

## DOWNTOWN MINNEAPOLIS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Minutes from the Board Meeting on Tuesday, February 8, 2011  
*Hennepin County Central Public Library*  
300 Nicollet Mall  
Room N-402, Minneapolis, MN

### I. Call to Order and Introductions

Board Chair Gerry Ewald called the board meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

Other board members in attendance were:

Andy Hauer, Land Use Committee Chair  
Paula Klimek, Treasurer  
Wally Swan, Secretary  
Carletta Sweet, Vice Chair  
Jesse Winkler

Absent board members were:

Andrea Christenson  
George Rosenquist, Crime and Safety Liaison

Guests in attendance included:

Mario Cocchiarella, Twisted Fork and Crooked Pint  
Lisa Goodman, 7th Ward Council Member  
Gregory Scott, *The Downtown Journal*  
Shane Zahn, Director of SafeZone Operations at the Minneapolis DID

DMNA staff member Christie Rock was also present.

### II. Consideration of the Agenda

*Hauer moved and Sweet seconded a motion to approve the agenda. Ewald called for discussion. The motion passed.*

### III. 7th Ward Update

Council Member Lisa Goodman highlighted the following activities:

- 2011 DMNA meeting schedule: February, May, August and October
- Notice of valuations sent to Minneapolis property owners
- Redistricting process turned over to the Charter Commission which is seeking representatives to serve on the 2011-2012 Redistricting Advisory Committee. For more information go to: <http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/charter-commission/>

- Energy assistance available to help low-income households pay utility bills
- Next Lunch with Lisa will present the City's new internal audit process
- Ward 7 E-News recently emailed to constituents
- Major paving overlay with bike lanes planned for 4th and 5th Avenues and 7th and 8th Streets during the 2011 construction season
- Proposed changes to the City's food cart ordinance
- The City of Minneapolis 2011 Budget in Brief document

In addition to providing information on the above topics, Council Member Goodman also responded to questions from board members. Hauer asked her about the reduced Skyway hours in the Towle Building. Goodman indicated that at this point there seems to be a temporary resolution to keep the Skyway open until 6:00 p.m. on weekends, but there is nothing requiring them to maintain the uniform Skyway hours. Hauer thanked Goodman for the work she has done to date to address the problem.

#### **IV. Land Use Committee Report**

Land Use Chair Andy Hauer gave the following land use report:

- *Twisted Fork and Crooked Pint (501 Washington Avenue).*

Hauer introduced Mario Cocchiarella, the owner of 501 Washington Avenue, who indicated that he is working with the owners of the Twisted Fork Grille in St. Paul to open a location in Minneapolis. These same people operate the Green Mill dining chain. The restaurant bills itself as specializing in "farm-to-table freshness." Cocchiarella stated that he plans to split the existing space in two, filling one half with a second location of the Twisted Fork Grille and the other with a Town Hall Brewery-owned pub called Crooked Pint. His plan also includes live music performances.

*Klimek moved and Sweet seconded a motion to support the Class B liquor license application for the Twisted Fork and Crooked Pint. Ewald called for discussion. The motion passed.*

#### **V. Conversation and discussion with Shane Zahn**

Shane Zahn introduced himself to the DMNA Board. He explained that he is at the meeting to give the DMNA Board an update on the SafeZone Collaborative's strategic plan for 2011, and to find out if there are any opportunities to collaborate. He stated that the purpose of the SafeZone Collaborative is to bring the public and private sectors together to make the heart of downtown safe and welcoming for those who work, live or visit here.

Zahn began his presentation by providing some history on the SafeZone Collaborative. He stated that in December of 2004, the Downtown Business Community approached City leadership to ask for increased coordination and effort in regard to Downtown Safety. As a result of this discussion, the City established the SafeZone Collaborative. It is based on the

premise that in Downtown Minneapolis, there are 13 private security officers for every law enforcement officer and that with increased communication between these partners, crime can be decreased. The SafeZone Collaborative became an officially recognized 501(c)(3) non-profit organization in August of 2006. In July 2009, the SafeZone Collaborative became a subsidiary of the Minneapolis Downtown Improvement District.

Zahn highlighted the following successful initiatives:

- Downtown Court Watch
- Downtown 100
- Common RadioLink between private security and the MPD
- SafeZone cameras
- Mobile trailer camera
- 1st Precinct Fusion Center
- Downtown Emergency Action Committee ([www.mplsdeac.com](http://www.mplsdeac.com))
- 1st Precinct Newsletter
- Junk in Your Trunk program
- Your Butts Are Ugly campaign to reduce cigarette litter
- T3 Motion Personal Mobility vehicles and the recently acquired Polaris EV LSV electric vehicle for street and sidewalk patrol
- Joint beat collaboration between the MPD, County Sheriff, Metro Transit Police, and State Troopers
- Mounted and bike patrols
- Give Real Change panhandling awareness campaign ([www.giverealchange.org](http://www.giverealchange.org))

Zahn noted that as a result of these programs and initiatives, crime is down significantly in the Downtown neighborhoods.

Zahn concluded by explaining the SafeZone Collaborative's plans for 2011, which included continuing efforts to address chronic offenders, violent crimes, emergency planning, and livability crimes such as loitering, panhandling and theft from motor vehicles. He also discussed some possible opportunities for the DMNA and the SafeZone Collaborative to align efforts, including drug court and expanding/improving youth programming in the Downtown neighborhoods.

For more information about the SafeZone Collaborative, please go to:

<http://www.mplssafezone.org/default.aspx?AspxAutoDetectCookieSupport=1> and <http://www.minneapolisdid.com/>.

