



**Windom Community Council
Annual Meeting and Elections Meeting Minutes
Thursday, May 14, 2026**

(Hybrid Meeting held via ZOOM videoconferencing & In-Person at 5843 Wentworth)

Attending: Becky McIntosh (T), Michelle Hemingway (P), Dembo Darboe, Jamie Lieser (VP), Derek Goodman, Chad Fallon (S), Mario Vargas (Executive Director)

Special Guests: Jamison Whiting (Ward 11 Councilmember), Marion Greene (District 6 Hennepin County Commissioner), Aryca Myers (Minneapolis Neighborhood and Community Relations Department)

Attendance: Over 70 Windom members and guests attended the meeting.

Social Time: 6:00 pm -6:15 pm

Welcome/Call to Order: Jamie called the meeting to order at 6:20 pm.

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- Jamie started the meeting by welcoming everyone to the 2026 Annual Board and Elections Meeting.
- The annual meeting quorum of 25 or more Windom members in attendance was met.

Council Business

- **2025 Annual Programmatic and Financial Presentation Program Accomplishments Presentation**– Jamie/Staff
 - Staff presented key accomplishments in the areas of Community Development (housing), Environment, Community Safety, Community Outreach and Engagement. Key activities included:

Community Safety & Health

- Annunciation Catholic School Shooting Critical Response:
 - WCC mobilized to provide mental health resources and support for residents, parents and families directly affected by the incident. WCC partnered with local churches, various city departments including NCR, Emergency Response, University of Minnesota, Health Department and various area neighborhood associations.
 - WCC helped implement and staff the city's first ever Neighborhood Resource and Support Center in the Lynnhurst neighborhood. This was a strategic collaboration with the city's Emergency Response Center and NCR.
- Minneapolis Safety Walking Club Partnership: WCC Walking Group residents participated in 911 Operations Center tours, MPD Personal Safety Information Workshops, 5th Precinct Public Safety Events
- Windom Neighborhood Safety Walking Group: Weekly safety walks to meet our neighbors and engage in trash & litter pick-up.

Community Outreach & Engagement

- NEW HOME Line Partnership with the Windom Community Council through the AmeriCorps VISTA Tenant Engagement Initiative:
 - In the fall of 2025, WCC was assigned a AmeriCorps VISTA worker who will provide much needed tenant engagement and organizing support in Windom until August 2026. The renter/tenant community in Windom consist of about 17% of the total number of households in the neighborhood. It is a substantial community that continues to grow. Additionally, our renter community is also very diverse in race, ethnicity, culture and language.
- Windom South Park Partnership: Summer Ice Cream Social Community Engagement & Outreach Event
- Windom Community School PTO: Spring Celebration Community Engagement & Outreach Event
- Board volunteer accomplishment included:
 - Dedicated an estimated 960 Board volunteer hours to the Windom neighborhood
 - Reached over 1,300 Windom Residents through social media
 - Reached over 470 homes through Canvassing and Door-knocking
 - Windom Safety Club Board Volunteers Walked over 100 blocks and alleyways in Windom: picked-up eight 40-gallon bins of trash and recycling, made over 200 individual contacts with residents during walks



- **Community Development (Businesses, Housing)**

- ❑ Windom Small Business Façade Improvement Matching Grant Program.
 - ✓ In Partnership with the City of Minneapolis' Great Streets Program and Southwest Business Association WCC facilitated several matching grants to local Windom business for façade improvements.
- ❑ Trellis Management Affordable Housing Partnership:
 - ✓ WCC continued to work closely with Trellis leadership to ensure Windom resident engagement in the redevelopment of the old Aqua City Motel site. WCC sent a letter of support as Trellis secured public and private funding.
- ❑ Imaging a New Community Space for Windom Initiative:
 - ✓ For the last three years, WCC has been in conversations with Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board and the City of Minneapolis discussing the potential redevelopment of land south of 59th Street for community use.

