

DOWNTOWN MINNEAPOLIS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Minutes from the Board Meeting on Thursday, May 25, 2017

Mill City Museum

710 South 2nd Street, 6th Floor ADM Room

Minneapolis, MN 55415

I. Call to Order and Introductions

Chair Joe Tamburino called the Board meeting to order at 5:58 p.m.

Other Board members in attendance were:

Kevin Frazell
Stephanie Hill
Pamela McCrea, Vice Chair
Travis Nordgaard
Tomek Rajtar
Carletta Sweet, Secretary
Dianne Walsh, Treasurer

Board member Jennifer Bernhardt was absent.

Staff member Christie Rock Hantge was also in attendance.

Guests in attendance included:

Mike Alder, ESPN X Games
Brittany Allen, City of Minneapolis City Coordinator's Office
Elizabeth Beissel, Elliot Park resident
Jess Birken, Birken Law Office, NCR Attorney
Bob Cooper, City of Minneapolis Finance
Dermot Cowley, McKinney Roe
James Fitzgerald, People Serving People
Chris Fleck, North Central University
Tom Hayes, Hennepin County Medical Center
Jeff Hermanek, ESPN X Games
Susan Jagodzinski, Elliot Park resident
Brenda Hoppe, Midwest Skate Alliance/Skyway Commons Pocket Park
Tom Novak, American Trio Lofts
Colleen O'Dell, Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board
Lynn Regnier, Elliot Park Neighborhood, Inc.
Jennifer Rieber, ESPN X Games
Ben Shardlow, Minneapolis Downtown Council/Downtown Improvement District
Beth Shogren, Green Minneapolis
Amy Sweasy, Metropolitan Lofts
Rebecca Thomas, Elliot Park Neighborhood, Inc.
Robert Thompson, City of Minneapolis Neighborhood and Community Relations

Doug Verdier, RiverWest Condominiums
Melissa Wisniewski, Securonet
Dale White, RiverWest Condominiums

II. Consideration of the Agenda

Frazell moved and Hill seconded a motion to amend the agenda to include discussion regarding whether Board materials on the website should be password protected. Tamburino called for discussion during which the item was placed under DMNA NRP Funding Recipient Evaluations to allow for input from NCR Policy Specialist Robert Thompson. The motion passed.

Sweet then moved and Rajtar seconded a motion to approve the agenda as amended. Tamburino called for discussion. The motion passed.

III. Consideration of the Consent Agenda

Motion made by Frazell and seconded by McCrea to approve the consent agenda which included the Board meeting minutes dated April 18, 2017; the F2017 Budget vs. Actual for period ending April 30, 2017; and the Neighborhood Coordinator / Finance Coordinator staff reports for March (Invoice #027) and April (Invoice #028). Tamburino called for discussion. The motion passed.

IV. ESPN X Games Minneapolis 2017

Three representatives from the ESPN X Games introduced themselves: Mike Alder, Marketing Manager; Jeff Hermanek, Senior Manager, Event Operations (<https://www.linkedin.com/in/jeff-hermanek-108ba36>); and Jennifer Rieber, Associate Director, Music & Cultural Development (<https://www.linkedin.com/in/jennifer-rieber-661aa115>).

Alder advised the X Games have been around since 1995 and this will be their first time in the Midwest, but they like to think they have a pretty well oiled machine having produced them in a variety of venues across the country. They are excited to be in Minneapolis and the goal is to be a recurring event here. There will be over 200 action sports athletes from all over the world participating. They have three summer disciplines: BMX, Skateboarding, and Moto X. During the winter they feature action sports that occur on snow, e.g., snowboarding, ice climbing. The three summer disciplines will take place at U.S. Bank Stadium, and the Harley-Davidson Flat Track Racing will take place at Mall of America.

Alder advised there will also be the fun, family-friendly X Fest, an interactive action sports and music cultural festival at Medtronic Plaza adjacent to the west entrance of U.S. Bank Stadium. Then he reviewed the general event information which included the daily schedule of events beginning Thursday, July 13th through Sunday, July 16th, and the XIP ticket packages beginning at \$20.

Jennifer Rieber reviewed the music schedule. After the X Games conclude in the U.S. Bank Stadium, the concerts will take place on The Commons music stage as follows: A Day to Remember (ADTR) American rock band on Friday at 10:45 p.m., Flume, Australian musician Harley Edward Streten on Saturday at 10:45 p.m., and Atmosphere, Minneapolis hip hop duo on Sunday at 5:30 p.m. The noise impact will occur during those hours as well as during sound checks in advance of the concerts.

Rieber then described the map of west Block 75 and east Block 74 of The Commons which had location

designations for artists, media, ADA, XIP, and traffic management. She also explained the load-in schedule dates, times and tasks all of which are subject to change.

Jeff Hermanek, who then discussed road closures, noted the biggest message they want to convey to the neighborhood is they want to respect our space in order to be welcomed back. Since the X Games are scheduled to be here for the next 2 years, they would like to work and become partners with the residents and businesses within the neighborhood to ensure they are successful and safe events. Three main road closures different from what would take place during a football or concert event at the stadium include (1) 4th Street between 5th and Park Avenues; (2) Portland Avenue from 4th to 5th Streets; and (3) Park Avenue from 4th to 5th Streets. To allow for the setting up and removal of the fence line perimeters and sponsorship setup on the east and west side of Chicago Avenue, closures will take place for an extended period of time beginning at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, July 13th, and remain closed through 4:00 a.m. on Monday, July 17th. They are working with Brittany Allen and her team at Minneapolis Public Works, the Police and Fire Departments, along with Metro Transit to be the least impactful as possible.

Thereafter, the ESPN team responded to questions which included concerns over security, first aid, portable toilets, volunteer opportunities, and ingress and egress plans. The concerts are quick so there will be no seating. There will be a full complement of security on site, i.e., the ESPN security team managing as they typically do as well as contracted personnel. The security plan will be reviewed by Minneapolis police and fire departments and other security agencies. They typically do not have a medical tent, but rather have a couple ambulances with EMTs and look for recommendations from the local medical community for guidelines. Initially, 4th Street was going to be closed off, but they have worked with the City to give back one lane to provide access to the surrounding businesses. Beer and wine only will be available during the concerts, and Aramark is the food vendor.

Green Minneapolis Executive Director Beth Shogren explained that Brittany Allen is the City's large event coordinator working on the X Games, Super Bowl, and the NCAA Final Four. The City decided to answer the RFP from the X Games to bring this awesome economic driver and amenity to its local residents and as an attraction for tourists. A lot of the terms for the X Games were established long before The Commons was done and it has been proactive in engaging early and often with not only Green Minneapolis but with Brittany Allen's team and every regulatory agency that is involved.

To review the presentation given at the DMNA Board meeting, go to <http://www.thedmna.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/ESPN-X-Games-Neighborhood-Information-Session-presentation.pdf>. And for more information, go to <http://xgames.espn.com/xgames/minneapolis/>.

V. Minneapolis Virtual Safety Network

Account Manager Melissa Wisniewski (<https://www.linkedin.com/in/melissa-wisniewski-68088b11>) noted the previous discussion about security at the X Games provided a good springboard for her presentation. Given those security concerns, she has come before the DMNA to inform the community that SecuroNet (<https://www.securonet.net/>) has developed a way for law enforcement to locate exterior security cameras [to prevent, reduce, and investigate crimes via a suite of collaboration tools to improve emergency response effectiveness through emergency video notification]. Around large events like the X Games, law enforcement will be able to see the location of security cameras throughout Minneapolis and request live or recorded video footage via the secure, public-private, members-only camera network. The X Games will be a test case to see what the security needs will be for a larger event like the Super Bowl. SecuroNet is working with the Minneapolis Police Department to get as many people registered in advance as possible to make the city safer.

