

THE RIVER BEACON

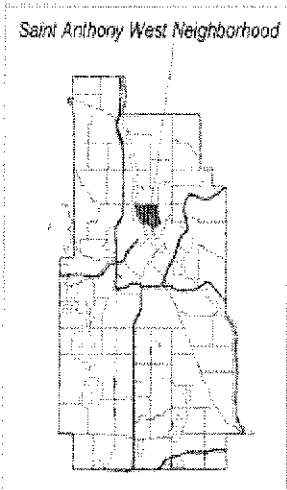
Welcome

Our goal with the River Beacon is to communicate local news and activities, and invite you and your neighbors to participate in its publication.

Inside this issue:

- Farmers' Market Report 1
By Daniel Brady
- NRP Revolving Home Loans 1
by Bob Margl
- Scherer Brothers Site 1
by Diane Hofstede
- Letter to Parkboard and 2-3
Commissioners
- Board Meeting 4
by Pete Gamadas
- Second Precinct 4
by Nick Juarez

Please submit articles or comments to neighbors@stawno.org or call Bob Margl, 612-378-0798 or bmargl@falkpaper.com



Farmers' Market Report

by Daniel Brady

I realize that there is a lot of anticipation for summer to arrive, for instance, there is World Cup Soccer in South Africa and a vacation to the Windy City. But close to home, there is opening day at the NE Farmer's Market and The Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser on Saturday, June 5th, in the basement of St Boniface Catholic Church which can be entered off the parking lot at University and 7th Av NE. The Fundraiser will begin at 9am serving organic whole grain pancakes donated by Whole Grain Milling Co., sausages handmade by Sentyrz, maple syrup courtesy of

N.R.P. Revolving Home Loans

by Bob Margl

St. Anthony West Neighborhood Organization and River Beacon Staff want to alert all residents to our own, dynamic community based, "N.R.P. Home Loan Program" featuring interest rate and initiation cost's dramatically below current financial markets. STAWNO's funds are managed locally by our Greater Metropolitan Housing Corporation Staff with offices at 909 Main Street NE and can be reached by calling Denise at 612-378-7985.

Residents should also note a substantive change in our Revolving Loan Caps from \$5,000.00 to \$20,000.00 reflecting

Scherer Brothers site Purchased by the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board!

The Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB) approved purchase of a little more than 10 acres of the Scherer Brothers Lumber Company land on the east side of the Mississippi River north of Plymouth Ave. and bounded by 10th

and 8th Avenues and Sibley St.

The site is a key parcel of river-front property in Northeast Minneapolis that will soon become parkland, expanding public access to the beauty and recreational amenities of the Mississippi River and advancing a 120-

M&M Highpath Sugarbush, coffee from Peace Coffee, and milk provided by Eastside Co-op. Along with the tasty food there will be plenty of music. Starting at 9:15 with the Eddies performing Sea Shanties and other Folk tunes followed by the sweet sounds of accordion player Dan Turpening. Also the Eddies will be performing a set outside to entertain while shopping at the market. The entire cost for the food, entertainment, and best of all, supporting the NE Farmers' Market and the community as a whole is \$6.00 for adults and \$4.00 for children 12 years and under. So come on down to gorge on healthy sustenance, yak with your neighbors and shop till you drop.

available funds and a more realistic look at the cost of today home improvement projects.

Current funding available through STAWNO's N.R.P. Phase I Revolving Home Loan Program. (including loan income) is \$279,240.25. With the anticipated Phase II STAWNO Revolving Loan Program contributing a possible \$180,000.00 in additional dollars.

These Revolving Loan dollars are a huge St. Anthony West Neighborhood asset helping to preserve and maintain our historic past and to guaranty our housing needs for the future.

We welcome your suggestion on this specific program and your comments on other article in this issue.



The land will help achieve the goals of the Above the Alls Master Plan, a long-range plan to develop the land along the Mississippi River in the Central Minneapolis Riverfront area as a regional park.



