

# DOWNTOWN MINNEAPOLIS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Minutes from the Board Meeting on Tuesday, September 11, 2012

Hennepin County Central Library

300 Nicollet Mall

Room N-202, Minneapolis, MN

## I. Call to Order and Introductions

Board Chair Gerry Ewald called the board meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Other board members in attendance were:

Andrea Christenson

Andy Hauer

Paula Klimek

Eric Laska

Wallace Swan

Carletta Sweet

Jesse Winkler

Staff member Christie Rock was unable to attend.

Guests in attendance included:

Nick Cichowicz, Target employee and Elliott Park resident

Lola Danschar, Downtown West resident

Ben Hill, The Belmore Café and Music Venue and Loring Park resident

Rufino Magno, Downtown West resident

George Rosenquist, Downtown West resident

Dale White, Downtown West resident

## II. Consideration of the Agenda

Ewald requested to amend the agenda to include Rock's staff report after the financial report.

Winkler further amended the agenda to include his update on the Vikings Stadium Implementation Committee.

*Winkler moved and Hauer seconded a motion to approve the September agenda as amended. Ewald asked for discussion. The motion passed.*

## III. Land Use Report

Ewald handed the meeting over to Land Use Chair Andy Hauer who introduced the following LUC project:

- *The Belmore (25 North 4th Street).* Ben Hill thanked the board for having him and advised that he is in the process of opening a restaurant in the old City Billiards space, right next to the 1st Precinct police station, that will be called The Belmore. It will be a "from scratch"

kitchen offering breakfast, lunch and dinner from 7 a.m. to 2 a.m. He is seeking a Class C2 liquor license with Sunday sales. There will be adult contemporary/rock and roll music three nights a week from 10:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. as well as book readings. There will be no DJs, no hip-hop music, nor 18 plus nights; just a nice neighborhood hang out where people can have business meetings and get semi-fast food made in-house from scratch. Hill has been a waiter and bartender in Minneapolis for 15 years in fine dining. This is his first venture as an owner and operator and he would like a letter of support. One of his associates, Doug Anderson, represented him at DMNA's last board meeting. He has the support of the City Council (who they will go before on September 28th) as well as from a lot of other surrounding businesses.

Hauer explained that at the prior DMNA board meeting a motion was made and passed to support a Class C1 liquor license application (allowing amplified or non-amplified music by five or fewer musicians, radio, TV, juke box, karaoke or electronically reproduced music) and that Hill was requested to return once the board obtained clarification of what the C2 liquor license allows. Hauer recommended that the board continue its support by approving the higher Class of Entertainment liquor license sought.

*Ewald moved and Klimek seconded a motion to support the higher Class C2 liquor license application with Sunday Sales for The Belmore. Ewald called for discussion. The motion passed with Christenson abstaining.*

#### **IV. Consideration of Constitutional Amendments**

*Winkler moved and Laska seconded a motion to support Minnesotans United for All Families opposition to the proposed Marriage Amendment. Ewald called for discussion. The motion passed unanimously.*

*Hauer moved and Klimek seconded a motion to oppose the proposed Minnesota Constitutional Amendment requiring Voter ID at the polls. Ewald called for discussion. The motion passed with Sweet voting in favor of the Voter ID.*

#### **V. Neighborhood and Community Engagement Update**

- **2011 Annual Report.** Ewald explained that since this report had already been submitted to the City, the DMNA only needed to receive and file it.
- **ADA Policy.** Ewald explained that this document also had been submitted to the City and that the DMNA only needed to receive and file it.
- **Equal Employment Opportunity Policy.** A brief discussion was held about the inappropriateness of having an age range. Thereafter,

*Klimek moved and Hauer seconded a motion to approve the Equal Employment Opportunity Policy as amended removing the age range of 40-70 from the first paragraph. Ewald called for discussion. The motion passed.*

## VI. NRP Implementation Update

Ewald advised that since Inspector Frizell is still working on a request for proposal for the NRP Phase II Crime and Safety monies, he would not be attending the instant meeting but will be asked back once he knows what the MPD wants to do. Thereafter discussion ensued regarding the amount of money available. The original allocation was \$73,000; however, the DMNA only has access to approximately 63% of this amount, or a little over \$47,000 and that this amount should be split between the two crime and safety strategies: (1) Safety Initiatives (bike patrol, foot patrol, mounted patrol, National Night Out and other programming opportunities); and (2) Nuisance Crime Initiatives (Court Watch, Downtown 100, Restorative Justice, SafeZone Collaborative). Ewald stated that Rock had an idea that the DMNA could potentially use some of its housing monies toward homeless initiatives as well.

