

# **East Bank Neighborhoods Partnership**

## **Bylaws**

**Approved 12-7-2024**

### **Preamble**

The intent of these Bylaws is to guarantee equal treatment to everyone who is eligible to participate in the affairs of the corporation known as the East Bank Neighborhoods Partnership (the "Corporation"). The purpose of this organization shall be to support and promote the common good and general welfare of the community.

### **Article 1: Definition of the Organization**

#### **A. Name**

The name of this organization shall be the East Bank Neighborhoods Partnership.

#### **B. Jurisdiction**

The Corporation's jurisdiction shall include the neighborhoods defined by the City of Minneapolis and designated as Marcy-Holmes, Nicollet Island / East Bank, Southeast Como, and University (collectively the "Greater Neighborhood").

#### **C. Status as Neighborhood Organization**

The Corporation is a nonprofit corporation governed by Minnesota Statutes Chapter 317A, as it may be amended from time to time, and is a neighborhood organization for purposes of Minnesota Statutes Section 317A.435, Section 317A.439, subdivision 6, and Section 317A.441(b) and (d).

### **Article 2: Members**

Members with voting rights are (1) individuals of voting age whose primary residence is within the Greater Neighborhood and who, at a meeting of the Corporation, can produce upon request a Minnesota driver's license, Minnesota identification card, or some form of residency verification that indicates the individual resides within the Greater Neighborhood (a "Resident Member"); or (2) any one representative of a property, business, or nonprofit entity owned or operated within the Greater Neighborhood and who, at a meeting of the Corporation can produce upon request proof of representation of such a business or property (a "Nonresident Member"). An individual who meets either of these Membership criteria but lacks the required documentation may vote at a meeting of the Corporation if a Member who has the required documentation vouches for the individual.

### **Article 3: Meetings of the Members**

#### **A. Meetings of Members**

There shall be at least four meetings of the Members during each calendar year at times and places in or out of the Greater Neighborhood as set by the Board of Directors, one of which shall be designated as the Annual Meeting. The annual meeting shall be held in the fourth calendar quarter of each year. At Members' Meetings, reports of the activities of the Corporation shall be presented by the officers to the Members, Directors elected, Bylaw amendments requiring Member approval voted on, if any, and other business transacted. All meetings will be open to the public. Minutes of all meetings will be kept and be available upon request.

#### **B. Special Meetings**

Special meetings of the Members may be called by the President or by twenty-five percent (25%) of the Directors, or by any thirty (30) Members by written demand describing the purpose for the meeting and delivered to the President. The purpose of special meetings shall be to discuss issues relating to the common good or general welfare of the neighborhood for which neighborhood opinion or consensus must be sought in a timely way and cannot wait for the next regular meeting of the Members. Within thirty (30) days after receipt of a demand for a special meeting of the Members, the Board shall cause a special meeting to be called and held no later than 90 days after receipt of the demand. The Secretary shall cause notice to be given as provided under Section C of this Article, and such notice shall state the purposes of the meeting. The business transacted at a special meeting is limited to the purposes stated in the notice of the meeting.

#### **C. Notice**

At least ten (10) but not more than thirty (30) days before a meeting of the Members is held, notice of the meeting shall be given in a manner designed to notify all Members of the meeting, to the extent practical as determined by the Board of Directors. Notice of a meeting of the Members shall include notice that the election of Directors shall occur at such meeting, if applicable.

#### **D. Voting**

Passage of a motion or resolution shall require the vote of a majority of the Members present and eligible to vote at the meeting. No Member may vote by proxy or cumulatively. The Board of Directors, or a committee thereof, shall determine a fair, accurate, and efficient way of tallying votes taken at meetings of the Members.

#### **E. Quorum**

A quorum for the transaction of business shall consist of twenty-five (25) Members present.

## **Article 4: Board of Directors**

### **A. Eligibility**

A Director must be a Member of the Corporation. Up to three Directors may be Nonresident Members. All other Directors must be Resident Members.

### **B. Election Districts**

The Greater Neighborhood is divided into three (3) election districts (the “Election Districts”), as shown in the map attached as Exhibit A.

#### **1. Election Districts**

Members from each Election District will elect three (3) Directors. At least one (1) Director from each Election District must be a renter.

#### **2. At Large**

Members from the Greater Neighborhood will elect six (6) at large Directors. At least two (2) of the at large Directors must be renters

#### **3. Owner Occupants**

At least two (2) Directors must be owner occupants.

