

District 1 News

June 2018 • Volume 41, Number 3

Eastview, Conway, Battle Creek & Highwood Neighborhood News

Update on Community Planning for the Boys Totem Town Site

As many of you know, we received grant funds to support *Community Dialogues around Equitable Land Use*. The intention of the grant is to build trust between community members pertaining to the eventual land use for the area now occupied by the Boys Totem Town (BTT) residential treatment center.

The funds D1CC received were designed to bring citizens together to explore a shared vision of our community and to increase cross-cultural communications. A “Work Group” was formed to create a cohort of neighbors to facilitate outreach and to serve as a steering committee. Member’s roles were to learn about the planning process themselves, coordinate and run meetings, and help stimulate the imaginations of neighbors about the possibilities of the location. Three open community meetings were held that allowed for larger group discussion and two smaller groups visited the site. The outcomes of the committee and gatherings were extremely successful. Community members learned a great deal about the planning process, and we were able to gather meaningful information.

In reviewing our data, we realized that we haven’t had the level of engagement with low-income residents and communities of color that we had hoped. Through discussion and a review of the grant proposal, we will move into what we are calling “Phase 2.” This process will allow us to focus on the broader equity component of the project we originally proposed to the funder. In upcoming months, staff will

be intentionally reaching out to and meeting with underrepresented community members to explain how land use works, and provide education on the government planning process. As meetings are scheduled, we hope to tap the valuable knowledge and experience of the Work Group members to assist with the outreach. Staff member Chia Lor will be spearheading this initiative. Work Group members should look for an email in upcoming weeks outlining ways that they can be involved.

It’s important to note that our current role is not to make a decision about what happens to the future of the BTT site. Our role is to increase dialogue, build trust and help develop a sense of community. Our hope is that all community members know what to expect when the time comes for the City and County to explore the future of the site. This is at least three years away.

At the conclusion of our grant initiative, District 1 will compile a list of themes that emerged throughout the process, and will share those with the funder, the county and city. If you participated in the previous planning process, and would like to submit a statement or testimonial about the project, please send you messages to district1council@gmail.com. We will try to include this information in our report. We wish to offer a huge **Thank You** to all the Work Group members who committed time and energy to our process!

Eastview Recreation Center Mural

The District 1 Community Council was awarded a Community Arts grant from the Metropolitan Regional Arts Council to engage residents in a mural project this summer at the Eastside Recreation Center.

Local artist, Josephine Geiger, will create the mural design and will guide community members in the painting process. Josephine is a stained glass artist and trained architect who has been involved in the St. Paul Art Crawl for
(continued on other side – Eastview Mural)

Eastview Mural (con't from front page)

ten years. She has been featured on TPT: *Minnesota Original* and on *Handcrafted America*, via the INSP cable network. Her work has been exhibited at the Minnesota State Fair, and she has received an award through the Minnesota Craft Council.

This mural project was initiated as a means of bringing neighbors together to show off their creativity in a fun and safe environment. Participation dates for planning and painting will be posted on the District 1 calendar.

"This activity is made possible by the voters of Minnesota through a grant from the Metropolitan Regional Arts Council, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund."



District 1 Fundraising

We need your help with the D1CC mission to share knowledge and power, build leadership, and work for justice. Please make checks payable to D1CC and mail to 2105 ½ Old Hudson Road, St. Paul, MN 55119, OR donate online at district1council.org. Include your snail and email addresses, and note if you do NOT want your name listed in future publications. D1CC is a 501c3 nonprofit organization and contributions are tax deductible to the extent provided by law.

District 1 Clean-up, June 23, Volunteers Needed

Plan ahead and clean out that junk! This year the city has 5 events planned for dropping off your large refuse items, recyclable materials not collected in the curbside program and share usable goods with others.

This year's event in our area is on Saturday, June 23 at Harding High School from 8 am to 1 pm.

There is a cost to drop most things off – however it is pretty low; on average residents pay 35% of costs and the city pays 65%. You must pay with a check or cash. For fees and restrictions search online for “st

paul drop off events” or check out www.district1council.org.

Volunteers Needed!

We need volunteers at **Harding on Saturday, June 23** to greet people, direct traffic, unload materials and assist with the **Senior Pick Up** program. Volunteers receive a voucher to dispose of one load of materials for free.

Contact us to help out! OR to arrange a Senior Pick Up. District1chia@gmail.com or 651.578.7400.

Upcoming Events (See Calendar on our web page for more info)

- **Land Use Committee**
June 4 & July 2, 6:30-8:30 pm
- **Exec/Finance Committee**
June 13 & July 11, 5:30 – 7:00 pm
- **Communications/Outreach/Safety Comm**
June 18 & July 16, 6:00 – 7:30 pm
- **District 1 Comm Council Board Meeting**
June 25 & July 23, 6:30 – 8:30 pm, Battle Ck Rec
- **Young Mentor's Group**
Thursdays, 6:00 – 7:00 pm, Sunray Library
- **East Side Pride Open Mic**
On Summer Break
- **Coffee with Jane Prince (our council person)**
June 12, 3:30 - 5:00 pm, Flat Earth Brewery,
July 10, 9:00 – 11:00 am, Starbucks (Target)

- **District1 Drop-off Event**
Saturday, June 23, 8:00 am – 1:00 pm

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