Wisniewski then explained the three pieces of information distributed in advance:

- The 1-page, 2-sided brochure explaining their software technology products:
 - *SafeLink* (<https://www.securonet.net/safelink/>) which allows members to securely share security camera location data with law enforcement through an online portal;
 - *VideoLink* (<https://www.securonet.net/videolink/>) which enables members to share real-time feeds from cameras at their location with law enforcement (permission-based access only) helping them to quickly respond to unfolding events; and
 - *ShareLink* (<https://www.securonet.net/sharelink/>) which is a set of collaboration tools built into the platform to facilitate communication, data sharing and networking for members.
- The 2-page Minneapolis Virtual Safety Network (MVSN) Frequently Asked Questions (<https://mpls.securonetservices.com/splash/about.html>); and
- The Minneapolis St. Patrick's Day Riot case study (<https://www.securonet.net/case-studies-1/>).

Thereafter, she responded to questions during which she advised they are also linked to other law enforcement entities such as the Hennepin County Sheriff's Office, Minneapolis FBI, and Metro Transit. The City covers the cost of purchasing the online platform, and there is no fee to subscribers.

VI. DMNA NRP Funding Updates

- A. Skyway Commons Pocket Park.** Brenda Hoppe, Founder and Chair of Midwest Skateboarding Alliance, came back before the DMNA to provide an update and to ask the DMNA to serve as the fiscal agent for the Skyway Commons Pocket Park project. Then fellow MSA board members who accompanied her introduced themselves: Darrin Mosman, Luka Krympotich, and Thana Hussein (<http://www.midwestskateboard.com/leadership.html>). Hoppe wanted the DMNA board to meet the MSA board who are dedicated and enthusiastic partners that have taken on the heavy lifting job of fundraising. They know they're asking the DMNA to do some heavy lifting as well as the fiscal agent, but believe it's a worthwhile project.

MSA initiated this project with a goal toward using skateboarding and skate parks to advance community engagement, physical activity, and sustainable transportation. The initial partners on this project were the Minneapolis Downtown Improvement District (<http://www.mplsdid.com/>) and landscape architects Damon Farber (<http://damonfarber.com/>) who MSA met with to find an appropriate downtown location for a skate park. The site they discovered is a vacant lot at 2nd Avenue North and North 4th Street across from Damon Farber in Downtown West. DID, the 1st Precinct, the Warehouse District Business Association, and others in the area have recognized that this vacant lot is distressed and needs some love. And they also discovered that this area has the highest crime rate than any other in Minneapolis. Now they have an opportunity to transform this annoying blighted area into a welcoming and innovative space.

DF, who had been tinkering with ideas about park amenities, met with local technical designer, Mark Leski (<http://www.bdhyoung.com/who-we-are/mark-leski/>), and together they put together a design that captures the needs voiced by the community over the years

(<http://friendsoftheskywaycommons.weebly.com/vision.html>). DF has already improved the area with some gravel and stumps for sitting.

As the project evolved, others have come on board as partners: e.g., Mayo Clinic Sports Medicine Center, Pizza Lucé, YouthLink Kulture Klub Collaborative. MSA is trying to showcase in this pocket park what can be done in a dense urban area where there's not a lot of green space but where it can be engaging and inclusive as possible for area businesses, residents and visitors.

MSA met with the Minnesota Department of Transportation which owns the property and will be meeting with them again to discuss what it would look like to transfer ownership. MnDOT only needs to maintain access to a strip of utilities; the goal is for the MPRB to own and maintain the park upon complete build-out. MnDOT has expressed excitement about the possibility of having success here because the skyway over the park connects to huge parking structures MnDOT owns [the ABC Ramps] and at which there have been safety issues so they are interested in increasing eyes on the street and programming positive events to increase park use as a community policing strategy.

Hoppe is pro sports and thrilled the City is bringing the X Games to Minneapolis for the more marginalized athletes, and she hopes to cash in on the attention of this event to bolster the profile of MSA. She underscored MSA will work with whatever amount raised (DF estimated close to half a million would be needed, whereas MCSM thought that amount wasn't nearly enough) and that the design will be scaled accordingly. They are optimistic and are working toward the goal of breaking ground this summer. Rock Hantge then asked for an explanation of next steps since the request tonight is not for approval of the fiscal agent, but rather the Memorandum of Understanding between the MSA, MPRB, and the DMNA (http://www.thedmna.org/wpcontent/uploads/2017/05/MOU_MPRB_SkywayPocketPark_Draft-2017-5-233.pdf).

