

POLICY RESOLUTION # 7 – Jonathan Association Board of Directors

DATE: July 12, 2011

RE: Designating Portions of Jonathan as Historic Properties

While reaffirming that:

1. The Jonathan “New Town” experiment, as envisioned by Henry T. McKnight, is a unique and exceptional part of Chaska history; and,
2. Certain Jonathan neighborhoods include “physical history” (Children Playing Monument, Jonathan Silo, Trail Head Park area, walking trails, and an undetermined number of residences) that reflect aspects of the “New Town” movement; and,

In addition to acknowledging that:

3. A sampling of how Minnesota Heritage Preservation Statutes/local ordinances are implemented in other Minnesota towns reveals Chaska’s Chapter 10.5 to not be as citizen-centric and property owner-friendly as the Jonathan Board wishes it were; and,
4. Minnesota Statutes 138.74 (“blighting influences”) and 471.193 (“non-designated historic resources”) give unlimited and unspecified power to the Chaska Heritage Preservation Commission (and thus the City of Chaska) over the physical assets and operational autonomy of the Jonathan Association into perpetuity; and,
5. The City of Chaska has no recorded data that demonstrates how Heritage Preservation designation will improve the resale value of individual homes; and,
6. The City of Chaska has no recorded data that illustrates the range of the financial burden to homeowners in complying with the rules/guidelines of Heritage Preservation designation statutes and ordinances;

The Jonathan Association Board of Directors, on and from this day (07-12-2011) forward resolve to oppose any efforts by the City of Chaska to designate portions of Jonathan property as part of a historic preservation district.

Kelly Cutler – Secretary, Jonathan Board of Directors

Date