



WEST SEVENTH STREET / FORT ROAD FEDERATION

882 7th St W Suite 6, St Paul, MN 55102 • 651.298.5599 • fortroadfederation.org

D9 Fort Road Federation Board of Directors Meeting February 13, 2023

This meeting will be held on Zoom.

- I.** Call to order **7:06** pm by Karen Voracek, Board President
- II.** **Land acknowledgement** We respectfully acknowledge the sacred land upon which the Fort Road neighborhood resides. This is the traditional homeland of the Dakhóta Oyáte (Dakota People), unfairly ceded in the Treaties of 1837 & 1851, who stewarded it for millennia. The Ojibwe and other Indigenous nations have cared for this land as well. We invite all in attendance of this meeting to learn more about the true history of this land, and to search out the wisdom and stories of the Dakota, Ojibwe, and other Native people still here.
- III.** **Introductions** (name and neighborhood) - [Digital Sign-In](#) for guests
 - A. Board Members Present: Karen Voracek, Ruthanne Atkinson, Meg Duhr, Annie Reierson, Tanya Beck, Jessica Nelson, Kelsey Peterson, Bill McMahon, Sara Fleetam, Steven Tacheny, Maria Sarabia
 - B. Community Members Present: Meghan Redmond, Rebecca Noecker
 - C. Staff Members Present: Julia McColley, Mary Cutrufello
- IV.** **Community Input**
 - A. Open floor
 1. None
- V.** **Board Business**
 - A. Consent Agenda**

Items contained with the Consent Agenda are passed by a single motion, however items can be pulled for individual discussion and vote by request.

 1. Board minutes

*Motion to approve the Secretary's Report by Annie Reierson.
Seconded by Kelsey Peterson.*

Motion Passes.
 - B. Action Items**
 1. None



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C. Information & Updates

1. Land Use and Transportation Committee
 - a) Justus Ramsey House deconstruction and storage is in progress. Committee will work with Historic St. Paul on next steps to find a location and rebuild.
 - b) Ash trees with green paint will be removed. Residents can check the [Boulevard Ash Tree Management Program Map](#) to determine if their tree is scheduled to be removed. If not, they can potentially get a permit to treat and save it.
2. Community Engagement Committee
 - a) Working on developing community profiles, which will highlight interesting residents or business owners.
 - b) Putting together the West 7th t-shirt design contest. Will put out a call for submissions within the next few weeks. Goal is vote for the winner at the district council annual meeting.
3. Annual Meeting
 - a) Working on a speaker with the Mapping Prejudice Project from the University of Minnesota. There will be snacks, a kids' area, social hour, and beer (no discount from Summit though 😞).
 - b) Creating an updated Board recruiting video.
 - c) Board info sessions for Board recruiting happening in early March.
 - d) Julia will send info sessions and annual meeting to Board members as calendar invites.
4. District Plan
 - a) Had first meeting with the steering committee in January.
 - b) Public forums next week. Board member requests:
 - (1) Hit "Interested" on the Facebook events
 - (2) Post in Okayest and W7th Official groups on FB
 - (3) Attend at least one of those events
 - c) Next step is following up with Chapter leads.
5. President's Report
 - a) Will be contacting people whose seats are up for election in April to see who is interested in running
 - b) Mary Cutrufello is resigning as Executive Director. Working on a transition plan.
 - c) Julia will put out a poll about having our next Board meeting in person

D. Discussion

1. Councilmember Noecker
 - a) Trying to make sure that a situation like the Justus Ramsey House doesn't happen again. Having a conversation w/ DSI and city attorneys to discuss requiring fixing and maintaining of historic structures.
 - b) There is growing awareness that the Riverview Corridor and other planned improvements are much farther out than we thought and



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pedestrian safety is an issue now. Looking into interim measures we can take before those big projects to move forward; some small, tangible improvements like painting crosswalks, flashing pedestrian lights, etc.

- c) Working with Moms Demand Action on safe storage laws for guns, both in houses and cars.
- d) There was an officer involved shooting on Osceola and W 7th recently. Bureau of Criminal Apprehension (BCA) determines how quickly to release video based on multiple different criteria.
- e) Copper theft from street lights is a big issue costing the city hundreds of thousands of dollars/year. Trying to pilot some new solutions. If you ever see anyone who is working on a light and don't see a City of St. Paul truck right next to them, call 911.

VI. Adjourn - 8:54 pm