Jess Birken (<https://www.linkedin.com/in/jessbirken>) introduced herself as the DMNA's legal counsel provided by the Neighborhood and Community Relations department. She was contacted by Rock Hantge who was seeking advice on the DMNA's willingness to act as fiscal agent for the SCPP project. After initial meetings with Hoppe, Birken took a step back to determine whether the project had received approvals from the relevant government entities which is required to move forward. Since the project lacks these approvals, Birken does not recommend the DMNA becoming the fiscal agent and, as a result, forwarded a draft MOU earlier in the day for DMNA review. It doesn't obligate the organization to do anything; it's a paper handshake between the parties involved to continue to discuss the project and for the City to put staff time into the planning process up through budgeting. Thereafter, a second MOU will be needed to cover contractors and who will be the fiscal agent.

Birken then responded to questions during which she explained the MSA is an unincorporated group of volunteers which cannot take tax deductible donations, whereas the DMNA has the 501(c)(3) status and could serve as MSA's fiscal agent. The receipt of large corporate gifts could bump the DMNA into another audit category; alternatives to doing so have been proposed by MPRB Park Planner and Designer Colleen O'Dell (<https://www.linkedin.com/in/designodell>) and her team.

O'Dell also advised the MPRB has been interested in including skate parks for many years but just hasn't had the funding. They look forward to working out the details with the MSA and the support and interest of the DMNA if it becomes the fiscal agent.

Because the MPRB only meets twice a month, the timeline to enter into the MOU once reviewed in its final form is early June.

After McCrea's motion to provide a letter of support for the Skyway Commons Pocket Park and for the DMNA to act as the fiscal agent failed,

Hill moved and Sweet seconded a motion to provide a letter of support for: (1) the Skyway Commons Pocket Park as presented; (2) the Midwest Skateboarding Alliance or its successor to continue discussions with the parties of the Memorandum of Understanding toward the goal of developing the Skyway Commons Pocket Park; and (2) consideration, at the appropriate time, of becoming the fiscal agent.

B. Hennepin Avenue Tree Watering Project. Ben Shardlow, Director of Urban Design at the Minneapolis Downtown Council/Downtown Improvement District, provided an update on this project he presented at last month's meeting and included in the Board package (<http://www.thedmna.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/Tree-Watering-Plan-2017.pdf>). They discovered trees planted downtown and throughout the city are only watered twice ever; once when planted and once 2 weeks later. Typically, tags are hung on the property owners' doors advising them it is their responsibility to take care of them thereafter. Most trees planted in boulevards are in greener environments than those in downtown sidewalks which are hotter and face more threats, thus it is no mystery ones planted downtown don't mature or live very long or become a dense tree canopy.

Given this situation, there's an effort underway by organizations willing to work with the MPRB to provide supplemental maintenance at scale that new trees require. There are a lot of new trees that aren't watered enough and the maintenance issues are only known by the MPRB's Forestry Department and the resources of the DID could be brought to bear because its Ambassadors report on and address these issues.

Since Shardlow last presented before the DMNA, he met twice with the Forestry Department to discuss the Tree Watering Plan and he now has an updated map of where all recently planted trees in Downtown East and Downtown West (not included in the Board package); 38 in 2016-2017 for the former and 180 for the latter.

The most economical way to water these trees is \$12 for filling each gator bag, or well over \$20,000 to water all those in Downtown East/West. Therefore, he's asking the DMNA for \$10,000 in financial support for this project; he'll be asking the same of the other downtown neighborhoods (i.e., Elliot Park, Loring Park, North Loop). Also, they have hired a graduate landscape architecture student from the University of Minnesota who is checking the MPRB's data, tree conditions, and helping to develop tree tag system. There is a lot of homework being done to figure this issue out, but once figured out it will not get done without the financial resources to implement.

