



The Bancroft Banner

A newsletter for the Bancroft Neighborhood

Spring 2023 • Vol. XXXIII, No. 2

BNA Annual Meeting

Thursday, April 20
6:30-8:00 p.m.
Bancroft Elementary
3829 13th Ave. S.



La Reunión Anual de BNA

el jueves 20 de abril
6:30-8:00 p.m.
la Escuela de Bancroft
3829 13th Ave. S.

The BNA Annual Meeting will be held on Thursday, April 20 at 6:30 p.m. at Bancroft Elementary (3829 13th Ave S). Come join us for a bite; hear updates from the board, neighborhood committees, and Andrea Jenkins, the Ward 8 Council Member; and meet your neighbors. Childcare is available, but please call or email to let us know how many young people you'll be bringing, so we can plan accordingly.

The Annual Meeting is also the time we elect new board members. Volunteering on the board is a fun and interactive way to make positive impacts and get to know your neighbors. We invite you to consider running for the Board of Directors that represent the neighborhood.

The BNA board meets on the first Thursday of every month, with no meeting held in July. The meetings begin promptly at 7:00 p.m. and finish by 8:30 p.m. Board members are expected to attend all board meetings. Additionally, board members are required to serve on at least one committee, attend the annual half-day board training session (in the neighborhood), and help with neighborhood events to ensure they are successful. For more information about the annual meeting, serving on the board, or to volunteer your time, please call or email the BNA office.

Translation and accommodations available upon request. Please contact Mickella at mickella@bancroftneighborhood.org.

La Reunión Anual de BNA tendrá lugar el jueves 20 de abril a las 6:30 p.m. en la Escuela de Bancroft (3829 13th Ave S). Venga y únase a nosotros para tomar un bocadillo; escuchar actualizaciones de la junta, los comités vecinales y Andrea Jenkins, miembro del Consejo del Distrito Electoral 8; y conocer a sus vecinos. Hay cuidado infantil disponible, pero llame o envíe un correo electrónico para informarnos de cuántos niños traerá, para que podamos planificar en consecuencia.

La Reunión Anual es también el momento en que elegimos nuevos miembros de la junta. El voluntariado en la junta es una forma divertida e interactiva de generar impactos positivos y conocer a sus vecinos. Le invitamos a considerar postularse para la Junta Directiva que representa al vecindario.

La junta de BNA se reúne el primer jueves de cada mes, y no hay reuniones en julio. Las reuniones comienzan puntualmente a las 7:00 p.m. y terminan a las 8:30 p.m. Se espera que los miembros de la junta asistan a todas sus reuniones. Además, los miembros de la junta deben participar en al menos un comité, asistir a la sesión anual de capacitación de la junta de medio día (en el vecindario) y ayudar con los eventos del vecindario para asegurar que tengan éxito. Para obtener más información sobre la reunión anual, servir en la junta o para ofrecer su tiempo como voluntario, llame o envíe un correo electrónico a la oficina de BNA.

De ser solicitados, tendremos servicios de traducción y ajustes de accesibilidad razonables a disposición. Por favor contacte a Mickella a través de mickella@bancroftneighborhood.org.



Defend the Depot: An open letter to Minneapolis City Council and Mayor

We, the neighborhood associations of the South Central Minneapolis Anti-Racism Collective and others, stand in solidarity with our neighbors in East Phillips against the demolition of the Roof Depot building for the Hiawatha Expansion Project as planned by the City of Minneapolis. In doing so, the city is going against a decade of consistent and unyielding opposition from a racially diverse, working-class community. The demolition of the Roof Depot building will bring even more pollution to a neighborhood that, along with North Minneapolis, suffers from the worst air-quality in the city and, as a result, significantly higher rates of asthma, heart-disease, cancer and many other health conditions.

The City of Minneapolis has long recognized the need to reduce pollution in East Phillips in words. In 2017, the city launched the Green Zone Initiative to clean up the air, water and soil of its most polluted neighborhoods. In 2019, the city amended its mission statement to include its commitment to “dismantle institutional injustice and close disparities in health, housing, public safety and economic opportunities.” After the murder of George Floyd at the hands of a police officer employed by the city, they further declared that racism is a public health emergency. Since then, the City of Minneapolis has failed to remove two of the biggest polluters from East Phillips: Bituminous Roadways and Smith Foundry. With the demolition of the Roof Depot building, the city is now failing again to translate commitments made in words into meaningful action.

East Phillips is presenting a powerful alternative vision: the conversion of the Roof Depot building into a community-owned indoor urban farm. In stark contrast to the City, the community’s vision meets all of

the goals of the Green Zone initiative and offers a variety of solutions to the significant environmental, health, food, and racial disparities in East Phillips neighborhood and Minneapolis.

We call on the City of Minneapolis to meet the demands of the community and the coalition of Indigenous peoples and allies joining together to stand for environmental justice for the East Phillips community and all of Minneapolis. Those demands are:

- **Completely relocate the Hiawatha Campus Expansion Project**
- **Hand over control of the Roof Depot site to the community**
- **Provide funding for the community vision of an indoor urban farm at the Roof Depot site**
- **Commit to plans for removing Bituminous Roadways and Smith Foundry from East Phillips**
- **Enact a moratorium on encampment evictions**
- **Invest in pilot programs to provide shelter and services to the houseless community**
- **Provide funding for peer support workers**

There is still time for the City of Minneapolis to stop, change course and listen to our neighbors, the community of East Phillips. **We are joining our voices with East Phillips because we believe every person in Minneapolis—regardless of race, income, or neighborhood—deserves to breathe clean air and live long and healthy lives.** Mayor Jacob Frey and members of Minneapolis City Council, we implore you: listen to our friends and neighbors in East Phillips and fulfill your commitments to them and to all of us.

