

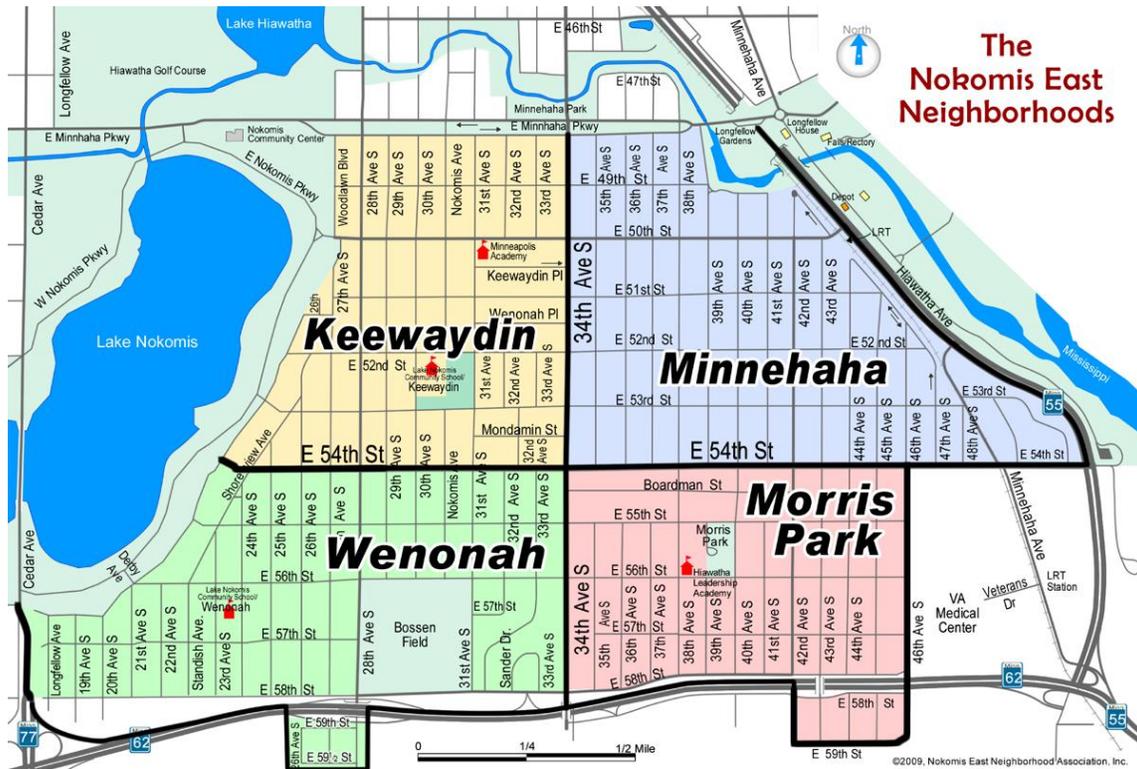
## Nomination Form – Part 2 Biographical Information

(Posted on the NENA Website)

Please Type or Print Legibly

**Nominee Name:** Ian Turner Baebenroth

**Currently Serving on the NENA Board**



### Board Seat Nomination (Check all that apply):

**Keewaydin Neighborhood Resident**

And/Or

**Minnehaha Neighborhood Resident**

**Business Owner** (Only eligible for At-Large Seat)

**Morris Park Neighborhood Resident**

**Business Employee** (Only eligible for At-Large Seat)

**Wenonah Neighborhood Resident**

**Non-resident Property Owner** (Only eligible for At-Large Seat)

### 1. Tell us about yourself and your experience in your neighborhood and in Nokomis East?

I am a husband, father of two, first-time homeowner, DIY remodeler and amateur urban farmer. My wife Emily and I purchased our small 1.5 story house on 34th Avenue in Morris in 2014. We spend most of our time renovating our home and converting our backyard from a weed filled lawn into a productive garden. This year we are adding a chicken coop to raise five hens while preparing for a kitchen remodel. Since moving in we have refinished the floors throughout the house, renovated our sole bathroom and re-shingled the roof - which required tearing off three layers of shingles dating to the original construction of our home. My experience with Nokomis East began as a child. My family moved to 28th Avenue just south of Minnehaha Parkway before I could walk. A few years later we moved to 15th Avenue on the west side of the lake. We continued to visit Nokomis East, mostly for the Library and donuts from Mel-O-Glaze.

Today, I have two children, Oliver, age 7, and Saroja, age 5. Both are now in elementary school. With the warmer weather returning, they are often to be found playing in the backyard and alley. I'm pleased to live in a neighborhood where I can be comfortable letting the kids play and explore independently. I taught my son to ride his bike without training wheels in the park at Keewaydin and will be there again this spring with my daughter.

**2. Why are you interested in serving on the NENA Board of Directors? Describe your interests, skills, experience, hobbies, volunteer work or community involvement that will help your service on the Board?**

The neighborhood meetings for the 34th Avenue street reconstruction project were my inspiration to become more involved in the neighborhood organization. Since then, I've had the opportunity to get to participate in the Housing, Commercial and Streetscape committee. I've enjoyed working with other members of the committee and current NENA board members.

I hold an undergraduate degree in Architecture and a Masters of Urban and Regional Planning from the University of Minnesota. Since 2010, I've worked for the University in planning for facilities. I'm responsible for translating faculty and student needs for education and research into programs for new facilities. I work to determine feasibility of the proposed projects and strategic planning for funding the investments.

As a planner for the University, I've had the opportunity to work closely with Minneapolis neighborhoods through the University District Alliance. The Alliance is a partnership between the University, the City of Minneapolis and neighborhood organizations representing Prospect Park, SE Como, Cedar-Riverside and Marcy-Holmes. A highlight of my work with Alliance is a set of development principles that was created to facilitate conversations between private sector developers and the neighborhood organizations. I also volunteer with the Site Council at Webster Elementary. The site council reviews the annual budget, school policies and programs for the school.

**3. What hopes, goals and concerns do you have for your neighborhood and Nokomis East?**

Nokomis East is a great place to live and raise a family. We have a unique business district that in the last year has attracted a local pottery shop and just to the north, will soon be home to one of the best chefs in the city.

In 2013, the city pages called Keewaydin the best undiscovered neighborhood in the city. My hope is to raise awareness of our small community to continue to attract new businesses and to support those we have already.

The city population continues to grow and I would like to see the neighborhood articulate a vision for how this development should occur. By working proactively with the city and potential developers we can better shape the change that is likely to come.

I'm also concerned about traffic and pedestrian safety along our thoroughfares. Several residents shared this concern at the planning meetings for 34th Avenue. The proposed reconstruction includes features that will help to manage traffic with curb bump outs and new plantings. I would like to continue this effort to support safe routes for kids to walk or bike to school. We also need to work with City planners to mitigate the impacts of detoured traffic throughout the neighborhood during the construction period.

**4. What hopes, goals and concerns do you have for NENA?**

As a board member I would like to build on the framework that has been established in the last few years, to direct energy and attention to the broader community.

**5. How will you reach out to the community during your Board term?**

I look forward to participating in neighborhood events, block parties and focus group meetings.

**6. What additional organizations, programs and events are you involved with?**

In addition to participating in the Site Council for Webster Elementary, I have volunteered with AFS, USA. AFS is a volunteer based high school exchange program. I've helped prepare marketing materials for the local chapter, served as a local liaison for a student attending Washburn High School and hosted a student for a short time in 2016.