Bob Cooper from the City's Finance Department explained how NRP funds can support tree watering; they must be for newly planted or planted within the past year on public land. After some discussion,

Nordgaard moved and McCrea seconded a motion to provide \$10,000 towards the Hennepin Avenue Tree Watering Project for the first 2-year period of newly planted trees on public lands and that the DID be required to submit a progress report. Tamburino asked for discussion. The motion passed with Hill voting in opposition.

C. Consideration of Representative on Minneapolis Downtown Council 2025 Plan

Transportation Committee. After Shardlow asked to proceed instead of waiting until later in the agenda, he explained there are a series of implementation committees advancing the goals of the 2025 Plan. The goal of the Transportation Committee is to lead the nation in transportation options (<https://www.mplsdowntown.com/2025plan/2025-plan-committees>), an ambition goal because peer cities are making investments that we are not, but it's still a vision we can make a lot of progress on in downtown. The committee meets monthly during the Minnesota legislative session (or bimonthly off session) usually at 7:30 a.m., on the first Wednesday of the month at their office in the Young-Quinlan Building, to develop the MDC's legislative position (a resolution was drafted mid-session strongly in support of reliable transportation funding), and to weigh in on transit related issues.

Shardlow explained he was before the DMNA in February 2015 to recruit a representative when the committee kicked off. Conrad Zbikowski served for about a year, but his attendance has waned and when they checked their roster recently realized they no longer had a DMNA representative. Tamburino expressed an interest in serving.

Hill moved and Sweet seconded a motion to appoint Tamburino as the DMNA representative on the Minneapolis Downtown Council's 2025 Transportation Committee. Tamburino called for discussion. The motion passed

D. NRP Funding Recipient Evaluations. Rock Hantge stated that she collected nine evaluation forms from the organizations the DMNA funded over the past 24 months:

- Emanuel Housing
- FreeArts Minnesota
- MacPhail Center for Music
- Mile in My Shoes
- Mill City Farmers Market
- Minneapolis Bicycle Coalition for Open Streets
- Minneapolis Riverfront Partnership
- People Serving People
- Webster Elementary School

These evaluation forms included financial information and are available on the Board Members Only page of the Website.

Thereafter, Robert Thompson and Bob Cooper responded to questions regarding the neighborhood funding and planning process, provided guidance on how to evaluate recipients of DMNA NRP funds, and how they work with Rock Hantge to craft the scope of services after the DMNA Board approves the funding request; it is very important funding requests tie back to the DMNA's NRP Phase II Plan

E. Consideration of Password Protected Information on Website. Rock Hantge explained over the past 5 years, Board members wanted to go greener and reduce the amount of printing. As a result, she was requested to set up a page on the website to post all materials that Board members could log into; it is not unusual for an organization to have a password protected site for board package materials and it was not meant to be deceptive. Based on conversations she, Frazell and McCrea had with Bob Cooper, beginning this month, aside from personnel-related and financial information, the board package is available on two publicly posted sites. Rock Hantge will work with Cooper and Thompson to ensure all information, aside from confidential personnel and highly sensitive information, will be publicly accessible.

F. Consideration of Electors and Alternates for the Neighborhood and Community Engagement Commission Election Process. To accommodate Robert Thompson's schedule, this item was moved forward on the agenda. He explained the NCEC seats from Districts 1, 3, 5 and 7 (<http://www.minneapolismn.gov/www/groups/public/@ncr/documents/webcontent/wcmssp-196604.pdf>) are up for election through the neighborhood election process. The citywide meeting to elect commissioners will take place on Thursday, June 15th at the Crown Roller Mill Building, and neighborhoods within these districts should appoint their electors and alternates by Friday, June 9th. Former DMNA Board member Nick Cichowicz represents District 5 in which the DMNA is located and he is running for reelection unopposed. The DMNA needs to appoint two electors: one for Downtown West and one for Downtown East. After a brief discussion,

Nordgaard moved and Tamburino seconded a motion to appoint Tomek Rajtar as the elector for Downtown West and Stephanie Hill as the elector for Downtown East. No alternates were available for appointment. Tamburino called for discussion. The motion passed.

For more information on the NCEC elections, please visit <http://www.minneapolismn.gov/ncr/boards/ncec/WCMSP-193140>.

