

## **DOWNTOWN MINNEAPOLIS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION**

Minutes from the Board Meeting on Monday, April 16, 2018

*Mill City Museum*

710 South 2nd Street, 6th Floor ADM Room

Downtown East Neighborhood of Minneapolis

### **I. Call to Order and Introductions**

Chair Joe Tamburino called the Board meeting to order at 5:50 p.m.

Other Board members in attendance were:

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

Board members Jennifer Bernhardt and Stephanie Hill were absent.

Staff member Christie Rock Hantge was also in attendance.

Guests in attendance included:

Sophia Faacks, iMatter Minneapolis  
Steve Fletcher, Ward 3 Council Member  
Meghan Gustafson, Minneapolis Downtown Council  
Randy Manthey, The Carlyle  
Tom Novak, American Trio Lofts  
Ruben Rodriguez, Minneapolis Downtown Council partnership & engagement intern  
Bob Walsh, Bridgewater  
Leah Wong, Minneapolis Downtown Council  
Shane Zahn, Minneapolis Downtown Improvement District

### **II. Consideration of Agenda**

*After the Northern Spark Festival presentation was postponed to May, and Rock Hantge explained both the survey and community facilitator guide for community meetings would be discussed under outreach and collaboration, Walsh moved and McCrea seconded a motion to approve the Board meeting agenda as amended. Tamburino called for discussion. The motion passed.*

### **III. Consideration of Consent Agenda**

After Treasurer Dianne Walsh advised she reviewed the financial documents and found no issues,

*Sweet moved and Rajtar seconded a motion to approve the consent agenda which included the Board meeting minutes dated March 19, 2018; the F2018 Budget vs. Actual for the period ending March 31, 2018; and the Neighborhood Coordinator / Finance Coordinator staff report for March 2018 (Invoices #039), all of which was made available online for advance review. Tamburino called for discussion. The motion passed.*

#### **IV. Ward 3 Update**

City Council Member Steve Fletcher reported on the following:

- A. Police surveillance technology.** He has raised the conflict between safety and privacy issue around the equipment installed for Super Bowl LII and would appreciate hearing our feedback (<https://www.minnpost.com/politics-policy/2018/04/technology-developed-super-bowl-lii-has-created-expansive-new-capability-pol>). Fletcher wants the City to be more transparent about how the technology is being used, how we're tracking people's movements and what data is being kept.

After some discussion, the consensus of the Board was that the cameras might help increase safety in the downtown community and could assist with nuisance crime reduction such as graffiti tagging; however, for transparency, give the public the ability to view it as well.

- B. Nice Ride dockless bikes.** He attended the National League of Cities' annual legislative conference (<https://www.nlc.org/event/congressional-city-conference>) where dockless bikes were a topic of discussion. D.C.'s dockless bike system is mismanaged because it uses multiple vendors that have different colored bikes with a different app for each, resulting in a chaotic system with riders leaving bikes anywhere obstructing sidewalks or vehicular traffic. The City of Minneapolis believes this chaos can be remedied with an exclusive vendor agreement.

Nice Ride Minnesota, with whom the City contracts for bike sharing, is proposing to transition to dockless (<https://www.ourstreetsmpls.org/dockless-bikeshare-coming-to-minneapolis-in-2018>), the trend of the industry, and to maintain order it will employ geofencing. The City is proposing to amend its contract with NRM to allow it to test and phase in a new dockless bike sharing model this summer for full implementation in 2019 (<https://www.niceridemn.org/asset/jymx07/Revised-NRM-Business-Plan-Update043018.pdf>).

- C. Adult entertainment ordinance.** A recent disagreement between a plan for a "Topless Tap House" and 3 Degree Church has caused the City to consider re-examining the existing adult entertainment ordinance (<https://www.bizjournals.com/twincities/news/2018/04/09/strip-clubs-complain-theyre-getting-squeezed-out.html>). Fletcher speculated the ordinance will probably end up being more restrictive than what it is because a lot more residential uses have been added to downtown. He wants to look at the whole picture of what uses are happening today and, as someone who wants to have a more safe, walkable city, the bigger question is why should we have businesses that by definition don't have windows and aren't contributing to the vibrancy of street life. We should treat them the way we treat parking ramps, i.e., screened by other uses that face the street as well as consigned them to the second floor or off street level.

