

Annual Neighborhood Meeting April 20

Join your neighbors for NENA's Annual Neighborhood Meeting on Thursday, April 20, at Minnehaha United Methodist Church, 3701 East 50th Street. The evening will begin with a social hour at 6:30 and a free buffet dinner, courtesy of Fat Lorenzo's.

You'll have an opportunity to browse the 2005 Annual Report, view displays of our work, and talk to the volunteers whose projects are improving your neighborhood.

The meeting, starting at 7:30 p.m., will include volunteer recognition, Board Elections and a discussion with Bob Miller, NRP Director, on the future of the Neighborhood Revitalization Program.

Keynote: NRP and NENA Beyond 2009

The current funding stream for the Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP) is set to expire in 2009. Hear from NRP Director Bob Miller what the Policy Board is doing to keep this internationally recognized program alive. A special task force has been researching funding options and is expected to release its report at the end of April. Mr. Miller will talk about the future of neighborhood groups and how we can continue investing in neighborhood improvement.

Board Elections

Each of NENA's four neighborhoods (Keewaydin, Morris Park, Minnehaha and Wenonah) will elect two people at the Annual Meeting to represent them on the Board of Directors. Board members serve two-year terms.

As we go to press, several positions do not yet have candidates. If you are interested in serving on the NENA Board, please call us at 724-5652, for more information on the duties and expectations of Board members. To run for a neighborhood representative position, you must live in that neighborhood. If you're not sure which neighborhood you live in, please call the NENA office or check the neighborhood map on our website.



Bring a Donation for the Minnehaha Food Shelf

For the second year in a row, we are asking everyone to bring a donation for the Minnehaha Food Shelf. Bring a nonperishable food or household item, or make a cash donation. Toilet items, disposable diapers, and paper goods are welcome.



Nokomis East Station Area Planning Update

The third community planning workshop for the Nokomis East Station Area Plan (NESAP) was held on March 23 with over 100 residents and guests attending. Workshop 3 asked people to look at the planning area divided into "precincts" and think about what is most desired and appropriate for each precinct. Participants were asked to consider types of uses (e.g., commercial, residential), building heights, streetscape elements, public infrastructure and amenities.

The next step is for the consulting team to draft a plan based on community input, traffic and market conditions, and city goals. The draft Plan will be presented at an Open House on May 11 (see calendar, p.2), for public review and comment.

In the meantime, two developers have asked to present plans for properties on the east side of the 5300 block of Minnehaha Avenue. NENA will host meetings for residents to see the plans and offer their opinions.

Community Meetings

Olin Crossings Phase II Plans

Tuesday, May 2, 7pm, Morris Park Comm. Center, 5531 – 39th Ave. S.

Proposal to redevelop the F & D Motorworks site at 54th Street and Minnehaha Avenue. The developer will present plans and ask for your input.

Station Area Plan Meeting #4 - Open House for Draft Plans

Thursday, May 11, 7pm, Keewaydin Comm. Center, 3030 East 53rd Street.

View the draft Station Area Plan compiled by the consulting team. All residents will have an opportunity to comment on the plan before it is finalized and begins the approval process through the City Council.

Metro Plains Development Proposal

Thursday, May 18, 7 pm. (Location TBA- check with NENA).

Metro Plains will discuss a proposal for a mixed income housing development on the Ricky's Loft site (5359 Minnehaha Avenue).

Nokomis Library Public Meeting: Open Libraries for Everyone!

Tuesday, April 25, 6:30 - 8:00 pm
Nokomis Community Library, 5100 - 34th Ave. S.

Join **The Friends of the Library** for an open discussion on the challenges ahead in keeping our libraries open. Why are library hours so limited? What does the future hold? And what can we — as individuals and a community — do to open our libraries more hours?

The forum is free and open to the public. Refreshments served. Additional forums at other Minneapolis community libraries will be scheduled throughout the Summer and Fall of 2006.

Minneapolis & St. Paul Home Tour, May 6 and 7

Thirty-five Minneapolis homes and 20 in St. Paul will be open for viewing during this NRP-sponsored event. New this year are solar homes and bus tours of the event on Saturday, May 6.

Homes will be open from 10 - 5 on Saturday, May 6, and 1 - 5 on Sunday, May 7.

For bus tour information call Ginger Barli at 612-668-3866. Look for the Tour Guide in your home-delivered Minneapolis Star Tribune on April 29, City Pages racks on May 3, at public libraries, and community education sites in late April. More information will be on the NENA Website when it becomes available.



Regular NENA Meeting:

All meeting start at 7 pm at the NENA office unless noted otherwise. Please check the Calendar page at www.nokomiseast.org for scheduling changes and cancellations.

People Services & Safety Task Force

1st Tuesday of the month

Environmental Task Force

2nd Monday of the month

Housing Task Force

2nd Tuesday of the month

Neighborhood Planning and Development Committee

2nd Wednesday of the month

Board of Directors

4th Thursday of the month.

New Boulevard Trees for Nokomis East

Nokomis East residents will see 450 boulevard trees planted this year to fill gaps left by Dutch Elm disease over the last few years.