## VII. Consideration of Board Meeting Minutes from August 14, 2012

*Sweet moved and Hauer seconded a motion to approve the August 14, 2012 board meeting minutes. Ewald called for discussion. The motion passed.*

## VIII. Consideration of September 2012 Financial Report

Hauer posed a question regarding the \$1,932 amount under the Advertising and Marketing expense line item on the revised 2012 Financial Report. He wanted to know if that amount pertained to the *Downtown Journal* advertising and, if so, how many ads it included and for what time frame. He'll follow up with Rock via email for clarification. Thereafter,

*Hauer moved and Klimek seconded a motion to receive and file the September 2012 financial report. Ewald called for discussion. The motion passed.*

## IX. Staff Report

*Sweet moved and Christenson seconded a motion to receive and file Rock's staff report for the period 07-08-11-12 to 09-07-12. Ewald called for discussion. The motion passed.*

## X. Old business / new business / other business

- **Vikings Stadium Implementation Committee (IC).** Winkler distributed his two-sided page report that listed the dates, time frames and location for upcoming IC meetings, the Vikings walking tour of the area (encompassing behind the stadium to the Cedar Riverside neighborhood, Star Tribune parking lots, and parking ramps owned by Bob Lux), and upcoming Design Subcommittee (DSC) meetings. The charge of the DSC on which Winkler serves is to create 10 principles (he worked on the Commerce principle), and a design mission statement that will be given to the architect. His report also listed when certain tasks are to be completed leading up to the March 2013 review of the final schematic design. The reverse side of his report, prepared by the City's attorney, provided information on the charge of the IC, the process, and timeline. Winkler stated that concern had been expressed

by the IC regarding the lack of detail about how the \$975 million will be divided into infrastructure and the adjoining area. Another concern raised was that housing was not listed as one of the design principles. Ewald stated he would forward to the board the *Business Journal's* recent article about potential financial ramifications to the adjacent neighborhoods.

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

- **Annual Meeting.** Ewald reported that Mark Stenglein, the new Minneapolis Downtown Council president and CEO, is the keynote speaker for the annual meeting being held on Tuesday, October 9th at 6 p.m. in Pohlad Hall. After soliciting feedback on the preliminary agenda, Ewald commented that potentially the unveiling of the updated website would be added to the agenda.
- **Update on outreach and collaboration with other downtown organizations.** Reference the Outreach and Collaboration chart emailed from Sweet in advance of the meeting.
  - **Consideration of renewing membership and upgrading level of support on the East Downtown Council.** Sweet explained that due to the gradual reductions in the City's Business Association Assistance Program (BAAP) grants awarded over the past couple years and its continuation beyond 2012 dubitable, as well as the rising costs associated with communications, technology and collaborative activities, she is requesting that in addition to renewing DMNA's membership that the board also consider raising its level of support from Supporter at \$150 to Sponsor at \$300 and include 10 luncheon coupons at \$13 each for a total amount of \$430. Responding to questions, Sweet explained the difference in purpose and focus of the DMNA (a neighborhood association) versus the EDC (a business association), the boundaries of the DMNA (Downtown East) that also lie within the EDC's Downtown East/Elliott Park (DEEP) district, and the benefits of membership, collaboration and networking. Thereafter,

*Ewald moved and Laska second a motion to renew membership and to increase the level of support to Sponsor on the East Downtown Council.*

- **Identifying DMNA representative for upcoming Court Watch.** Andrea Christenson will attend the September 14th meeting.
- **Washington Avenue Bike Lanes.** Christenson requested that Rock invite the Hennepin County engineer to the November meeting to give an update on the project and the public input process.
- **Discussion regarding DMNA funding.** Elliott Park resident Lola Danschar asked several questions regarding DMNA funding sources, its boundaries, neighborhoods it represents, and criteria for participation.
- **NRP Affordable Housing Fund.** Laska advised that he and Wally have been talking about putting together a draft RFP for the NRP affordable housing monies and volunteered to facilitate a small group of board members to assist them. He will work with Rock to obtain

a copy of the RFP developed during Phase II. Klimek and Hauer also volunteered to assist him with this project.

- *Canned food drive at annual meeting.* Ewald advised that since he received a mailing from St. Stephens regarding their call for needed items, he wondered if the board would be interested in setting up a canned food drive at the annual meeting. Given the level of support expressed, Ewald will add it to the annual meeting invitation.

## XI. Adjournment

Being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Signed this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2012.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary