

Southland Park Residents Association Inc.

Minutes for Oct 26, 2021

In attendance: Michelle Friesen, Don Blasko, Tanya Vincent, Adriana Suver, Darry Knockaert

Regrets: Duana Joubert

Guest: Shelley Napier

Shelley's presentation

Shelley, a resident of Southland Park, came to speak to SPRA about her desire to keep our neighbourhood looking well-kept and make some improvements.

Several items were discussed:

- SPRA could purchase large planters that would be placed on boulevards. Residents would commit to maintenance, including weeding and watering. Nurseries may be able to provide some items at cost or perhaps donate them.
- The entrance (East Mint Place) should be the priority and the first focus for improvements. We need to investigate the possibility of using the water supply from the condos. Lighting on the boulevard can also be considered.
- We are hoping to get support from City Councillor and MLA. Audrey Gordon has voiced support for a beautification project when she met with Shelley.
- Shelley and SPRA are interested in canvassing the neighbourhood and raising money for the specific project of improving our boulevards/median.
- While the City is ultimately responsible for upkeep and they did clean the median again this year, the residents will be able to make greater improvements if we engaged together and choose a project.
- We can consider tapping into the desire of the neighbourhood kids to have family fun days and get a project done and for youth to potentially earn some extra income. We could also consider a contest to encourage neighbours on the same street to compete for the best street.
- Ideas for boulevards: adding planters, adding shrubs, adding flowers around the trees, replace bricks with grass, add benches.
- Tanya and Shelley will get information on planter options and costs.
- Shelley will investigate grant opportunities.
- Michelle will contact the City to see if stumps can be removed before any project is started.

Agenda and previous meeting's minutes were approved

Precinct J update

The builders held another virtual meeting. The plans are getting more detailed with regards to placement of streets and the types of housing. Southland Park residents voiced concerns about train noise, ways to connect via a road or active path to the new development, lack of space for a school, and different lot sizes which mean current residents may have to share a fence with two future residents.

MUAS update

It is now too cold to start on this, this year and there are still items to finalize. Ground-breaking is now in Spring 2022.

The Forestry branch of the City of Winnipeg has notified the SPRA that they are planning to add trees to the park in Spring.

Outdoor rink update

Darryl spoke with most of the residents who back on to the park space and there isn't a concern about building a skating rink.

Darryl and Michelle will lead this project and investigate possibilities regarding construction and costs.

CN Rail noise update

A letter was sent, regarding concerns of increased and ongoing noise from the CN yard, to Dan Vandal, MP. Audrey Gordon and Shawn Nason received a copy via email.

SPRA will post some information regarding the steps that have been taken to address this situation on our website.

Adriana will reach out to Dave and Jane – residents who are quite concerned about the noise and see if they'd like to take the lead with this issue.

Newsletter update

Michelle has the completed draft. Edits will be completed by next week and Michelle will send the newsletter to the printer. It will be distributed door-to-door mid-November.

Resident concerns since last meeting and Facebook approval process

A few residents are concerned about speeding in the neighbourhood.

Facebook approval process will continue as it has until now. Adriana will adjust the notice that has the rules for interacting on this page, as the current one still has Tomi's name on it.

Scheduling SPRA meetings and date for next meeting

We will attempt to meet the first Monday of every month.

Next meeting is on Monday, December 6th at 6:30 pm at Michelle's house.

Items deferred until next meeting

- Future Event - Winter Community Activity
- Community sharing library update