



Windom Community Council Monthly Meeting Minutes

Thursday, July 10, 2025

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

Attending: Becky McIntosh (T), Michelle Hemingway (P), Dembo Darboe, Jamie Lieser, Dawn Uremovich, Derek Goodman, Mario Vargas (Executive Director)

Absent: George Hall

Welcome/Call to Order: Michelle called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm.

Council Business

- **SoMi Volunteer Recruitment & Training Discussion**
 - **Volunteer Recruitment: WCC Board & Committee Members, Social Media (Facebook & NextDoor), WCC Website:** Two months ago, the Board accepted the Uptown Neighborhood Association's invitation to provide 16 parking attendant volunteers for the upcoming South Minneapolis (SoMi) art fair at Bachman's on Lyndale. Board members are asked to reach out to neighbors and family members (18+) and recruit 2 volunteers each plus a backup. The event is on Saturday August 2nd and 3rd volunteers are needed for two shifts (morning and afternoon). Sunday is a shorter day, as volunteers will start and end early. Staff will send out a signup sheet. WCC will receive \$1,500 for the effort plus a free 10 X 10 booth at the fair. Becky will be staffing the booth to promote the Green Cost Share Program. WCC will provide water and snacks. Bachman's is providing a gift bag for volunteers. These are the only incentives that we can provide at this point for volunteers.
 - **Volunteer Training:** There will be a parking attendant volunteer training at Bachman's in person and via ZOOM. The training is set for Friday, July 25th Noon – 1 PM @ 6010 Lyndale Ave S in the Heritage Room. The ZOOM link will be provided a later date. Board members are encouraged to recruit volunteers prior to the training.
- **WCC 2025 Fall Board Retreat Discussion (Phase I Planning): Purpose Review, Location & Date**
 - WCC has been doing a Board retreat for about three years and have settled to hold it in the fall 9 am – 4 pm on a Saturday when most folks can attend. **Purpose:** The retreat is used to discuss where the Board is now and where it wants to go. In the past, the Board has been held at Wood Lake Nature Center in Richfield. The last two years, it's been held at Hyland Nature Reserve in Bloomington. The idea has been to get Board members out of the neighborhood and It is the time when the Board comes together to plan for the coming and future years. It is the ideal time to set a vision for neighborhood and how we plan to serve the neighborhood which is very diverse and different in many ways from neighboring communities. This year, our 3-year contract with the city comes to an end and will be up for renewal in January 2026. It will be good to look at our renter engagement work and outreach to businesses. Lunch and snacks are provided.
 - **Recommended/preferred Date:** October 4, 2025. The executive committee can look at locations and make recommendations.
- **Windom Small Business Mini-Expo Ideation Purpose, Process, Location, Date & Times**
 - As a result of our annual meeting, the idea of a Windom small business expo. It would be a stand-alone event to bridge area residents with Windom local businesses. Windom businesses are interested.
 - Dawn will reach out to Pheobe, a local resident and professional event planner, to come up with a preliminary event plan.
- **Agate Housing Issues Update**
 - Agate Housing has changed directors. There have been ongoing issues and problems since the beginning of the year. WCC is to begin talks with Hennepin County and Agate to work on solutions moving forward.
- **2024 Annual Meeting Review: Attendance, Location, Food, Agenda, Logistics; Community Feedback & Recommendation.**
 - This item was moved for discussion at the upcoming Working Board Meeting for discussion. The idea



- **ANNOUNCEMENT:** Ward 11 Candidate Forum Update & Save the Date: Tuesday, September 30, 2025, Creekside United Church of Christ.

Committee Reports

- **Finance – Becky**
 - **2nd Quarter Financials & CORF Update:** The Finance Committee is to meet to finalize and approve at the committee level the 2nd quarter financials and CORF. WCC is expecting \$18,400 in the upcoming reimbursement. \$15,900 is the amount we have in the bank currently.
- **Environment & Land Use – Becky**
 - **Climate Legacy Contract: Green Cost Share Program Outreach Update:** The Committee is currently implementing activities for the summer around promotion of the Green Cost Share Program. The Committee will table at the upcoming farmers market at Kingfield and the group will be doing outreach to the businesses to help us promote the program.
- **Community Development – Dembo**
 - **Aqua City Property Redevelopment Update:** Trellis, the property owner and developer, is submitting financing applications by the end of July. By the end of December of 2025, Trellis will know if they get the funding needed to complete the final purchasing of the property to begin the planning phase in January 2026. The construction will be affordable housing vs. low-income housing with vouchers or voucher-housing. The project will not focus on housing the unhoused.
- **Safety & Health – George/Michelle**
 - **National Night Out Flyers Printing & 59th & Wentworth Event:** Planning is underway to plan a national night out to engage the park and 59th/Wentworth event. Dembo will reach out to the Block Leader Bobby to see if he is planning a NNO event for 59th.
- **Outreach & Community Engagement –Mario**
 - **Apartment Event & Surveying Update:** We will organize an apartment outreach event at Windom Gables for NNO this year.
- **Fundraising – Jamie/Mario**

Meeting adjourned at 7:32 pm