#### **4. Filling Empty Seats**

If there are not enough renter or owner occupant candidates to meet the requirements of this Section, the Director seat(s) will remain vacant, and the Board will use its best efforts to expeditiously recruit Board candidates to satisfy the requirements of this Section.

### **C. Size and Tenure**

The Board of Directors shall consist of 15 Directors, including officers. Directors will be elected at the Annual Meeting of the Corporation and shall serve for a term that expires at the Annual Meeting of Members held in the second year following his or her election. Terms of Directors will be staggered such that the terms of approximately one-half (1/2) of the Directors will expire each year. The Board of Directors may establish procedures to implement and manage the staggering of terms.

### **D. Term Limits**

A Director who has served as a Director for six (6) or more years of Consecutive Service is not eligible to be elected or appointed to the Board. A former Director is eligible to rejoin the Board after 12 months of being off the Board. Consecutive Service means time served on the Board after November 1, 2024, without a gap of at least 12 months in between period of service.

E. Election

Directors shall be elected at the Annual Meeting of the Members. Newly elected Directors will take office immediately upon election. Nominations may come from the floor and may be submitted by the Board of Directors or a committee thereof. The Board of Directors may establish procedures for Board nominations and the conduct of elections.

F. Vacancies

1. Generally

Vacancies occurring on the Board other than those caused by the expiration of a term of office shall be filled by the appointment of a Director by the remaining Directors. A Director appointed to fill a vacancy shall hold office for the remainder of the unexpired term of his or her predecessor and until his or her successor shall be elected and qualified. A vacancy may be created by the resignation in writing of a Director upon delivery to the President, the automatic removal of a Director through excessive absence as defined in section H of this Article, or by the removal of a Director as provided for in section H of this Article. A vacancy shall be declared by the President at the first meeting after it occurs and may be filled at any meeting of the Board after at least ten (10) days' notice to the Members.

2. Vacancy in Director Seat Elected from an Election District

In the event of a vacancy in a Director seat elected from an Election District, the vacancy will be filled as provided above, provided that the replacement Director must be (i) a Resident Member residing in the same Election District as his or her predecessor, or (ii) a Nonresident Member with a property, business, or nonprofit entity located in the same Election District as his or her predecessor

G. Duties of Directors

1. Meeting Attendance

Directors shall attend all meetings of the Board of Directors and the meetings of the Members. Attendance is defined as physical or remote (as authorized by these Bylaws) presence for (i) at least one hour of any meeting, or (ii) the duration of the meeting; whichever is shorter.

2. Committee Participation

Directors are encouraged to be active participants in any Board committees, as in effect from time to time.

H. Removal of a Director

Any Director may be removed from office, with or without cause, by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the entire Board of Directors at a regular or special meeting of the Board called for that purpose, but with due notification of such action and the right to be heard therein. Directors who

have been absent from four (4) regularly scheduled meetings, within a twelve (12) month period will be deemed removed without any further action by the Board.

I. Compensation

No Director shall receive monetary compensation for his or her participation as a Director. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Directors shall be entitled to reasonable compensation for services rendered to the Corporation in any other capacity. No part of the compensation of an employee of the Corporation who also is a Director of the Corporation shall be compensation for services as a Director. The Corporation may, but shall not be required to, purchase officers' and Directors' liability insurance without obtaining reimbursement of all or any part of the premium without violating these Bylaws.

**Article 5: Board Meetings**

A. Regular Meetings

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors shall be held at least eight (8) times a year at a time and at a place in or out of the Greater Neighborhood determined by the Board. Regular meetings may be canceled by a majority vote of the Board.

B. Special Meetings

Special meetings of the Board may be called by the President, Vice President, or any four (4) Directors acting jointly. The types of business that may be conducted at a special meeting of the Board are identical to those that may be conducted at regular meetings, except as provided in these Bylaws. The person(s) calling the meeting are responsible for notifying the Secretary, either in person or in writing, at least seven (7) days in advance of the meeting, and the Secretary shall give notice of the meeting as provided in Section C of this Article.

C. Open Meetings

Board Meetings will be open to the public, except as necessary to discuss privileged or personnel matters.