Dear Minneapolis Park Board Commissioners,

Our neighborhood parks, the B. F. Nelson park site and the Boom Island Park, are being united to create one legacy park, including the addition of the Scherer Brothers' purchase. The St. Anthony West Neighborhood Organization (STAWNO) Board of Directors asks that the plan that is being developed for these parks include the following:

The existing structures in the Boom Island Park are sound, but simply need to be maintained, including the restroom facilities. To remove these structures in these trying economic times is not prudent. The picnic pavilions, tables and play areas need to be restored and maintained, including the existing plaza along the river. These structures and areas are used by a diverse community. The larger pavilions proposed by the park staff would make this area of the park unwelcoming to participating members of this region. A "pay to use" would exclude our diverse citizens.

Restore and improve the waterfowl and natural habitat resources throughout the park by partnering with the Mississippi Watershed Organization, the University of Minnesota, Friends of the Mississippi River, the Native American community and other similar partners in order to create a national scenic area within our National Mississippi Park.

Retain and repair the existing children's playground and include natural features (plants, flowers, and native grasses), rather than building additional structures. Encourage children's curiosity and wonder about our natural environment and encourage their potential to observe, enjoy and learn about our watershed through our natural environment.

The proposed roadway, which would enter from 8th Ave. NE and cut

through the B. F. Nelson site to Marshall/Main Street, should not be built because it would be a pollutant and would damage the water quality and the restoration of the Mississippi River. It would also damage the natural beauty of this site by cutting it in two with a wide swath of blacktop. The planned bikeways, roadways and walkways for this beautiful park area need to be designed with the partnership of the Mississippi Watershed Organization and the U of M to present a plan that improves the water quality and habitat restoration throughout the entire park. This park is a legacy park that has been designated as a natural area, and allows participants the rare opportunity to experience the natural area of the River, the habitat and the wildlife. Additional roads and parking only take away the green areas of the park and the calming experience of the river's edge.

The mobile home (in the Boom Island north parking lot), which is used for riverboat ticket sales, needs to be removed and, if necessary, replaced by an appropriate brick and mortar building.

The addition of the Scherer Bros. property needs to be coordinated with the existing park by immediate planning to connect the areas along the riverfront for biking and walking – not driving.

Our goal is to feature and expand native plantings, shrubs and trees that maintain the skyline view, restore the natural habitat and restore the water quality of the Mississippi River. The Mississippi Watershed Organization should be consulted and partnered with to prevent additional water runoff to the river.

Our local artists need to be included in the planning to help provide an historical perspective as well as the presentation of their art. The U of M Art Department, the Minneapolis Institute of Art, and the College of Art and Design need to be included in a committee effort to help create a theme for the park and the selection process for the art which will maintain the exceptional view of the Minneapolis skyline.

The final plan for this unified park should comply with the following points outlined in the City of Minneapolis and the Minneapolis Park Board plans:

Uphold the principles in the Minneapolis Comprehensive Plan:

Policy 7.3: Maintain and improve the accessibility of open spaces and parks to all residents

7.3.1 Ensure that access to the city's lakes, streams and the Mississippi River continues to be maintained for the benefit of present and future citizens of Minneapolis.

Policy 7.4: Work to restore and preserve ecosystem functions in green open space areas.

7.4.1 Consider the impacts of open space on connectivity and habitat fragmentation when acquiring, altering, or disposing of land.

7.4.2 Support the acquisition and retention of land which performs important ecosystem functions.

7.4.3 Identify ecological impacts on open spaces and parks caused by urban uses, for example stormwater runoff, and work to mitigate these impacts in order to advance environmental and human health.

7.4.4 Encourage the protection, conservation and maintenance of the environment in the design and operation of open spaces.

Phone Numbers and Websites

S.A.F.E.™ Crime Prevention Specialist
2nd Precinct—Carol Oosterhuis, 612-673-2874

City of Minneapolis Information Number—311

Third Ward Council Member Diane Hofstede: 612-673-2203,
diane.hofstede@ci.minneapolis.mn.us

St. Anthony West Neighborhood Organization, 612-378-8886, www.stawno.org

Block Club Training and Information—612-673-3204



7.4.5 Increase the use of green infrastructure to decrease the city's impact on the natural environment.

Policy 7.5: Protect landscapes that are significant to the historic legacy of Minneapolis, the region and state, and preserve and expand artistic features in publicly accessed open spaces.