VII. Land Use Committee Report

Kevin Frazell reported on the following projects reviewed at the May 2nd meeting:

A. Water Works. MPRB Design Project Managers Kate Lamers and Tyler Pederson, and MacDonald & Mack Architects AIA Amy Meller presented on the deconstruction plans for the Fuji Ya building (<http://www.minneapolismn.gov/www/groups/public/@cped/documents/webcontent/wcmssp-193584.pdf>), as well as the evolved Water Works design concept (https://www.minneapolisparcs.org/news/2017/05/02/2458/minneapolis_park_and_recreation_board_minneapolis_parks_foundation_seek_community_input_on_evolved_water_works_design_concept).

Deconstruction of Fuji Ya will begin this year and construction of the park will begin next year with an anticipated opening by late 2019. The LUC was in support of the deconstruction plans, and considered the evolved design for Water Works beautiful and a wonderful addition to the community.

- B. Millwright Building.** Ayman Arafa from Ryan Companies presented a sign variance application for their new headquarters in the Millwright Building at 533 South 3rd Street where the LUC meeting was held. They want to put up a 14' x 16' black and white ghost sign on the southeast side of the building that would fill a blank wall.

The LUC provided a letter of support for the proposed sign variance application as presented.

- C. 121-125 Washington Avenue.** Dean Dovolis from DJR Architecture presented Bank of America's application for remote virtual services at 121 Washington Avenue North.

This type of banking service does not fit into any existing City zoning districts but is considered the new way of banking. The NLNA has endorsed it and BOA is thinking about putting one in 205 Park Avenue.

The LUC provided a letter of support for this type of banking facility at this specific location. However, the letter does not indicate that the LUC will support or deem acceptable the location of remote virtual services everywhere in the downtown community.

- D. 800 Washington Avenue.** CPED Senior Project Coordinator Emily Stern has taken over the project as a result of Bob Lind's retirement and is getting up to speed. She was asked to provide an update on the status of the Term Sheet that allowed an additional 6 months on the timeline for executing a redevelopment contract and closing deadline by the next LUC meeting (<http://www.minneapolismn.gov/www/groups/public/@clerk/documents/webcontent/wcmssp-191744.pdf>).

Frazell advised he then had to leave the LUC meeting and could not report on the Grain Belt Sign; however, Christie submitted the following.

- E. Grain Belt Sign.** Justin Weinberg from Briggs and Morgan and Kyle Marti from August Schell Brewing Company met with the DMNA Land Use Committee on May 2nd and presented a Certificate of Appropriateness application for the Grain Belt sign restoration project.

Weinberg and Marti explained the Grain Belt sign restoration project will include the relighting of the sign; the addition of a security fence; and the removal or cut-back of some of the existing trees and brush growing within or around the existing structural base of the sign. They noted that the removal of the vegetation will be as minimal as possible and is for safety purposes. No structural changes or repairs to the sign are planned or requested at this time, nor is there any demolition planned for the site.

The Land Use Committee provided a letter of support for August Schell Companies Certificate of Appropriateness application for the Grain Belt sign restoration project.

VIII. Old, New or Other Business

- A. Continued Discussion of Council Member and Mayoral Candidates Forums.** The subcommittee (Joe, Dianne and Stephanie) needs to meet again so this was tabled until the June Board meeting.
- B. Continued Discussion of 2017 Open Streets.** The DMNA will provide the \$1,000 it voted to contribute, but due to a lack of volunteers will not have a booth this year.
- C. Discussion of Summer Board Meeting Dates.** Meeting dates were set for June 19, and July 17. At this point, there will be no board meeting in August.

IX. Downtown Partnerships

For a complete listing of the organizations and committees in which the DMNA is engaged, please reference the Outreach and Collaboration Chart prepared by Sweet included in the May 2017 Board materials on the DMNA's Website.

Tamburino had Rock Hantge place the Mayor's safety plan on the website.

X. Adjournment

Sweet moved and Hill seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting. Tamburino called for discussion. The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Signed this _____ day of _____, 2017.

Chair

Secretary