Last year, NENA allocated \$37,000 of its NRP funds to purchase replacement trees for the neighborhood's boulevards. A "ReLeaf" grant of \$10,000 from the Minnesota DNR is supplementing those funds.

A tree inventory of the Nokomis East was completed by the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB) Forestry Division last year. Expect to see the trees planted throughout the Spring and Summer. If your boulevard gets a new tree this year, please "adopt" the tree and make sure it is watered regularly.

Detailed tree care information will be distributed to homes nearest the new trees. NENA is also collaborating with the MPRB to put tree care information on our Website later this Spring.

The Tree Project, lead by NENA volunteer Mike Cramer, also included a Tree Care Clinic offered in September 2005. Residents attending the clinic learned planting techniques and maintenance practices that can help ensure a healthy tree for many years to come. The clinic was well attended and approximately 40 trees were distributed to homeowners for planting in their yards throughout the area.

Area children from Keewaydin and Wenonah Elementary Schools will be involved in the Tree Project as a Spring community service activity. MPRB staff will deliver wood chips, rakes, shovels, water buckets and other supplies, and teach kids about mulching, watering and other ways to be kind to trees.

East Nokomis Parkway Repaving Starts April 17

East Nokomis Parkway, between Cedar Avenue and East 50th Street, on the east and north side of Lake Nokomis, is scheduled to be repaved beginning April 17 and taking four to six weeks to complete. During construction, there will be closures of parkway sections being worked on. Parking will not be allowed on the parkway (from Cedar Avenue and East 50th Street on the north side of Lake Nokomis) between 7:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, during the construction period.

Select curb and gutter work will also be done as part of the project. All construction will be done by City of Minneapolis Public Works crews. For more information about the repaving, contact Dawn Sommers at MPRB, 612-230-6407 or dsommers@minneapolisparcs.org.



Wenonah School to Get New Community-Build Playground

Wenonah School has received a grant from the Minnesota Vikings for a Community Build Playground by KaBOOM!

The playground will be built by volunteers, including Vikings Team members, on Thursday, June 8. Watch the NENA website or our column in the Longfellow/Nokomis Messenger for more information.

Growing a Monarch Habitat

In the 2006 growing season, the Nokomis Naturescape (located on Lake Nokomis at 50th St. and Nokomis Parkway) will highlight monarch butterfly conservation efforts. The site will become certified as a *Monarch Waystation* through Monarch Watch (www.monarchwatch.org). Working with the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board, Naturescape volunteers will plant more monarch host and nectar plants. New signage will highlight the plants.



NENA recently received a grant underwritten by the National Science Foundation (through the Minnesota Science Museum) to develop educational materials on the Naturescape project and monarch habitat. Naturescape volunteers are creating a display on monarchs and holding educational events to help residents create monarch habitat in their own yards. The display will be unveiled at the NENA Annual Neighborhood Meeting on Thursday, April 20.

Look for more information on the Monarch project in the Summer NENA Review or at www.nokomiseast.org.

Gardening-for-Monarchs Workshop, Plant Sale

Tuesday, May 16, 6:30 pm
Nokomis Community Center, 2401 E. Minnehaha Parkway

The Nokomis Naturescape Gardeners are partnering with the Wild Ones, the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board and native plant nurseries to give a presentation on monarchs, migration and conservation. We will highlight Growing Monarch Habitat. A native plant Garden-to-Go will be available for purchase.

Adopt-a-Native Plant Garden at the Naturescape

You can help create and maintain monarch habitat! The Nokomis Naturescape has three demonstration gardens that are “divided” into smaller gardens for people/groups to adopt and maintain. The Naturescape Gardeners meet Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. from May-September at 50th Street and Nokomis Parkway. Come early for a Weeding Workout – yoga stretches before gardening – on May 23, June 27, July 25, and August 22 at 6 pm. For more information call NENA at 612-724-5652 or Vicki Bonk at 612-727-3562.

The NENA Review

Circulation 6,100
is produced and published by the
**Nokomis East
Neighborhood Association, Inc.**
3000 E. 50th St. Mpls, MN 55417
phone: 612-724-5652
fax: 612-724-2770
email: nenan@nokomiseast.org
Editor: Rita Ulrich



www.nokomiseast.org

You are Invited

Nokomis East's 2006 Annual Neighborhood Meeting

Celebrating Community Involvement

6:30 Open House

- ❖ Complimentary buffet from Fat Lorenzo's
- ❖ Displays and project updates
- ❖ 2005 Annual Report

7:30 General Meeting

- ❖ Volunteer recognition
- ❖ The Future of NRP and the Neighborhoods
- ❖ NENA Board elections

*Please bring a foodshelf item or monetary donation for the
Minnehaha Foodshelf.*



We are again proud to serve a complimentary Italian buffet, freshly prepared at the church by the talented cooks of Fat Lorenzo's.

Thursday, April 20, 6:30-9:00 pm

Minnehaha United Methodist Church, 3701 East 50th Street, Minneapolis.

NENA Review

Nokomis East Neighborhood Association
3000 East 50th Street, Minneapolis, MN 55417

www.nokomiseast.org

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