods

# Rochester Minnesota's Neighborhood Resource Center

#### Vision

RNeighbors works toward a future in Rochester when community life is rooted in neighborhood networks that nurture citizen involvement for positive community change.

### Mission

RNeighbors empowers citizen leaders to create sustainable neighborhood networks that promote a vibrant, healthy and livable community.

# **Board of Directors**

Mark Bilderback Natalie Brown leff Ellerbusch Michael LaPlante Ahmed Makkawy -Caitlin Meyer Bob Nowicki Michon Rogers Michael Scharenbroich lason Schilling Aaron Stelpflug Paul Wilson

René Jones Lafflam **Executive Director** 

Ashley Borgschatz UM Work-Study Student

Agenda: Mayor's Neighborhood Council April 22, 2014, 5:30-6:45 pm

## **Welcome and Introductions**

What are you looking forward to in your neighborhood this spring?

# Mission of the Neighborhood Council Discussion

Draft Language: To strengthen connections between neighborhood leaders and give neighborhoods a collective voice

# Meeting schedule for the Neighborhood Council Discussion

- Location
- Membership requirements?
- Every two months, Tuesday, 5:30-7 pm
  - o June 17, August 19, October 21, December 16

What connections between neighborhood leaders would you like to see? (Small groups)

**Introduction of RNeighbors Speakers Bureau** 

# **Determine Agenda for next Neighborhood Council Meeting**

 DMC representative to address specific neighborhood questions

# Dismissal

What is something you'd like to learn about from other neighborhood associations?

### **Initiative Partners**





**Welcome and Introductions** (meeting facilitated by Michon Rogers) What are you looking forward to in your neighborhood this spring?

#### Slatterly

- Public safety initiatives
- Street mural painting
- Art on the Avenue

Saturday, May 17, 10 am-4 pm 1000 Block of 4th Ave SE http://slatterlypark.org/art-on-the-ave

#### **Historic Homestead**

Dog Walker Watch Training

Tuesday, May 13, at 6:30 pm and Saturday, May 17, at 9 am, at the Rochester Police Department's Training Classroom at the Olmsted County Government Center.

To sign up for training, email dhildebrant@rochestermn.gov.

# Washington (FOIH is partnering this year)

Neighborhood-Wide Garage Sales
 Friday, April 25, and Saturday April 26
 9th Ave. NW and neighboring streets

#### **Indian Heights**

- Celebrate Dakota! Week Events May 11-16 http://foih.org/dakota/index.html
- Carefest volunteers will work in park June 14
- Continue work on Indian Heights Master Plan
- Adopt a pond
- Samaritan Bethany Partnership Adult/Teen Challenge
   Ribbon cutting April 24, 11:30 am

#### **Eastside**

- Adopt a river- Eastside Pioneers
- Med City Marathon
- Varied meeting speakers

#### **Historic SW**

- Neighborhood rummage sale
- Street mural painting
- At the table for Soldiers Field Park discussion

# Mission of the Neighborhood Council Discussion

Draft Language: To strengthen connections between neighborhood leaders and give neighborhoods a collective voice

A good mission statement should include: 1. To do what 2. To whom 3. Why. Breaking this draft down to above guidelines:

1. Strengthen connections 2. Between neighborhood leaders 3. To give neighborhoods a collective voice.

#### **Final Mission** (voted on by unanimous show of hands)

To strengthen connections between neighborhood leaders and give neighborhoods a collective voice.

#### Name (voted on by unanimous show of hands)

Discussion occurred on exactly what the name of the group should be. Wanted to include a plural neighborhoods. Decision made to use the name: **Mayor's Council on Neighborhoods**.

This group is not intended as a commission and will function independently, assisted by RNeighbors (meeting facilitation, communication), answering to the Mayor.

# Meeting schedule for the Mayor's Council on Neighborhoods Discussion

- Location
  - The group decided meeting at the Rochester Area Foundation for future meetings would be a good plan. Thanks to this community partner! If and when the group gets too large for that space other arrangements can be discussed.
- Membership
  - Discussion took place and the group wanted to remain inclusive so any neighborhood group, whether a registered neighborhood association or not can attend meetings. No limit on number of attendees from each neighborhood. Voting can only be made by two representatives from each neighborhood association registered with RNeighbors.
- The group will meet every two months, Tuesday, 5:30-7 pm, unless a special meeting is called.
- 2014 schedule: June 17, August 19, October 21, and December 16.

# **Topics for the Future**

- Sharable skills/knowledge
- Increase meeting attendance
- City NA map (to see where everyone is from)
- NA budgets
   How to get funds
- Grant writing
- Procuring volunteers

- Accessing funds
   City, grants, sponsors, In-kind
- Working with relators
- DMC expectations
  - For neighborhood leaders
  - o Of them
  - Livable cities pillar
- How to become involved with new people to our neighborhood
- Heritage Preservation
   Committee
   Mission and guidelines for heritage properties
- How to identify resources in our neighborhoods (Passions/ abilities)



# **Attendees**

Back row (left to right): Tim Schmitt, schmittts@yahoo.com, Northrop; Mike Henry, matre24@gmail.com, Eastside; Ashley Borgschatz, borg0211@umn.edu, RNeighbors; Wayne Norrie, president@hswna.org Historic Southwest; Lyle Plumhoff, lplumhoff@msn.com, Washington; Barb Hudson, Hudson.barb@charter.net, Indian Heights; Michon Rogers, mizrogers@gmail.com, RNeighbors; Dawn Littleton, litt0129@umn.edu, Indian Heights; Randy Schubring randyschub@yahoo.com, Slatterly; René Lafflam, rene@RNeighbors.org, RNeighbors. Front row: Mike LaPlante, mlaplante@aol.com, Eastside; Kathy Brober, kjaerbro@gmail.com, Homestead; Eileen Zirbel, ezmn@earthlink.net, Homestead; Brian Rognholt, Brognholt@charter.net, Slatterly; and Barb Schafer, schafer41@msn.com, Slatterly. (Not pictured Mayor Brede, abrede@rochestermn.gov, City of Rochester and Bob Nowicki, bobnow@charter.net, RNeighbors.)