7.5.4 Use open space to protect prime public view corridors such as those of landmark buildings, significant open spaces, and/or water bodies.

Policy 7.6: Continue to beautify open spaces through well-designed landscaping that complements and improves the city's urban form on many scales – from street trees to expansive views of lakes and rivers.

7.6.1 Where open spaces and the built environment interface, seek greater design integration between them to create interesting spaces for active and passive use.

7.6.2 Provide visual and physical connections between urban areas and open spaces including lakes and rivers.

Uphold the following principles of the Minneapolis Critical Area Plan:

III. G-8. Natural Feature Protection: The MPRB will continue to improve natural habitat and native vegetation along the shoreline, reduce soil erosion, and create surface water cleansing ponds in its lands. The MPRB should also:

Continue to incorporate preservation and reforestation of native plant communities into its horticulture and forestry programs. Native plant communities should continue to receive high priority within these programs where natural succession is endangered by invasion of undesirable plants.

Identify and program projects aimed at improving the wildlife habitat. The overall objective should be to establish

and retain uninterrupted vegetated corridors and to provide nesting habitat where appropriate.

Protect, manage and maintain City-owned vegetated lands in the Critical Area, including publicly-owned embankments (other than industrial locations).

And 3. Uphold the following principles in the Minneapolis Park Board Comprehensive Plan:

Land, trees and water – the foundation of the park system – require long-term investment and care. Parks are protected to benefit the entire city; therefore, all residents have a stake in the future of the resources and bear responsibility for their stewardship. The Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board is committed to providing leadership in natural resource management, connecting people to their natural environment, and fostering a sense of stewardship.

Heritage and Historic Preservation: As the park system ages, its features gain historic importance. This provides opportunities for greater historic interpretation and programming, but can also mean increased costs. Historic preservation will need to be considered in the early stages of planning alterations to park facilities.

The MPRB Comprehensive Plan outlines a vision statement and four vision themes that will guide future development, operations, and maintenance of the Minneapolis park system to 2020:

Urban forests, natural areas, and waters that endure and captivate

Recreation that inspires personal growth, healthy lifestyles, and a sense of community

Dynamic parks that shape city character and meet diverse community needs

A safe place to play, celebrate, contemplate, and recreate.

Strategies for creating future parks include:

Continuing to expand physical access to the Mississippi River in a manner that is aesthetically compatible with the riverfront and sensitive to the environment, giving priority to implementing the Above the Falls Master Plan.

Working with the City of Minneapolis and other entities to identify and support multi-mode transportation corridors between parks, with preference given to routes that encourage non-motorized linkages between parks.

Honor the wonder of natural beauty and decrease any emphasis on the built environment.

Inventory other parks for "appropriate" and natural settings, water restoration, greening of our environment and habitat restoration.

In summary, our goal is to create a united legacy park that is distinguished by natural habitat and plantings. This park preserves a unique natural, wildlife feel while providing both an exceptional and extraordinary view of our Minneapolis skyline and an opportunity to enjoy an intimate connection to our greatest natural resource, the Mississippi River.

Events

June 5— Farmers Market Opening Day Breakfast, St Boniface Church, 9:00AM—1:00PM

June 10— STAWNO Board Meeting, Main St. Lodge, 6:30PM

June 16— Third Ward Care Meeting, Center For Families, 3333 4th St. N.,

June 16 con't— 7:00PM

June 19— STAWNO Garage Sale extravaganza, 8:00AM—4:30PM

June 21— Kiddie Parade, Dickman Park, Monday 5:00PM—8:00PM

July 6th & August 5th, & September 7th Our Lady of Lourdes Church, lower level—Neighborhoodfest Committee Meeting.



Notes from the Last Neighborhood Board Meeting

By: Pete Gamades

The St. Anthony West Neighborhood Organization's Board of Directors had their monthly meeting on Thursday May 13, 2010. The meeting focused on approving funding for the Dickman Park Summer Program, updates on the B.F. Nelson/Boom Island Park Plans, and a call for volunteers to staff a refreshment stand at the upcoming Stone Arch Festival.