## **VI. NRP Implementation Update**

Rock advised that she, with Gerry Ewald, Andy Hauer and Carletta Sweet in attendance, presented the DMNA Phase II NRP Plan to the NRP Policy Board on Monday, January 24. After the NRP Policy Board asked a number of questions, the plan was ultimately approved and will now move forward through the City's processes.

## **VII. Consideration of application to the 2011 NCEC Community Engagement Program**

Rock presented the 2011 NCEC Community Engagement Program application and budget to the board and reiterated that this funding replaces the Community Development Block Grant Program, or Citizen Participation monies. The 2011 application represents one year of funding and the 2012 application will cover three years of funding. The purpose of the money is for outreach and engagement initiatives, not for bricks and mortar programs. The City is working to establish a separate pot of money for these types of activities.

*Sweet moved and Swan seconded a motion to approve the 2011 NCEC - Community Engagement Program application. Ewald called for discussion. The motion passed.*

## **VIII. Consideration of minutes from the January 24, 2011 board meeting**

Sweet noted that George Rosenquist was not absent from the January meeting. She requested that his name be moved from absent to present.

*Swan moved and Sweet seconded a motion to approve the January 24, 2011, board meeting minutes as amended. Ewald called for discussion. The motion passed.*

## **IX. Consideration of February 2011 Financial Report**

Rock presented the February 2011 Financial Report.

*Hauer moved and Sweet seconded a motion to receive and file the February 2011 financial report. Ewald called for discussion. The motion passed.*

## **X. Staff Report**

Rock summarized her activities for the period 01-08-2011 to 02-04-2011 from the report she previously submitted via email.

*Sweet moved and Hauer seconded a motion to receive and file Rock's staff report. Ewald called for discussion. The motion passed.*

## **XIV. Board Governance**

- ***Update DMNA Bylaws to allow remote communication for meetings and electronic voting.*** Rock presented the proposed changes to the DMNA Bylaws and explained that the request from the SafeZone Collaborative to redirect NRP funds from the Downtown 100 to the purchase of the all terrain vehicle prompted the proposed

amendment. There seemed to be some urgency from the SafeZone Collaborative to address the request before the January board meeting. Consultation with City staff indicated that they preferred to see the action take place at the actual board meeting because the DMNA Bylaws does not have a provision to allow for electronic voting.

*Sweet moved and Swan seconded a motion to approve the amendment to the DMNA Bylaws to allow for remote communication for meetings and electronic voting. Ewald called for discussion. The motion passed. Winkler voted no.*

There was consensus that there needs to be more discussion regarding the process for remote communication and using electronic voting.

- ***Conflict of Interest Policy and Disclosure Form.*** Rock presented the Conflict of Interest Policy and indicated that NRP and the NCEC require neighborhood organizations to have a policy in place to address board members' potential conflicts of interest. NCEC actually requires the policy be in place as part of the Community Participation Program application. Rock indicated that the board members should review the policy and sign the disclosure form on an annual basis. The board did not take official action on this item, however they did sign the disclosure form and Rock will maintain them in the DMNA 2011 files.

#### **XV. Old / New / Other Business**

- ***Continued discussion regarding the Towle Building Skyway closing letter of opposition.*** There was continued discussion regarding the Towle Building Skyway hours. Ewald updated Swan on the information that Council Member Goodman provided to the board before he arrived at the meeting. Swan indicated that he is not satisfied with what Goodman has negotiated with the Towle Building and would like the DMNA to send a letter to the Towle Building and Reit Management and Research asking them to conform to the uniform Skyway hours of 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. on weekdays, 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. on Saturdays and Noon to 6:00 p.m. on Sundays. Rock stated that she would amend the current letter to include the uniform Skyway hours.
- ***Update on outreach and collaboration with other Downtown organizations.*** Ewald asked Board members to give updates on the respective organizations and groups they are involved with, and/or meetings they attend on a regular basis. (Please also reference the Outreach and Collaboration chart previously sent via email from Sweet for updates not specifically mentioned in the meeting.)
  - ***Minneapolis Downtown Council.*** Sweet and Swan, both of whom had attended the MDC's 55th annual meeting, agreed that it was an informative and worthwhile event to attend then briefed the board on the Year in Review presentation. A major takeaway from the event is that most of the initiatives in the Downtown 2010 Plan have been achieved and that the MDC is now in the process of preparing the Downtown 2025 Plan. Sweet asked Rock to try and get

a copy of the presentation to share with the board. Rock stated that she would contact Council Member Goodman to see if she could get a copy.

- *Downtown Neighborhood Associations Leaders.* And as a follow on to Goodman’s earlier discussion on the 2011-2012 Redistricting for the City’s 13 wards and 6 park districts, Rock suggested this group might be a forum to discuss the issue. Sweet agreed and advised that it would likely be an agenda item sometime in the near future.
- *Minneapolis Riverfront Corporation.* Sweet announced that the winner of the Minneapolis Riverfront Design Competition will be on Thursday, February 10th, and that the next Central Riverfront Forum will be on Thursday, March 10th.
- *East Downtown Council.* Sweet announced that the next EDC luncheon will be on February 24th at the Metrodome with host speaker Bill Lester of the Metropolitan Sports Commission who will give a status update on their plans to repair/replace the deflated roof and its impact on their events calendar.
- *Elliot Park/DEEP 2100 Initiative.* Winkler distributed and summarized the “DEEP 2100, Building a 21st Century Urban Community” document.
- *Restorative Justice Community Action, Inc.* Hauer and Winkler gave the board an update on the Drug Court held at the University of St. Thomas Law School.
- *RS Eden.* Role of advisory board is changing slightly.

**XV. Adjournment**

Being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Signed this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2011.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary