

Little Bohemia Neighborhood Association
Meeting notes, February 2, 2017

Meeting hosted by Jen Gelhar, 295 Sturgis Street, 7:00 PM—Chaired by Mark Fangmeier

Introductions! Also 2017 Meeting Host sign-up.

Q & A with Lauren Stuftt, guest from St. Paul Forestry. Little Bohemia is on the 5-year planting schedule for 2017. This office manages trees on boulevards and in parks, also controlling the spread of the emerald ash borer. They are working to emphasize botanical diversity. If you go to stpaul.gov/forestry, you can call Lauren's office to request tree replacement and obtain planting information. The city orders the year's trees in March, so if you want to make a special request for this year, *call soon*. There was some discussion of fruit trees in public areas, especially parks. (There may be some regulations against them in parks, but is fine for us to plant fruit trees on the MnDOT land along the bike path.)

Sadly, the spread of the emerald ash borer cannot be stopped by quarantine. Ash trees that are not infested now will be infested in the future. The problem is getting larger. It is expected that all ash trees in St. Paul will be infested and die within a decade; by contrast, St. Paul Forestry's current budget assumes removing all ash trees within 20 years. Do the math.

Stone Saloon update. Tom Schroeder. Built in 1857 as a saloon, this historic site is being restored as a public space—with historically accurate architecture, building history, beer recipes and foods. Probably opening in August, depending on granting of licenses. The “brew barn” construction proceeds. This will house the modern amenities and mechanicals, thus keeping the historic building ‘pristine.’ The brew barn will also house a small kitchen, a small brewing operation, sausage-making, restrooms, HVAC, etc. Look forward to a “pre-temperance lager.” This will mean German styles, heavily influenced by local ingredients (as was originally the case in the 1850s). Look for a Kickstarter fundraiser this coming spring. See stonesaloon.com.

Hope Engine Co. 3 Fire Station update. Tom Schroeder. Not much has happened, other than three extensions of the stay preventing demolition of the building. The developer is NOT currently fighting the stay. LBNA helped Tom get the initial stay, and he is grateful to us. The fire station has been deemed eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places.

MSP Home Tour. Marit Brock. The tour is April 29-30. Little Bohemia has been on the Tour for four (4) years. This year there is some consideration about potentially including commercial buildings. Approximately three slots are being held for Little Bohemia homes. If you are interested in perhaps having your home included on the tour, please call or email Margo Ashmore, (612) 867-4874, mfashmore@aol.com. Decisions need to be finalized by the end of February.

Garden Tour 2017. Update! Joe Landsberger circulated copies of last year's guide to the tour. Please sign out soon if you're interested in participating in this year's tour. Preparations need to be complete by the end of February. We're looking for approximately a dozen gardens.

There is a meeting about this tour on Saturday February 11—for more information, please email Jen Gelhar, jen@mnnature.org.

Bike Path update. MnDOT, City of St. Paul and LBNA meet on Friday—Mark, Lindsay and Jen will represent LBNA. Sarah Gleason is asking for anyone who might be able to assist her with the historic data to go on the back side of the Burger King bike trail bulletin board (email Sarah at lgaservices@gmail.com).

Jen, Lindsay and Mark met with reps from the City of St. Paul and MnDOT the morning after the LBNA February meeting to discuss how city planners can best coordinate with the neighborhood and MnDOT during construction of the bike path later this year. Most likely construction will begin sometime this summer, highlights include: resurfacing of the bike trail, additional lighting along the trail and improved crosswalks at St. Clair and Grand Avenues. You can learn more about the project at the upcoming Fort Road Federation Meeting with presentation about the bike path project - Monday, February 13th at 7pm at the Fort Road Federation Building at 974 West 7th. There will also be a community meeting about the CIB Grant to update the bike path - February 28th at 7pm at Palace Community Center at 781 Palace Ave - <https://www.stpaul.gov/departments/public-works/road-construction/i-35e-trail-reconstruction>

Current Problem Properties/Safety Concerns. The tenants of 435 Banfil have been evicted (though some cars remain temporarily on the street). The landlord has been receptive to work with the city.

Remember to call 266-8989, and report nuisance properties to the City!

The next LBNA business meeting will be Thursday March 2, 7:00 PM, hosted by Nicki Nolen at 73 Western Avenue. Send agenda ideas to info@littlebohemiasstpaul.org

Upcoming Events:

- **Fort Road Federation Meeting** with presentation about the bike path project - Monday February 13 at 7:00 PM, Fort Road Federation Building, 974 West Seventh Street.
- **Community Meeting about the CIB Grant to update the bike path**—February 28 at 7:00 PM, Palace Community Center, 781 Palace Avenue. See this URL:

<https://www.stpaul.gov/departments/public-works/road-construction/i-35e-trail-reconstruction>

If you find glaring errors in these notes, please send corrections to sisk@macalester.edu