Signed,

Bancroft Neighborhood Association
Bryant Neighborhood Organization
Central Area Neighborhood Development Organization
Powderhorn Park Neighborhood Association
Corcoran Neighborhood Organization
Kingfield Neighborhood Association
Linden Hills Neighborhood Council
Tangletown Neighborhood Association

Metro Transit wants to hear from you

Network Now is a five-year plan to design transit service to best meet the needs of our region. Over the next 18 months Metro Transit will engage with riders as they review service changes made between 2020 and now to set our network of today, and create options for service improvements through 2027.

The first step is to gather feedback on our region’s values and principles regarding transit. This information will help them shape how decisions are made for the next steps of the project.

To share your feedback, please take the survey at metrotransit.org/network-now.

It should take about 5-10 minutes to complete. All responses are anonymous and confidential. If you have questions or need assistance filling out the survey, please email NetworkNow@metrotransit.org or call 612-373-3333, option 3 and ask for community outreach coordinator Erik Thompson.

BNA Calendar

*All BNA meetings will continue to be held online. Call the BNA office at 612-724-5313 or email info@bancroftneighborhood.com for meeting information.

April

Stress Awareness Month

- 6 Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- 17 Outreach Committee, 7:00 p.m.
- 18 Tax Day
- 20 BNA Annual Meeting, 6:30-8:00 p.m.
- 22 Earth Day
- 28 Arbor Day

May

National Mental Health Awareness

- 4 Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- 8 Outreach Committee, 7:00 p.m.
- 14 Mothers Day
- 29 Memorial Day
- 31 Curb Appeal Lottery deadline

June

LGBT Pride Month

- 1 Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- 12 Outreach Committee, 7:00 p.m.
- 21 Summer Solstice

Did you know...

You don't need to have a Facebook account to access neighborhood information on BNA's Facebook page. All information is public, so check us out today at: facebook.com/bancroftneighborhood



NRP funds for BNA strategies

It's that time again—time to move funds into the strategies that will help BNA implement its plan for 2023-24. This is a normal part of the Neighborhood Revitalization Program, which has technically ended a few years back. Neighborhoods are now working to use up those funds before the City can take more funds away from neighborhood work. As part of that process, we are giving broad notice of which funds are being moved, in order to give residents a chance to weigh in. The official wording and a synopsis of why the funds are being moved is included below.

- \$96,698.12 moved from **Phase I 1.1.3. Home Improvement Program to Phase II D.2.3.1 Phase II Implementation and Phase II D.2.5.1. BNA Banner & Website** — these funds will allow BNA to run most programming, pay staff, office space, utilities, supplies, outreach, and communication.

- \$23,954.53 from **Phase II A.1.1.2. Low-income Deferred Matching Loan Program to Phase II C.1.1.2. Youth Work Program** — these funds will allow BNA to continue working with youth in the neighborhood. Programs include snow shoveling and the Meridian Garden.

- \$10,000 from **A.3.1.1. Emergency Home Repair Grant to Phase II A.1.1.2 Home Improvement Loan Program** — these funds will allow BNA to run the Curb Appeal Lottery program for another two years.

The total funds being moved is \$130,922.65 and the community will vote on moving the funds at the Annual Meeting; however, if you cannot make the meeting, you can still vote online at surveymonkey.com/r/56RJRM6 (there is a link on the BNA website).

Moving funds from one strategy does not preclude re-funding that strategy in the future should a program fit. If you have any questions or comments, please reach out to the BNA office at info@bancroftneighborhood.org or 612-724-5313.



The Bancroft Banner

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For information, or to receive your copy of the *Banner*, write:

Bancroft Banner

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www.bancroftneighborhood.org

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Help support the BNA with a tax-deductible donation!

We warmly appreciate any amount you wish to give. Please make checks payable to BNA and send to:
Bancroft Neighborhood Association
4120 17th Ave. S.
Minneapolis, MN 55407

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Bancroft In Brief

Curb Appeal Lottery

The BNA Curb Appeal Lottery will be back for 2023! The program allows eligible participants to apply for matching grant funds to be used for home improvement projects. The program covers exterior projects and all projects must be visible from the sidewalk (landscaping excluded). Bancroft homeowners and property owners of non-commercial properties with up to four units are eligible to participate in the program. Renters are encouraged to work with their landlord to apply. Businesses and commercial property owners are not eligible to participate in this program, but could be eligible for the Great Streets Façade Improvement Program. Applications are due by May 31. More information as well as the sign up form can be found at bancroft-neighborhood.org/curbappeallottery or by contacting the BNA office.

“No Mow May”

Spring is around the corner and many Minnesotans are already buzzing about No Mow May! This growing movement creates important habitat and resources for pollinators that keep our ecosystems running. But here's our take on it: Let's go beyond No Mow May!

There is more to sustainable lawn care than choosing not to mow your lawn. No Mow May is a great start, but you can take the next step and do equally simple actions to help pollinators and clean water year-round:

- Raise your mowing blade (letting lawn grow out to 6” and cutting down to 4”)
- Use low-input turf species that reduce carbon costs
- Only watering when needed
- Planting a bee lawn

Security Rebate Program

The BNA board has created a Security Rebate Program to help Bancroft residents make security-related improvements to their properties. The program will reimburse up to \$50 per household for improvements such as exterior motion lights, replacing deadbolts on exterior doors, replacing window locks, and even off-setting the cost of installing a security system (but monthly fees cannot be reimbursed). The program is available to each residential address once per calendar year. More information can be found on our website, including a list of eligible and ineligible improvements; however, the list is not exhaustive. If you are unsure if your improvement will be covered, contact the BNA office first at 612-724-5313 or info@bancroftneighborhood.org.