The Board unanimously approved

Second Precinct

By Nick Juarez

St. Anthony West is off to a good start in 2010. Part 1 Crimes have shown a decrease compared to this time last year (Jan - April): Robbery is down by -3, Burglary is down by -4 and Theft is down by -14. The only increase St. Anthony

\$5000 from moneys raised at our Fall Fundraiser to bring back a Summer Program at Dickman Park. The Board is excited to provide a safe, fun environment for kids in our neighborhood. See insert for more details. As part of this summer program, there will be a Movie Night on Monday August 16 starting at dusk playing **Journey to the Center of the Earth**. This is will be a great night for all ages. Come

West has is in Motor Vehicle Theft which is +3 over this time last year.

As St. Anthony West Neighborhood Association conducts its outreach through the walking groups and at the NE Farmers Market, the 2nd Precinct encourages participants to encourage their neighbors to participate in the STAWNO email database; to participate in Block Club

and meet some of your neighbors!

The updates on the B.F. Nelson/Boom Island Park Plans consisted of new meetings the Park Board has set up to answer individual's questions and get more input from the neighborhood. The meetings will have occurred prior to this publication.

Finally, there was a call for volunteers to staff a refreshment stand at the Stone Arch Festival on Father's Day weekend. Contact our office if you can help out 612.378-8886 or neighbors@stawno.org. The Stone Arch Festival generously donates part of the proceeds back to us.

Training at the 2nd Precinct; to identify points of contacts on individual blocks and to start identifying people to host Block gatherings during National Night Out on August 3, 2010. Continue to encourage neighbors to call 911 and 311 to report incidents / issues on their block and in their neighborhood.

The key to crime prevention is organization at the block level and communication.

National Night Out is Aug. 3 - Start Planning Now!

National Night Out is an annual nationwide event that encourages residents to hold block parties and get to know their neighbors and it's a great way to promote community-police partnerships and enjoy a Minnesota summer evening surrounded by friends in your community. This year, National Night Out is Tuesday, Aug. 3. Register your event now at: <http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/nno/>

Dickman Park Summer Playground Hours

Tuesdays & Thursdays, June 15 - August 19, 12:00 - 6:00 PM

Naturalist Program MIA Art in the Park— Thursdays Tuesday & Thursday, June 24 - August 12 July 13 and July 15

4:30-5:30pm 3:00-5:00pm

Messy Art Cool in the Pool Field Games Playground Games

Tuesdays Tuesdays Tuesdays Thursdays, 1:00-3:00pm 3:00-4:00pm 4:00-5:00pm 1:00-3:00pm

Kiddie Parade & Movie in the Park— Family Picnic Journey to the Center of the Earth, Don't Miss These Special Events!!

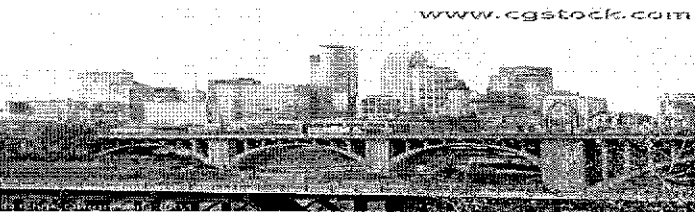
Monday, June 21 Monday, August 16, 5:00-7:00pm Begins at Dusk

FREE Family BBQ Fishing at Boom Island FREE Family BBQ—Tuesday, July 6 Tuesday, August 17 Thursday, August 19, 4:00-5:30pm 2:00-4:00pm 4:00-5:30pm

Dickman Playground— 636 2nd St NE, Minneapolis

For additional information Call Heidi at 612-370-4927

Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board & St Anthony West Neighborhood Origination Working together to bring summer playground programs back to Dickman Park



Huge "Garage Sales" Opportunities

Don't forget to answer the call by joining with your neighbors in participating with STAWNO's First Annual Community Garage Sale Extravaganza. The event will be held throughout our St. Anthony West Neighborhood, Saturday, June 19th 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM. Reserving your address requires a donation \$10.00 to STAWNO's Outreach Committee (helps cover advertising expenses) and a call to Mimi Holmes at 612-379-8318 to get on board. Our neighborhood's support is critical to this events success