D. Notice

Not less than three (3) days' written notice of a regular or special meeting of the Board of Directors, excluding the day of the meeting, shall be given to all Directors; however, if the date, time and place of a Board meeting have been announced at a previous meeting of the Board, notice is not required. No notice of any meeting, regular or special, need state the purpose of the meeting except as may be specifically required by these Bylaws or otherwise required by law. Notice of a meeting at which an amendment to the Articles of the Corporation will be proposed must contain the substance of the proposed amendment.

Notice shall be delivered personally, sent by facsimile communication, sent by electronic mail, posted on an electronic network together with a separate notice to the Director of the specific posting, mailed, first class, postage prepaid, or such other methods as are fair and

reasonable as determined in the sole discretion of the Secretary. Whenever written notice to Directors provides less than five (5) days' prior written notice of the meeting, excluding the date of the meeting, reasonable effort shall be made to notify Directors by telephone of the meeting at the time of giving written notice, but the failure to contact any Director(s) by telephone shall not affect the validity of the meeting or any action taken at such meeting.

Any Director may waive notice of any meeting of the Board of Directors in writing before, at or after a meeting. The attendance of a Director at any meeting shall constitute a waiver of notice of such meeting, unless he or she objects at the beginning of the meeting to the transaction of business because the meeting is not lawfully called or convened and does not participate in the meeting. The waiver shall be filed with the person who has been designated to act as secretary of the meeting, who shall enter the waiver upon the records of the meeting.

E. Quorum

A majority of serving Directors at any Board meeting shall constitute a quorum.

F. Action Without a Meeting

Any action required or permitted to be taken at a Board meeting may be taken by written action signed, or consented to by authenticated electronic communication, by the number of Directors that would be required to take the same action at a meeting of the Board of Directors at which all Directors were present. If any written action is taken by less than all of the Directors entitled to vote, all Directors entitled to vote shall be notified immediately of its text and effective date. The failure to provide such notice, however, shall not invalidate such written action. A Director who has not signed or consented to the written action has no liability for the action or actions taken thereby. A written action is effective when it is signed, or consented to by authenticated electronic communication, by all of the Directors required to take the action unless a different effective time is provided in the written action. For purposes of this Section, an electronic signature satisfies the requirement of a signature so long as the electronic communication containing the electronic signature sets forth sufficient information from which the Corporation can reasonably conclude that the communication was sent by the purported sender.

## **Article 6: Board Officers**

A. Officers and their Duties

The officers of the Corporation shall consist of the President, the Vice President, the Secretary, the Treasurer, and such other officers as may from time to time be elected by the Board. No person shall hold more than one office at the same time. Except as provided in these Bylaws, the Board of Directors shall fix the powers and duties of all officers.

B. Election, Term of Office, and Residency.

The officers shall be elected by the Board of Directors at its first regular meeting following the third meeting of the Members in a calendar year. The President and Vice President

must be Resident Members of the Corporation. Other officers may be either Resident Members or Nonresident Members. The officers shall be elected for a term of one (1) year and serve until their successors shall have been elected or until their earlier resignation, removal from office or death. A President may not serve for more than three (3) consecutive one (1) year terms. A President may serve for more than three (3) one (1) year terms so long as they are not consecutive.

C. President

The President shall preside at all meetings of the Members and of the Board of Directors. The President shall sign all contracts and other instruments made by the Corporation and shall have general active management responsibility for the affairs of the Corporation. Except as otherwise stated in these Bylaws or in a resolution of the Board, the President shall appoint the members of committees of the Board, subject to the approval of the Board. He or she shall perform all duties prescribed by the Board of Directors and those usually pertaining to the office of President.

D. Vice President

The Vice President shall perform all duties assigned by the Board. In the absence, disability, or refusal to act of the President, the Vice President shall perform all powers and duties of the office of the President.

E. Secretary

The Secretary shall ensure that full and correct minutes of all meetings of the Members and of the Board are kept. The Secretary shall make all reports and statements required by the President and by the Board or by law and shall oversee custody of the minutes and records of the Corporation except those pertaining to the finances of the Corporation.

F. Treasurer

The Treasurer shall have custody of all moneys of the Corporation. The Treasurer shall ensure that records and accounts are kept showing the Corporation's transactions, accounts, liabilities, and financial condition and shall ensure moneys are deposited in a responsible depository approved by the Board. The Treasurer shall make all financial records and accounts available for examination by the Board or the President at a time designated by the Board or President. The Treasurer shall turn over all books and records to the President at close of his or her term of office.