The City will consider an ordinance amendment in conjunction with the 2040 Comprehensive Plan update.

- D. Gold Medal Park.** In preparation of Xcel Energy's maintenance on overhead power lines running between towers at Gold Medal Park and Father Hennepin Bluff Park, planks have been laid around GMP which Fletcher wasn't aware of until he received complaints. And related to this work which he also wasn't aware, the Stone Arch Bridge will be closed on April 19-20 (<http://millcitytimes.com/news/stone-arch-bridge-planned-closure-7am-5pm-april-19-20-for-po.html>).
- E. Outdoor amplified sound permit.** As a FYI, American Ninja Warrior will be filming near U.S. Bank Stadium on May 25 and May 26 (<https://www.bloomingtonmn.org/things-to-do/events/american-ninja-warrior>) and, as a consequence, have applied for an amplified sound permit. ANW will block off Chicago Avenue and most of the obstacle course will be set up on the stadium side of Chicago Avenue.
- F. 800 Washington Avenue.** The Request for Proposal has been released and included in it is language Fletcher requested stating the neighborhood expressed a preference for owner-occupied housing over rental. Also, he asked staff to work with the DMNA to host a public forum to review all of the responses prior to selection of a preferred developer.

Thereafter, Fletcher responded to questions from the Board, one of which was whether they would be proposing any unfunded mandates for affordable housing (<http://www.minneapolismn.gov/www/groups/public/@citycoordinator/documents/webcontent/wcmssp-207298.pdf>) in the next year. Fletcher doesn't think so; they're waiting on a report that will reveal what inclusionary zoning will look like. The goal is to ascertain what the market will bear, what incentives need to come with it, what resources are needed to make affordable housing happen. They'll probably divide Minneapolis into several different markets as they recognize there's a big difference between what people are willing and find profitable to build in downtown versus in North Minneapolis versus in Longfellow.

## V. Climate Change Resolution

Sophia Faacks from iMatter Minneapolis introduced herself and explained her organization's purpose is to advocate on behalf of climate change (<http://www.imatteryouth.org/minneapolis-mn/> and <https://www.facebook.com/imattermpls/>). It is comprised of young people from South, Southwest, Roosevelt, Washburn, and Patrick Henry high schools and their goal is to secure the production and use of 100% renewable electricity in Minneapolis by 2025, 25% of which from within city limits, and two youth seats on the Community Environmental Advisory Commission (CEAC). iMatter is seeking support for their Climate Inheritance Resolution from which she read some of the language; it passed the CEAC today and will go before the full City Council next week.

Fletcher, who co-authored the City's resolution, clarified they passed a slightly different resolution and worked with City staff, Xcel Energy and others to determine what they can actually get done, e.g., 100% by 2030 and 10% produced from within city limits. Then after responding to several questions from the Board,

*Rajtar moved and Sweet seconded a motion to support iMatter Minneapolis' Climate Inheritance Resolution. Tamburino called for discussion. The motion passed.*

Rock Hantge will go online to the iMatter Minneapolis Website and submit the endorsement. She will also share a copy of the resolution with the Board.

## **VI. NRP Funding Requests**

**A. 2018 Pianos on Parade.** Leah Wong, VP of External Relations at the Minneapolis Downtown Council, advised they came to share some of their strategies to activate downtown. Then her team introduced themselves: Shane Zahn, Director of Safe Initiatives at the Minneapolis Downtown Improvement District; Meghan Gustafson, Director of Events & Programs; and Ruben Rodriguez, Partnership & Engagement Intern who just began today.

While using a slide presentation, Wong advised the MDC is a member supported organization focused on creating a vibrant and safe downtown for all who live, work and play here and being a competitive, thriving 21st century city. This is accomplished through numerous collaborations with private/public partnerships and other nonprofit organizations.

One of the programs employed to activate downtown is Pianos on Parade (<https://www.mplsdownatown.com/pianos>), a partnership between MDC/DID, Keys 4/4 Kids (<http://keys44kids.net/>), and others. They place 25 pianos throughout the downtown community in June to allow for pre-scheduled and impromptu musical performances. Wong provided a list of participating businesses and organizations that help sponsor a piano. She also reviewed some highlights from the 2017 season.

