

DOWNTOWN MINNEAPOLIS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Minutes from the Board Meeting on Tuesday, November 9, 2010
Hennepin County Central Library
300 Nicollet Mall
Room N-202, Minneapolis, MN

I. Call to Order and Introductions

Chair Carletta Sweet called the board meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

Board members in attendance were:

Gerry Ewald, Vice Chair
Andy Hauer, Land Use Committee Chair
Paula Klimek, Treasurer
Corey Kline
George Rosenquist, Crime and Safety Liaison
Wally Swan, Secretary

Excused absent board member:

Andrea Christenson

Guests in attendance were:

Chuck Ballentine, Hennepin County Interchange Project
Edna Brazaitis, Central Neighborhood Rep, Minneapolis Riverfront Corporation
Beth Elliott, Minneapolis CPED
Wendy Darst, Grant Writer, People Serving People
Shelly Miller, Hennepin County Interchange Project
Cordelia Pierson, Executive Director, Minneapolis Riverfront Corporation
Dale White, Downtown West resident
Jesse Winkler, Elliot Park resident

DMNA staff member Christie Rock was also present.

II. Consideration of the Agenda

Hauer moved and Swan seconded a motion to approve the agenda as amended, i.e., allowing Land Use to precede the East Bank Falls presentation. Sweet called for discussion. The motion passed.

III. Land Use Report

- ***People Serving People.*** Land Use Committee Chair Andy Hauer introduced Wendy Darst from People Serving People. Darst is the organization's grant writer. She indicated that she is seeking the DMNA's support for the rehabilitation and renovation of 10 kitchen units at the People Serving People facility. She explained the need for the project as well

as the funding sources including grants from the City's Emergency Shelter Grant Program.

Hauer noted that the DMNA is very supportive of the work of People Serving People. He commended the organization for its efforts to provide emergency housing and services to children and families. Other board members expressed appreciation and gratitude.

Klimek moved and Ewald seconded a motion to support People Serving People's kitchen rehabilitation and renovation project. Sweet called for discussion. The motion passed.

For more information about People Serving People, please visit:

<http://peopleservingpeople.org/about/mission.php>

- ***Hennepin County Interchange Project.*** Hauer introduced Chuck Ballentine from the Hennepin County Interchange Project. Ballentine acknowledged his co-worker Shelly Miller. Ballentine distributed a PDF copy of his presentation to board members.

He explained that the Interchange in Downtown Minneapolis is a multi-modal transportation facility connecting people and places. The facility is located in the area of the Hennepin Energy Recovery Center (HERC), Target Field, and the historic Ford Centre. The area currently provides a station for Hiawatha LRT at North 5th Street and Target Field.

The Interchange project will initially focus on the need for expanded light-rail components at the site. Currently, more than 250 rail operations arrive and depart daily via the Hiawatha Light Rail Transit line and Northstar Commuter Rail. Rail operations will increase to more than 500 arrivals and departures daily when the Central Corridor LRT line opens in 2014.

Ballentine indicated that Hennepin County is hosting an open house on the project on Tuesday, December 7, from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. at Target Field, Suite 300 Minnesota Ballpark Authority Tour Theatre. There will be brief presentations on the project at 4:30 p.m. and 6:15 p.m.

For more information about the Hennepin County Interchange Project please visit: <http://hennepin.us/portal/site/HennepinUS/menuitem.b1ab75471750e40fa01dfb47ccf06498/?vgnnextoid=d74c1a7f022a4210VgnVCM10000049114689RCRD>, or contact the Interchange Project office at 612-543-7277.

IV. Restoring the East Bank Falls Feasibility Study Presentation

Chair Sweet introduced Minneapolis Riverfront Corporation Executive Director Cordelia Pierson who thanked Sweet for the opportunity to speak to the DMNA board members about the East Bank Falls Feasibility Study. Pierson then introduced Edna Brazaitis, the Central Riverfront neighborhood representative on the Minneapolis Riverfront Corporation Board of Directors.

Together, Pierson and Brazaitis explained the history of the Minneapolis Riverfront Corporation. They also described the organization's mission and vision, which is to assure that both people and nature benefit from a healthy ecosystem, exceptional riverfront parks, world-class history and culture and a vital, livable community. Next, they informed the board about plans to return the East Bank Falls to their original, natural look. They used visual aids to identify and explain the process for making this happen.

There is a public meeting planned to review and discuss the results of the East Bank Falls Feasibility Study on Thursday, December 9, 2010. The location is yet to be determined.

For more information about the Minneapolis Riverfront Corporation, please visit:
<http://www.mplsriverfrontcorp.org/>.

Pierson also mentioned the Minneapolis Riverfront Design Competition. It is the largest design competition in Minneapolis history. Ultimately, it will produce a 21st Century parks design for 220 acres of parkland and surrounding neighborhoods and business districts along both sides of the 5.4 mile stretch of the Mississippi River from the Stone Arch Bridge in the historic downtown Mill District to the City's northern limits. The competition is co-sponsored by the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board, the Minneapolis Parks Foundation, the University of Minnesota Design Team, and the Walker Art Center. There is a community meeting planned for Tuesday, December 7, at 7:00 p.m., at the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board headquarters, 2117 West River Road.

For more information about the Minneapolis Riverfront Design Competition, please visit:
<http://minneapolisriverfrontdesigncompetition.com/>.

V. Staff Report

Rock summarized her activities for the period 10/9/10 to 11/5/10 from the report she previously submitted via email. She indicated the new Web site went live on November 8, 2010.

Due to a conflicting meeting elsewhere, board members Andy Hauer and Wally Swan left the meeting at 6:45 p.m.

VI. Consideration of minutes from the October 12, 2010 Board meeting

No quorum so postponed to next monthly board meeting.

VII. Consideration of the November 2010 Financial report

No quorum so postponed to next monthly board meeting.

VIII. Consideration of the Draft F Y2011 Budget

No quorum so postponed to next monthly board meeting.

IX. Old/New/Other Business

- **2010 Annual Meeting update and discussion.** There was continued discussion regarding the 2010 annual meeting. The meeting will take place on Tuesday, December 14, at the Hennepin County Central Library in the Pohlad Hall. Rock has secured the following guest presenters:
 - Council Member Lisa Goodman
 - Sarah Harris from the Downtown Improvement District.
 - Cathy tenBroeke from Heading Home Hennepin and Monica Nilsson from St. Stephen’s Human Services regarding efforts to end homelessness in the Downtown community.

Rock indicated that the League of Women Voters is sending two volunteers to assist with sign-in/registration and the board elections.

There was also discussion about inviting Mayor R.T. Rybak and other elected officials. Rock stated that she would send invitations to elected officials in the next week. She reminded the board members that there is a farewell/thank you for your service party for Margaret Anderson Kelliher the same night and time, which could adversely impact attendance at the DMNA meeting.

- **Update on outreach and collaboration with other Downtown organizations.** Sweet asked Board members for any additional information beyond what was provided in the Outreach and Collaboration chart previously distributed via email. Gerry mentioned that his and Paula’s work with R.S. Eden should be included. Sweet reminded board members to forward any updates to her in advance of the board meetings so she can include the most up-to-date information on the Collaboration chart.

X. Adjournment

Being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Signed this _____ day of _____, 2010.

Chair

Secretary