G. Delegation

If permitted by these Bylaws or by a resolution adopted by the Board of Directors, the officers of the Board of Directors may, without further action of the Board of Directors, delegate some or all of the duties and powers of an office to other persons, including but not limited to employees of the Corporation. An officer who delegates the duties or powers of an office remains subject to the standard of conduct for an officer with respect to the discharge of the delegated duties and powers.

## **Article 7: Committees of the Board**

### **A. Committees of the Board**

The Board of Directors may establish one or more committees of the Board as may be specified in resolutions approved by the affirmative vote of the Directors in office. Such committees of the Board shall have the authority of the Board of Directors in the management of the business of the Corporation to the extent provided in these Bylaws or in resolutions approved by the Directors currently holding office. Such committees, however, shall be subject to the direction and control of the Board of Directors. Committee members must be Members and unless otherwise specified in these Bylaws or by resolution of the Board of Directors, are appointed by the President, subject to approval of the Board. Committee meetings will be open to the public, except as necessary to discuss privileged or personnel matters.

### **B. Ex Officio Member**

The President, or a representative appointed by the President, shall be an *ex officio* member, without voting rights, of each committee of the Board.

### **C. Committee Procedures**

The provisions of these Bylaws shall apply to committees and members thereof to the same extent they apply to the Board of Directors and Directors, including, without limitation, the provisions with respect to meetings and notice thereof, absent members, written actions, valid acts and conflicts of interest. Each committee shall keep regular minutes of its proceedings and a current roster of Committee members and report the same to the Board of Directors.

### **D. Executive Committee**

There shall be an Executive Committee which shall consist of the officers of the Corporation. The Executive Committee may act on behalf of the Corporation on any urgent matter when the Board of Directors is not in session, reporting to the Board of Directors of the Executive Committee's action at the next regular or special meeting. Three (3) Members of the Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. Meetings may be called by the President or by three (3) members of the Executive Committee.

### **E. Other Committees**

From time to time, the Board shall designate such committees as are deemed appropriate to carry out the functions of the Corporation. These functions include but are not limited to finance, development, zoning, environment, communications, human resources, and Bylaws. Committees may be appointed for a specific purpose (such as planning or monitoring a specific development project or issue), and such committees shall dissolve upon completion of their charge, as determined by the Board. Such committees shall have the authority and powers as designated in the resolution establishing the committee. Unless specifically stated otherwise in the resolution designating the committee, such committees shall not have the full authority of the Board of Directors to act on behalf of the Corporation and must submit all acts to the Board of Directors for approval before they become effective.



F. Committee Membership

Committees shall have at least three (3) members. Committee members are appointed by the President, subject to the approval of the Board, and must be Members of the Corporation.

G. Committee Chairs

1. Generally

One member of each committee shall be designated by the committee to be its Chair. Each Committee Chair must either be a Director or be approved by the Board of Directors to serve as a Committee Chair. The Board shall approve committee chairs annually or as vacancies occur.

2. Duties

The Committee Chair shall call, publicize and organize meetings, and shall report on the activities of the Committee and shall also keep track of the membership of the Committee.

**Article 8: Miscellaneous Organizational Items**

A. Rules of Order

The rules contained in *Robert's Rules of Order, most recently revised*, shall govern in all Member and Board Meetings, where they are not inconsistent with the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws of the Corporation. Committees of the Board of Directors will be governed by rules and procedures adopted by the Board of Directors.

B. Fiscal Year

The Corporation shall keep its books and records on a fiscal year basis from January 1 to December 31.

C. Retention of Records

The Corporation shall keep minutes of records and official correspondence for a reasonable period of time, as determined by the Board.

D. Remote Participation in Meetings

The Board may authorize remote participation in Member, Director and Committee meetings. Authorized remote participation means any form of telephonic or electronic participation approved by the Board in which all participants may hear all other participants.

E. Amendments

These Bylaws may be amended from time to time by a majority vote at any regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Corporation provided that written text of the proposed

amendment has been distributed to the Directors at the previous regular Board meeting, except that changes to Bylaws fixing a quorum for meetings of Members, prescribing procedures for removing Directors or filling vacancies on the Board, fixing the number of Directors or their classifications, qualifications, or terms of office, or fixing the vote required for a Member action, must be approved by a majority vote at a meeting of the Members, after proper notice is given.

## ELECTION DISTRICTS

