Windom Community Council Monthly Meeting Minutes
Thursday July 16, 2026
Hybrid Meeting held via ZOOM videoconferencing

Board Members Attending: Pat Soulak, Linnea Lopez, Sarah Bassett-Kim, Chad Fallon, Becky McIntosh, Katherine Krueger, Derek Goodman
Board Members Absent: None
Staff Present: Mario Vargas, Executive Director
Members of the Public Present: 8 members via Zoom.
Quorum Present

Call to Order: Meeting was called to order at 1800 by the President, Pat Soulak

6:00 Welcome Pat Soulak

- Steven Gallagher is a special guest from the city of Minneapolis NCR department

6:05 Code of Conduct Pat Soulak –

- Pat said there is a disclaimer at the end of the Agenda. Pat read the Code of conduct

6:10 Board Approval: July 16 WCC Monthly Meeting Minutes Chad Fallon-

- Members need to review and we will approve by email.

6:15 City Hall Updates CM Whiting

- Had meeting with Trellis regarding the Aqua City spot and it is proposed to have a 40 unit affordable housing complex. Construction September 2027.
- City Council – has 30 million dollar deficit. Council are looking at 11 percent property increase. Cut to MPD, MPD overtime was under reported last 2 years, and now they are accurately accommodating for overtime. 100 layoffs at City some are vacant positions. August 20th Townhall 6:30-. Monthly Coffee hours at Turtle Bread. CM Whiting has a score card after every council meeting. Will be on paternity leave for 2 weeks of nothing. 2 months of council meetings only. Health department has the most cuts. Services that are duplicated will go away. NCR and Comms merger with Diversity Equity, Inclusion. HR and Payroll from park board and bring in house to the city HR and Payroll. Minneapolis and County Health departments. 3 public hearings within community and the final hearing at City Hall. Linnea asked to get the dates so we can get them on our calendar.

6:20 Committee Reports

- Outreach and Community Engagement MP

  Windom Art Walk – Katharine worked with Del and others to get an ad designed and signs put out. With more lead time we can get engaged with businesses. We can do better with engaging renters. There were many different types of arts. Lemonade stand, musical performances and art and crafts. 16 people signed up for the art walk.

  A google signup form was created for people to sign up. There was a map of all the participants in the art walk. The signs were helpful for finding the different exhibitors. People loved chatting with neighbors. It will with more lead time be even better. Did a post event survey where there was a 50% response.

- Apartment Complexes:

  Windom Gables – Handed out voting information. They hired a manager that would setup events and we as a council can attend and get the word out. Windom organized a national night out and would like to do a larger event next year.

- City Limits Pat Soulak and Katharine Kruegger, Austin Heald

  They lost 23 tenants due to the Metro surge by ICE. They are in need of tenants and some residents need assistance with rent. There is an opportunity to go Market Rate rental rates. More to come.
  NNO varied in different neighborhoods

6:30 Community Development Derek Goodman

- Roger Worm – Southwest business alliance – discuss what we can help with for their event. Mid September 12th or 13th
- Becky attended the 5656 Blaisdell press conference after the rebuild of a 3-unit housing. They talked with Public housing. There were questions. Becky suggested putting native plants. They will start bringing tenants in September.

6:35 Safety and Health Chad Fallon

- No changes from last month. Setting a meeting for August 24th at 6pm to exchange ideas

6:40 Environment Becky McIntosh

- Agate housing arranged for Metro Blooms to have raised bed and other native plants. Spoke with a designer for their outdoor spaces.
- Community Garden – 61st – operated by a non-profit. We don't work with them directly. They focus on produce growing Third Wednesday of the month is the standard meeting date.
- We need to get committee meetings on the calendar.

6:45 – Will need a week but will get approval by Tuesday August 18th
Finance Committee – Will need to review and vote by email by Tuesday

- Board Approval: 2nd Quarter Financials
- Board Approval: CORF Request – Need Approvals
- Board Approval: NRP Implementation – Need Approval. Motion brought and 2nd The motion passed for reimbursement. 5 Yays and 1 Nay.
- Board Approval: Art Walk Expenses Reimbursement for Katharine Kruegger $370.64

Becky gave a breakdown of expenses. Mario said that Katharine did an amazing job in organizing in such a short amount of tim. Sarah Basset Kim asked if we got a document with the cost breakdown. Becky talked about that we should as a board preapprove money spent on events. Becky brought motion to approve Katharine Kruegers reimbursement. LINEEA seconded them. Unanimous approval.

6:55 Communications Sarah Bassett-Kim

- Volunteers are working with Sarah. Sarah is looking to work with Mario and Pat on what channels she can get access. Sarah had an open invite to volunteers. .

Pat made a motion to change the September meeting to September 17th and October to 1st.
Motion and 2nd. Unanimous vote for approval.

7:00 Published call for new Board member applications.

- Pat said 3 board members resigned so we are looking for new board members. Sarah Basset- Kim asked the process of admitting new board members. Pat Soulak

7:05 Executive Director Monthly report

- Planning the Art Walk, NNO planning at Windom Gables, Façade program working in a stringent process for approval. Working with Aqua City with Trellis for the type of housing. Hours are contracted to do day to day business. Website maintenance, assisting the Treasurer on finances.

7:15 Questions from community Pat Soulak

- Maggie, Asked whether the board can make decisions when under the 9 person minimum- 13 max. Steven Gallagher – 3 person minimum per state law. Neighborhood organizations under state law.
- Aimee Elizabeth asked that when the special session will be scheduled. Pat asked that we keep it to the agenda.
- Linnea felt that people in the community were hating on the board members. She asked that we give people grace as we grow in our positions on the board.
- Katharine had mentioned there are some people who are speaking negative in the community and they are talking to neighbors who are in the Windom neighborhood and many people are saying we don't want any part of that negativity.
- Chad asked for help the community to get things done by volunteering on the committees.
- Sarah Bassett-Kim said that questions from the community about the board members aren't necessarily adversarial, but are necessary in doing business on the board and it's OK to have disagreement.

7:27 Closing Comments Pat Soulak
7:32 Becky made the motion to adjourn. Chad 2nd the motion. All in favor!
Adjourn