Zahn explained pianos are a tactical urbanism tool for Crime Prevention through Environmental Design. The MDC and DID work in partnership with SafeZone to strategically locate pianos in crime and safety hotspots across the downtown community to help activate the streetscape. POP help:

- Create positive interaction opportunities between the Minneapolis Police Department and the community;
- Create safe community gathering spaces;
- Change the atmosphere and feeling on the street in crime hotspots;
- Change peoples' perceptions about safety and security in the downtown community; and
- Reduce panhandling and loitering.

The budget to operate POP for a month is just over \$100,000 and they seek sponsors for individual or group of pianos. Wong and Zahn suggested the DMNA support three to five pianos at \$5,000-10,000 each at the following strategic crime hotspots:

- 5th and Hennepin
- Central Library

- Nicollet Mall

Rock Hantge provided clarification on the available funding. She suggested the best source of funds would be the DMNA's Neighborhood Improvement Plan monies. After some additional questions and discussion,

*McCrea moved and Frazell seconded a motion to provide a \$7,500 contribution to the Minneapolis Downtown Council for the 2018 Pianos on Parade program. Tamburino called for discussion.*

*Thereafter, Walsh moved and Rajtar seconded a motion to increase the contribution to \$10,000 for the 2018 Pianos on Parade program. Tamburino called for discussion. The motion as amended passed.*

Rock Hantge will work with Bob Cooper and CPED Development Finance to get the Neighborhood Improvement Plan dollars contracted.

- B. NRP Phase II Plan Modification.** Rock Hantge explained the Board needs to approve an NRP Plan Modification in order to support the contributions to the Mill City Farmers Market and the Greening Lab that they approved in March 2018. The plan modification moves \$15,000 out of the Housing Opportunities Fund, with \$5,000 going to the Arts, Culture and Education strategy and \$10,000 going to Downtown Development – Improve and Expand Green Spaces strategy. After this plan modification, there will be a limited amount of dollars the DMNA can reallocate to non-housing related strategies.

*Frazell moved and Sweet seconded a motion to approve a \$15,000 plan modification to move \$5,000 from the Housing Opportunities Fund to the Arts, Culture and Education strategy to support the Mill City Farmers Market in 2018, and \$10,000 to the Downtown Development strategy to support the Greening Lab Tree Watering Project, in 2018. Tamburino called for discussion. The motion passed.*

Rock Hantge will work with Bob Cooper at CPED Development Finance to get the monies contracted.

## **VII. Land Use Committee Report**

Frazell reported on the following projects presented at the April 3rd LUC meeting and, stemming therefrom, the recommended letters of support:

- A. AC Hotel Minneapolis Expansion of Premises Application.** General Manager Tiffany Zimmer explained the purpose of the application is to allow alcohol to be served in the courtyard area of the hotel. The hotel currently has a Class B On-Sale with Sunday Sales liquor license. The LUC recommended sending a letter of support for the AC Hotel's expansion of premises application.

*Frazell moved and McCrea seconded a motion to approve a letter of support for the AC Hotel Minneapolis expansion of premises application. Tamburino called for discussion. The motion passed with Rajtar opposing.*

- B. 11th Avenue South Bike Lane.** Erin Feehily, Associate Transportation Planner with the City of Minneapolis, presented plans to upgrade the existing 11th Avenue Protected Bike Lane from bollards to curb protected. After hearing the presentation and asking questions, the LUC passed the following motion:

*The DMNA urges the City to hold off on any street and bikeway improvements in this area until a comprehensive traffic study and plan has been completed.*

Frazell explained neighborhood residents expressed concern about the impact of new development and growing traffic issues in this part of the Downtown East neighborhood, specifically, the intersection of 11th Avenue and 2nd Street as well as the 11th Avenue approach to Washington Avenue. Both of these locations have experienced dangerous conflicts between cars, bicyclists and pedestrians.