- **Environment**

- ❑ Minneapolis Public Health Department Climate Legacy Grant Initiative Partnership: Green Cost Share Program Public Information and Community Engagement Campaigns.
 - ✓ WCC's Environment Committee tabled a number of community events reaching over 275 Minneapolis and Windom residents with Green Cost Share program information.
 - ✓ WCC's Environment Committee launched a print campaign targeting over 1,100 single family or 2-4 unit property owners in Windom with information about the program.
 - ✓ WCC's Environment Committee door knocked 30 selected local businesses to promote the program via tear-off card posters to local residents.

- **Overall Board Service Reach and Statistics:**

- ❑ Dedicated an estimated 700 Board volunteer hours to the Windom neighborhood
- ❑ Reached over 5000 Windom Residents through social media and direct-to-resident mailers
- ❑ Windom Safety Walking Volunteers Walked over 100 blocks and alleyways in Windom: Picked up 64 gallons of trash and recycling, made over 200 individual contacts with residents during walks.

- **2025 Financial Overview Presentation - Staff**

Staff presented the overall financial position in 2025 (calendar year/fiscal year) of the WCC.

- Total Income: \$75,835.65
- Total Expenses: \$76,390.00
- 2025 End of Year Net Assets / Fund Balances: \$32,700.54

- **2025 Board of Directors Elections – Staff, Board Member Derek Goodman, Marion Greene (Hennepin County Commissioner)**

A total of six seats were open for the 2026 Board Election even cycle. Two incumbents included Michelle Hemingway and Jamie Lieser showed interest in running for Board service in 2026.

- As required by the WCC By-laws, the day-of and in-person nominations process was opened, which produced six new candidates from the group: Aaron Corfield, Linnea Lopez, Sarah Bassett-Kim, Austin Heald, Katharine Krueger, Pat Soulak.
- A total of eight candidates ran for six open seats.
- The day-of in-person voting produced the following elected individual results for the 6 open seats:
 1. Aaron Corfield
 2. Linnea Lopez
 3. Sarah Bassett-Kim
 4. Austin Heald
 5. Katharine Krueger
 6. Pat Soulak

- **Windom Neighborhood Member Input Session**

- Participant input from 8 tables at the annual meeting on May 14, 2026. Where similar comments were made from more than one group, the number of time listed is shown:



What do you like about Windom neighborhood?

- Great community and neighbors – lively, lots of people out, friendly, walkable and bikeable (6)
- Diverse mix of people (2)
- Oak Hill Cemetery is nice (2)
- Local businesses
- Creek

What changes would you like to see?

Neighborhood:

- No Cop training center or gun range in Windom (6)
- Environment/green space:
 - Neighborhood pollinator garden/veggie garden/community garden (4)
 - Need more green space, more effective use of existing green space (boulevards, roadways) (3)
 - Organize free neighborhood mulch drop via Chip Drop
- Parks/School
 - New playground equipment/better park for kids/better playground/field for school (5)
 - Fenced in dog park (2)
 - More park space (2)
 - Make the church parking lot in Windom Corner into a park
 - Updated rec center
 - Community space separate from school
- Businesses/development
 - Fill Wild Mind, fill empty business spaces (2)
 - Develop LeJeune space
 - Revitalize where possible industrial space in south Windom
 - Post Office parking
 - Locally owned coffee shop (not Starbucks)
 - Dive bar
- Neighborhood Engagement
 - More opportunities to get together – maybe block parties
 - Block connector training, better block club communications (3)
 - Clubs like book clubs
 - More free pantries and mutual aid
- Other
 - Possible traffic management
 - Better bike lanes on Nicollet
 - Open Nicollet
 - Sidewalk through the bus lot

WCC:

- Communications:
 - Better ways to communicate with all people in Windom/monthly emails, more newsletters/emails/papers (6)
 - Website and social media improved and kept current (4)
 - Increase involvement through a more transparent board and pro-active communication about ways to get involved (4)
 - Better defined volunteer roles and approachable volunteers
 - Communicate more about new businesses, have a business directory (3)
- Events
 - Increase the number of events, including smaller and more casual ones, list of events regularly updated (3)
- Other
 - New form for voting
 - Getting out the vote
 - Support of community garden

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm