

DOWNTOWN MINNEAPOLIS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Minutes from the Board Meeting on Tuesday, January 19, 2016
Mill City Museum – 6th Floor ADM Room
704 South 2nd Street, Minneapolis, MN 55415

I. Call to Order and Introductions

Board Chair Nick Cichowicz called the board meeting to order at 5:48 p.m.

Other Board Members in attendance were:

Dan Collison
Kevin Frazell
Pamela McCrea
Matt McNeill, Treasurer
Carletta Sweet, Secretary
Joseph Tamburino, Vice Chair

Board Member Laurie Jones was absent.

Staff member Christie Rock-Hantge was also present; and staff member Joan Bennett was absent.

Guests in attendance included:

Kathleen Anderson, North Star Lofts
Tom Barta, Carlyle Condominiums
Lonte Hill, The L.A. Hill Team
Denise Holt, Park Avenue Lofts
Nick Klebs, Bridgewater Condominiums
Eric Laska, RiverWest Condominiums
Randy Manthey, Carlyle Condominiums
Tom Novak, American Trio Lofts
Bob Olivera, Carlyle Condominiums
Lynn Regnier, Elliot Park Neighborhood, Inc.
Jason Secord, The Wells at 7th Street
Lisa Secord, The Wells at 7th Street
Diane Soderberg, Elliot Park neighborhood
Steve Snyder, Bridgewater Condominiums
Amy Sweasy, Metropolitan Lofts
John Warkel, Ryan Companies
Dale White, RiverWest Condominiums
Conrad Zbikowski, The Towers Condominiums

II. Consideration of the Agenda

McCrea moved and Sweet seconded a motion to approve the January 19, 2016 board meeting agenda. Cichowicz called for discussion. The motion passed.

III. Public Comment

Cichowicz described the purpose and intent of the public comment time; it is when the public is invited to share their thoughts and concerns whether positive or negative.

Randy Manthey complemented Joan Bennett for the work that she does with the Land Use Committee and advised she has made great connections with City staff and does an excellent job writing the letters of support for the projects the committee reviews on a monthly basis.

IV. Consideration of the Consent Agenda

Sweet moved and Frazell seconded a motion to approve the Consent Agenda that included the board meeting minutes from December 16, 2015; the Finance Coordinator's staff report (Invoice 012) for December 2015; and the Outreach and Engagement Coordinator's staff report (Invoice 012) for December 2015. Cichowicz called for discussion. The motion passed.

V. Financial Report

Rock-Hantge indicated that there was nothing new or unusual to report with regards to the financials. The NRP fund balance remains the same as November.

McCrea moved and Tamburino seconded a motion to receive and file the financial report. Cichowicz called for discussion. The motion passed.

VI. Land Use Committee Report

Kevin Frazell, board liaison to the Land Use Committee, presented information on the following projects:

- **Target Center Renovation.** The purpose of the renovation project is to extend the arena's useful life, and to maximize the arena's ability to generate revenues for the City, AEG, and the arena's primary, long-term tenants. The City needs to make the facility more competitive with the Xcel Energy Center. While displaying the architectural plans and renderings for the Target Center renovation project, Frazell stated the new amenities and design features will make the arena more competitive as a multiuse, family-oriented entertainment venue, while meeting the needs of the Target Center's primary tenants. Frazell highlighted the features that the LUC most appreciated about the renovation project which included the following:
 - The addition of expansive glass on the façade;
 - The relocation of the middle of the building to the corner of North 6th Street and Hennepin Avenue;
 - The installation of more expansive overhangs over the sidewalk along Hennepin Avenue; and
 - The brushed metal exterior.

Frazell then stated the LUC had a few recommendations as well, i.e.:

- The Skyway to the Mayo Clinic building remain open during business hours;
- The City look for vertical opportunities for greening;

- That there be substantial parking places for bikes, as well as the installation of a Nice Ride facility; and
- That the Lifetime Fitness windows remain as opaque as possible.

Construction should start in the spring of this year and conclude in approximately 12 months.

Tamburino moved and McNeill seconded a motion to provide a letter of support for the Target Center renovation project. Cichowicz called for discussion. The motion passed.

To review the materials submitted to the Land Use Committee by the City of Minneapolis Convention Center, visit <http://www.thedmna.org/get-involved/land-use-committee/>.

- **Third Avenue Redesign.** Minneapolis Public Works is planning to redesign 3rd Avenue South between South 1st Street and 16th Street East. The project will install a protected bike lane along 3rd Avenue South for the purpose of providing a comfortable north-south bicycle connection through downtown. Frazell noted that the City identifies a protected bike lane along this route in its Minneapolis Bicycle Master Plan. The project scope also includes opportunities to re-envision greening and the pedestrian experience along this route. Displaying the architectural renderings of the project highlighted the location of the bike lanes and the opportunities for greening.

Construction is anticipated to begin sometime this year and will take place over one or two construction seasons.

Tamburino moved and Cichowicz seconded a motion to provide a letter of support for the 3rd Avenue Redesign project. Cichowicz called for discussion. The motion passed with McNeill abstaining.

To review the images of the 3rd Avenue South reconstruction project, visit <http://www.minneapolisismn.gov/www/groups/public/@publicworks/documents/images/wcms1p-150690.pdf>

To review the materials submitted to the Land Use Committee by the City of Minneapolis Convention Center, visit <http://www.thedmna.org/get-involved/land-use-committee/>.

- **Ryan Companies ATM Variance.** The LUC decided to neither recommend support for nor denial of Ryan Companies variance request to install an ATM machines in the Wells Fargo Plaza area. According to Wells Fargo, the purpose of the installation is to provide ATM access after business hours. In addition, Wells Fargo believes the ATMs will create commerce and activity in the Downtown East Commons 24 hours a day. The LUC questioned the safety of locating ATMs on the exterior of a building versus in a secure interior setting. Tony Barranco from Ryan Companies did some research on the crime stats associated with exterior and interior ATMs, and there was no conclusive evidence that one was more or less safer than the other. Discussion ensued about the importance of locating an MPD substation near the Downtown East Commons to address safety concerns generated by new activity in the area.

McCrea moved and Sweet seconded a motion to approve the Land Use Committee's letter that outlines their recommendation with regards to Ryan Companies request for a variance to place ATMs in the plaza area of the Wells Fargo Towers. Cichowicz called for discussion. The motion passed with McNeill abstaining.

- *205 Park Avenue South Development Priorities Survey.* In Joan Bennett's absence, Randy Manthey noted that she plans to share the results with the LUC at its next meeting on February 2nd.

Cichowicz then invited board members and the audience to attend the February 2nd Land Use Committee meeting at Open Book. Beth Elliott, the City of Minneapolis planner assigned to the Downtown Sector, will provide guidance on how the DMNA can work with the City to advocate for land use priorities.

VII. Livability Committee Report

The Livability Committee chair, Amy Sweasy, began her report by noting that at this point it is a very small committee comprised of approximately seven people and its top priority is to gain new members, and is looking for guidance on how to handle funding proposals. The LC understands here is a moratorium on spending at this time, but is open to be the group that vets funding requests once the board lifts the moratorium. The LC is also willing to work on the MPD substation initiative if the board desires.

Sweasy advised the LC has been heavily involved in negotiating the Downtown Tailgating Policy with the Minnesota Vikings and reminded the board about the public forum coming up on January 26th at Open Book to gain input from residents, business and property owners on where tailgating should take place in the downtown community. Then she invited Tamburino to provide an update on the status of the negotiations with the Minnesota Vikings.

Tamburino stated he has had a number of conversations with representatives from the team. The goal is to set up clear expectations regarding the use of alcohol, security, garbage, and the overall boundaries of where tailgating can take place. For the most part, tailgating will take place south of Washington Avenue. Tamburino indicated he and Bennett sent letters to the HOA's over the past month seeking their input. The Bridgewater and Stonebridge oppose any tailgating north of Washington Avenue.

Some discussion followed regarding whether the City will allow the closure of streets for tailgating; Tamburino said it was unlikely. McNeill stated he knows of a few business owners that would like to offer their lots for tailgating, but their lots are not on the current proposed tailgating map. He also inquired as to what the MPRB has said about tailgating on the West River Parkway; Tamburino said that a river boundary is not an option.

Thereafter, Sweasy returned to the MPD substation proposal and stated the LC has very little knowledge about the work the previous board did on getting a substation sited in the new Wells Fargo Towers, or in the area around the Downtown East Commons. Cichowicz suggested that Chad DiDonato and David Tinjum would be good resources. Collison had some background on the previous work done related to this project and advised the neighborhood would be responsible for funding the annual budget for the substation, which can be upwards of \$80,000. He indicated that a police substation adjacent to the Downtown East Commons is unlikely now, as Greening Downtown Minneapolis will likely hire private security. McNeill stated it is his understanding that the MPD is moving away from this policing model.

VIII. Board Governance Working Group Update and Discussion

Cichowicz provided an overall update on the board's strategic planning work and noted that the board identified the following priorities for 2016:

- Reviewing the organization's finances and developing a plan to achieve long-term financial security;
- Assessing the organization's governance, which includes reviewing the bylaws (board composition and terms) and staffing model (possibly rebalancing staff responsibilities); and
- Preparing and implementing an outreach and engagement strategy in order to draft the organization's Neighborhood Priorities Plan. The NPP is a subset of funding associated with the Community Participation Program.

Cichowicz then invited the board members working on governance to provide an update on their work. McCrea and Tamburino indicated they have met once since the strategic planning follow-up meeting on January 4th and have done an initial review of the bylaws. Tamburino distributed copies of the bylaws and highlighted possible changes. McCrea noted that they are also looking at the role of the Land Use and Livability Committees in relationship to the board.

Collison, who is examining the governance models of 15 Minneapolis neighborhood groups, advised he expects to present his findings in March.

IX. Downtown Partnerships Update

- A. *On the Green Line Marketing Study.*** Collison advised the board of the marketing work in which he is engaged as the Executive Director of the East Downtown Council, and in collaboration with Jamie Schumacher of the West Bank Business Association (<http://www.thewestbank.org/>), to promote and include the East Downtown LRT / U.S. Bank Stadium LRT station in the On the Green Line's marketing materials.

While the Green Line was under construction, Metro Transit empowered the WBBA and the Midway Chamber of Commerce (<http://www.midwaychamber.com/>) to lead stakeholder engagement sessions to help promote the unique and special neighborhoods and businesses along the entire length of the line. However, when Collison discovered there was a zero presence of the East Downtown LRT hub under the Green Line Districts, he forged a new partnership with the On the Green Line group to work toward inclusion in their marketing materials. Collison commented that LRT stations are more than just stops or destinations; they are public spaces and an opportunity to showcase the adjacent communities.

For more information regarding On the Green Line, visit <http://onthegreenline.com/>

- B. *East Downtown Branding Initiative.*** Collison advised there should be an announcement within the next 30 days that identifies three to six possible names for the district. He briefly summarized the history of the initiative and the pro bono assistance of PadillaCRT.
- C. *Minneapolis Downtown Council's 2025 Transportation Committee.*** Conrad Zbikowski advised this group is working on its legislative platform, which includes securing funding for the Southwest LRT and Bus Rapid Transit on the I-35 W corridor.

For a complete listing of the organizations and committees that the DMNA is engaged with, reference the Outreach and Collaboration Chart prepared by Sweet at <http://www.thedmna.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/DMNA-Collaboration-01-19-2016.pdf>

X. Minneapolis Downtown Council Annual Meeting Update

The following board members expressed an interest in attending the Minneapolis Downtown Council's Annual Meeting on February 2, 2016:

Pam McCrea
Matt McNeill
Carletta Sweet
Joe Tamburino

Dan Collison will already be attendance via his work with the East Downtown Council and the Minneapolis Downtown Council.

Sweet moved and McCrea seconded a motion to approve paying for the registration fees for McCrea, McNeill, Sweet and Tamburino to attend the Minneapolis Downtown Council's Annual Meeting on February 2, 2016. Cichowicz called for discussion. The motion passed.

Rock-Hantge will register the aforementioned four board members.

XI. Upcoming DMNA Meetings

Cichowicz reviewed the list of upcoming DMNA meetings:

- Tailgating listening session on Tuesday, January 26th, 6:00 p.m. at Open Book. Information gathered at this meeting will inform DMNA negotiations with the Vikings to improve tailgating policy and oversight when the new U.S. Bank Stadium opens.
- Land Use Committee on Tuesday, February 2nd, 6:00 p.m. at Open Book.
- Livability Committee on Monday, February 8th, 6:00 p.m. at Emanuel Housing (818 3rd Street South).
- February Board Meeting on Tuesday, February 16h, 5:45 p.m. at Open Book.

XII. Adjournment

Being no further business, Sweet moved and McNeill seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting. Cichowicz called for discussion. The meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Signed this _____ day of _____, 2016.

Chair

Secretary