*Frazell moved and McCrea seconded a motion to approve a letter urging the City to hold off on any street and bikeway improvements in this area until a comprehensive traffic study and plan has been completed. Tamburino called for discussion. The motion passed.*

- C. JR Hospitality's proposed Cambria Hotel and Fairfield Inn & Suites.** Frazell explained this project was presented before the LUC twice: once in March at which the LUC suggested improvements to the exterior building design and requested more details regarding the public realm improvements; and once in April at which the LUC appreciated very much the improvements incorporated into the building to make it more attractive. As such, they recommended a letter of support for the project.

*Frazell moved and McCrea seconded a motion to approve a letter of support for the JR Hospitality project. Tamburino called for discussion. The motion passed.*

- D. Land Use Committee Charter.** Frazell explained for the last several meetings the LUC has been working on developing a charter to better understand its responsibilities, expectations and authorities within the DMNA, a draft of which was made available for review and consideration (<https://www.thedmna.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/Final-Draft-of-Proposed-LUC-Charter.pdf>). There being no issues raised,

*Frazell moved and Sweet seconded a motion to approve the LUC charter. Tamburino called for discussion. The motion passed.*

**E. Other Projects Presented on April 3rd**

1. New City Consolidated Office Building. The final public engagement meeting is on April 18th at Mill City Museum and the team will return before the LUC on May 1st.
2. Hennepin Avenue Reconstruction. A second open house will be held on April 26th at Hennepin Theatre Trust.
3. 12th Street Tower. No action was required but the team will come back on May 1st to request letter of support

4. Minneapolis 2040 Comprehensive Plan. Heather Worthington, City's Director of Long Range Planning and a personal friend of Frazell's, will give a presentation at the May 1st meeting.
5. Eleven on the River. A community conversation was conducted at the March 19th Board meeting and the team will come back to a future LUC meeting to present updated plans.

The next LUC meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 1, 2018.

## **VIII. Chair's Report**

Tamburino reported on the Hennepin Avenue Reconstruction Project Community Advisory Committee; it meets once a month and there's going to be another open house on April 26th, 4:00-6:00 p.m., at Hennepin Theatre Trust.

Regarding the next Washington Avenue Cleanup on Earth Day, Saturday, April 21st, Rock Hantge advised the North Loop requested if anyone is interested in participating to pick up the bags at Whole Foods and then spend an hour on Earth Day picking up trash. Tamburino is unavailable for this event but will work with Bildsoe to schedule another one in May or June.

## **IX. DMNA Outreach and Collaboration**

**A. Community Engagement Survey.** Walsh explained she was tasked with drafting a Community Engagement Survey, a draft of which Rock Hantge distributed prior to the instant meeting. She worked on it with LUC member Thomas Schmid and Board member Jennifer Bernhardt and received input from others. She was also provided the surveys of Longfellow, North Minneapolis and 205 Park Avenue and keeping in mind the DMNA's strategic plan, she drafted the community survey for review and consideration.

McCrea advised once she synchronizes her calendar with Tamburino's, she'll send the letter she drafted to all board presidents of condo associations and apartments inviting them to send one or two reps to a community engagement meeting in order to find out what they want in the community.

After a few remarks about shortening the length and Tamburino's suggestion to revise question 18 regarding where to spend limited funds available to allow a choice of three,

*Tamburino moved and Sweet seconded a motion to approve the draft of the Community Engagement Survey as amended revising question 18. Tamburino called for discussion. The motion passed.*

Rock Hantge will format it into SurveyMonkey and share the draft with Walsh to ensure the intent remains the same between the paper and electronic versions.

Sweet raised the question whether there were ways to incentivize filling out the survey. After several suggestions were made, Frazell cautioned there would be an awful lot of administrative work for a very small payoff; he thinks the kind of people who live downtown will fill it out

because they care. Rock Hantge believes it would be more worthwhile to have door prizes at the annual meeting.

**B. Community Facilitator Guide.** Frazell reviewed his draft of the Community Facilitator Guide he prepared for meetings with community groups and homeowners associations.

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 April 2018 Board materials on the DMNA's Website.

**X. Adjournment**

Prior to adjournment, Board member Travis Nordgaard announced he is resigning from his seat; he no longer lives or works in the neighborhood. He expressed appreciation for the opportunity to be involved with the organization. Sweet requested his help in recruiting candidates for his vacated seat to which he agreed.

*Nordgaard moved and Sweet seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting. Tamburino called for discussion. The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.*

Signed this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2018.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary