

# DOWNTOWN MINNEAPOLIS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

## Minutes from the Board Meeting on Monday, September 21, 2020

Via Zoom <https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/bnT-iTAd4MiIXPgJfQ9wWMt5Uz83M87EPiRtiZdQabBVjsxrfZYvz7W5IRA81SXb.GrLcecxfnN3u0z8C>

### I. Call to Order and Introductions

Chair Pamela McCrea called the Board meeting to order at 5:47 p.m., and asked Board members to introduce themselves.

Board members in attendance were:

Max Erickson  
Kevin Frazell, Vice Chair  
Tomek Rajtar  
Laurie Rice  
Joey Senkyr  
Carletta Sweet, Secretary  
Joe Tamburino  
Dianne Walsh, Treasurer

Staff member Christie Rock Hantge was also present.

Zoom guests in attendance included:

Renee Allen, MPD 1st Precinct	Robert Lilligren, NACDI, Met Council District 7
Janelle Beenken	Quentin Misiag, Ironclad Residences
Ryan Brown	Merv Moorhead
Deb Clapp, Bridgewater Lofts	Alisa Mulhair, Sonder
Dan Collison, East Town Business Partnership	Bill Peterson, MPD 1st Precinct
Steve Fletcher, Minneapolis Ward 3	Thomas Novak, American Trio Lofts
Terri Frazell, The Zenith	Laura Ross, Emanuel Apartments
Michele Helgen, The Carlyle	Wendy Rubinyi
Melanie Hess	Thomas Schmid, Washburn Lofts
John Humphrey, Metro Transit	Alan Shilepsky
Nick Klebs, Bridgewater Lofts	Mikayla Smith
Anamarie Reyes Kolden	Dustin Sprouse
Brenda Langton, Mill City Farmers Market	

### II. Consideration of Agenda

After McCrea added under New Business consideration of sending a thank you letter to the Gold Medal Park Conservancy for the good work they've done this summer in keeping it well maintained, and request for a contribution to the Mill City Farmers Market's Winter Market,

*Walsh moved and Sweet seconded a motion to approve the agenda as amended. McCrea called for discussion. The motion passed.*

### III. Ward 3 Update

McCrea introduced Council Member Fletcher and, as follow up to the July 20th Zoom Board meeting, thanked him for addressing the scooter problems in the Mill District that were expressed and for getting MPD to divert some of its squad cars off of Washington Avenue onto South 2nd Street for better police presence.

Fletcher noted as part of day-to-day stuff he does to solve problems around 2nd Street, the credit for getting additional patrols should go to Inspector Peterson. Other things they've tried include increasing parking enforcement particularly around Park Avenue, increasing the frequency squad cars patrol, working with the scooter operators to tap down scooters to a very low speed around Gold Medal Park which primarily took the fun out of riding them. From what he's heard, things are getting better. Then he reported on the following:

- **2021 Budget.** The Board of Estimate and Taxation will be approving a maximum levy this week. It may be delayed because they're getting the Mayor's budget later than usual due to the midyear budget process they went through. The Mayor's proposal is a levy increase that is essentially flat for most people. Because of a TIF District that expired and new construction that has come online, plus a 5% increase in property values, the City has the ability to keep the levy flat. Taxpayers could possibly see a decrease in property taxes. They should get the budget book with line item details later this week.
- **Homeless Encampments.** He cited the small informal one behind the 35W Memorial, and the much larger ones that have been taking a lot of the time and energy of the MPD, Park Police, Hennepin County, and numerous nonprofits and advocates who support the unsheltered.

They've had some success in the last couple weeks, i.e., Avivo (<https://www.avivomn.org/>) managed to place a lot of the people who had been at a hotel that Hennepin County rented earlier on in COVID, refilled those beds with people who were camping at the Wall (<https://www.franklinhiawathacamp.org/>), and moved 70 families to a hotel in Coon Rapids. There is also a plan for a tiny home village in a warehouse at Washington and Plymouth Avenues that is starting to look credible. The warehouse would hold 100 tiny homes with locking doors for approximately 100 families. They are working hard to identify ways to shelter the homeless prior to winter.

Fletcher then responded to:

- McCrea's inquiry about whether the housing for the homeless will be drug free. *The City does not condone use at shelters, but the requirement is not to be disruptive and be working toward improving their life situation. They will not kick people out on the basis of drug use. They will try and keep families with children separate from individuals. The tiny home shelter will allow pets.*
- Tamburino's inquiry about whether he continues to support defunding the police, and who will pay for the medical costs associated with drug overdoses for people living at the shelters. *He is still an enthusiastic supporter of allocating funds for looking at alternative ways to respond to many of the problems the police currently deal with. There are considerable opportunities to do things better. Who's going to pay? It's the same as who does now. If it happens on the street, it'll be the County. If it's somebody who's not insured, not part of the system, doesn't have other kinds of resources, it falls*

on the taxpayers.

- Frazell's inquiry about whether the City Council is still adopting the citizen engagement plan for public safety reform. *They're getting a presentation this week in the newly reformed Public Health and Safety Committee.* Frazell reminded him that the DMNA formed a Public Safety Task Force to help downtown residents engage in the process, and that the spring Community Connections Conference is a logical place for that to happen.
- Michelle Helgen's expressing concern over the unprecedented rise in crime and public safety issues in the downtown community. They've lived at The Carlyle for 13 years, walked everywhere supporting local businesses, and never felt unsafe, but the changes they've seen in the last 6 months are unbelievable, e.g., saw a huge fight on the Stone Arch Bridge, graffiti is on the new Water Works Park building, and they avoid walking down Nicollet Mall because it no longer feels safe. The City Council talking about taking money and resources away from the police has only emboldened all kinds of criminal behavior and turned it into this powder keg. She wanted to know what the Council Member is recommending residents do to deal with these challenges.

McCrea interjected that this evening they'll be talking about the DMNA's annual meeting next month which will be geared toward public safety.

*He takes the feedback but is skeptical about how much of the increase in criminal activity should be attributable to the Council's policy discussion around public safety and how much should be attributable to the massive social changes related from both COVID-19 and a nationwide set of social movements prompted in our community. They're seeing in cities all over the country similar kinds of dynamic social changes. With fewer workers coming downtown because of COVID, there are fewer eyes on the street and no positive activity to drive away criminal activity particularly on Nicollet Mall that might normally take place in the back alley. Because of the change in what businesses are open, what activities are available, how people are relating to each and where they need to be, they're seeing people meet up in strange and unpredictable places and behave in unpredictable ways and that's part of the dynamic too. They're putting as many different resources toward this as they can – e.g., 1st Precinct, MAD DADS, DID Ambassadors, Violence Interrupters – and will continue working on it and plan for returning to normalcy.*

#### **IV. MPD 1st Precinct Update**

McCrea introduced Inspector Bill Peterson and explained the Community Engagement Survey the DMNA conducted in 2018. At that time, the survey results indicated people wanted a larger market, more activities in the park, more places to eat, engage each other and meet new friends. Safety was at the bottom of the list. By the group here, safety has become the #1 issue that we're discussing. McCrea then asked Peterson to talk about the challenges the 1st Precinct encounters and whether should we feel safe.

Peterson stated their goal is for everyone to feel safe and that 2020 has been an extremely challenging year. On September 18th was the completion of his 25th year on the MPD and it has been the most challenging year safety wise since he joined the department. The reasons include what Fletcher touched upon, COVID-19 changed the dynamics in the 1st Precinct because 90-95% of the workforce hasn't been coming downtown since the middle of March; and the death of George Floyd and the civil

unrest that ensued made policing even more challenging, but they're doing the best they can to deal with the issues that keep cropping up, e.g.:

- Recovered almost 120 guns in downtown this year, 50% higher than last year
- Assaults have increased significantly
- There have been nine homicides compared to eight last year this time
- There has been a substantial increase in livability crimes on South 2nd Street. Fletcher reached out to him and he passed it on to get personnel over there. He highlighted the recent car crash at Gold Medal Park related to a crime that took place in Roseville.

Thereafter, he responded to:

Tamburino's inquiry about how many officers have left the MPD, and whether the MPD is getting any support from the City to keep their numbers or patrols up. *There are many officers on medical leave, approximately 100 that are trying to decide whether the MPD or law enforcement is for them. In addition, some have retired or resigned and taken other positions. The authorized full force of officers is 888, and the current number of staff is well below this number.*

Walsh's inquiry on his thoughts about moving some current duties and responsibilities out of the MPD, such as mental health calls. *Police officers would appreciate this change, or increased support for these types of calls. The MPD does respond to a significant number of calls that involve mental health related issues. Most officers have had Crisis Intervention Training, but it would still help to have support for calls related to homelessness, mental health, or chemical dependency. These three issues have an impact in some way on approximately 50% of the calls that the MPD responds to.*

Rajtar's inquiry about shots fired on September 20th at around 1:30 a.m. *There was an incident a week ago in front of Pizza Luce; there were multiple shots caught on camera by an Uber driver. It's being investigated and one of the individuals has been charged. In the incident last night there were several shots fired to the south of you on Hennepin Avenue and didn't end up with any suspect info.*

Resident Dustin Sprouse's inquiry about video cameras in the downtown community and how they are monitored. *There is a significant number of cameras in their milestone camera system, but he doesn't have an exact number. During the day Mondays through Fridays he has someone he considers a subject matter expert who operates and monitors the cameras looking for activity. At night he has a few others he trained on their power shift which is primarily responsible for the beeps outside their door. He has a fair amount of staff that know how to work them, but typically they only put one person in the room at a time to monitor the cameras. Crime Prevention Specialist Renee Allen said it's almost impossible to quantify the number of cameras, but for every public camera they monitor there's probably another 50 that are privately monitored; it's a force multiplier. They have Radio Link with buildings downtown to maximize and leverage through communication the effectiveness of public and private cameras. There's also MNDOT, Public Works, and Metro Transit cameras.*

Resident Merv Moorhead's clarifying question about the need to have a co-responder on calls related to mental health and domestic disputes, whether it was an "and" (having the mental health professional with the police officer) or "in lieu of" response. *The way their model is set up, the co-responder team is essentially a sworn officer with somebody who has mental health training typically*

from COPE (<https://lms.minneapolismn.gov/Download/File/1270/Co-Responder%20Team%20Powerpoint.June%202018.pdf>) or other organization; they got a great working relationship. They do an outstanding job of follow up after the fact. The problem you run into, even if you have a professional going to them, a lot of times there's a factor that triggers a police response, and they're not finding people going to these calls without police protection should things go bad.

McCrea's inquiry about the MPD's response to street racers in downtown because nobody ever came to diffuse the situation when she recently called MPD about 20 cars behind Periscope that were revving motors and smoking pot; she took a video. For 2 hours she could hear them racing up and down Washington Avenue. *They do respond but what they've experienced over the past few months is not as simple as sending in a single squad car to diffuse the situation. The MPD and officers are experiencing a ton of hostility and verbal abuse. They're being challenged, surrounded, and overrun. The MPD tries to track them down through social media but the groups are too large. In response to the various circumstances that have occurred on Hennepin Avenue and Nicollet Mall, he's made it clear to his officers they have to do what they can to disrupt and stop them from occurring in the future.*

McCrea extended appreciation for all the work the MPD does. She hopes George Floyd's murder will change policing and how our community responds, but we know we need and want the MPD; they have a difficult job right now. As Chair of the DMNA which represents 55,000 residents and businesses, she stated we really do not want to defund – a word totally misused – the police; we're sensitive to what the MPD is going through.

Then in response to a few other questions, Peterson advised the street racers are from across the Twin Cities, and that it's a misdemeanor violation.

Lastly, McCrea thanked Fletcher, Peterson, and Allen for working together to address the crime and safety problems in the downtown community, and their willingness to come to DMNA Board meetings to respond to questions.

#### **V. Metro Transit Wheel Noise at U.S. Bank Stadium LRT Station**

Robert Lilligren said hello in his native language and explained he's Metropolitan Councilman for District 7 (<https://metro council.org/About-Us/Who-We-Are/CouncilMembers/District-7-Robert-Lilligren.aspx>), lives in Loring Heights neighborhood, citizen of the White Earth Ojibwe Nation (<https://whiteearth.com/home>), and third generation Minneapolis urban Indian. He's lived for 36 years in the Phillips neighborhood and was active in his neighborhood organization, served for 12 years on the Minneapolis City Council, and for his day job works for the Native American Community Development Institute (<https://www.nacdi.org/>). He's had several communications with Laura Ross about this issue and he's here to listen and respond.

John Humphrey, Deputy Chief of Operations Officer for Rails at Metro Transit, explained rail squeal was an issue especially when they started the Blue Line back in 2004; initially they didn't have any rail lubrication and over the years they identified areas that needed to have rail lubricators installed. To date, they've installed 54 rail lubricators along their system to prevent and mitigate issues. He's had staff working tirelessly trying to find out what the issue is at the U.S. Bank Stadium LRT Station and have increased the lubrication to the maximum amount. He was out there in the last few weeks and didn't hear a lot of issues with rail squeal, just the noise of the train going by. To try and identify when and

what conditions the rail squeal is progressively getting work that's being reported, they're going to add a sound monitoring system to document times there are issues.

Humphrey then listened to the noise concerns from McCrea, and Ross who indicated they've had these high squeal/high decibels sound last year that went away after they checked it and it began again this April. Her biggest concern is, being 50 yards away, they went through 3 months of solid squeal and she has around 50 sound recordings to hear exactly what it sounds like and that's in addition to the clanking, crossing sounds, horns and everything; it detrimental to one's health. Having people come out with a sound meter is not what they needed. They want somebody to be more responsive to them. It's a bad enough problem to make her move.

Thereafter, he reiterated they'll install a sound monitoring system, continue to monitor the situation and document when issues arise, and address issues with a more focused approach. They also have an engineering firm that's performing a rear wheel interface study, and they'll be offering recommendations about the contact of the wheels and rail to minimize deterioration and noise. Ross said she will continue to monitor the situation and keep Humphrey's informed.

## **VI. Consideration of the Consent Agenda**

After McCrea changed from "DID to select" to "HOA to select" in Paragraph 2 under Strategic Planning Task Forces, and Treasurer Dianne Walsh advised she reviewed all the financial documents received from Hantge and noted there will be a short fall under the professional services section but found no issues to be concerned about,

*Walsh moved and Rajtar seconded a motion to approve the consent agenda which included the August Board meeting minutes; F2020 Budget vs. Actual for the period ending August 31, 2020; and the Neighborhood Coordinator / Finance Coordinator staff report for August (Invoice #068). McCrea called for discussion. The motion passed.*

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

Board liaison Kevin Frazell reported on the following two development projects located on the same block that the LUC reviewed and endorsed at the meeting on September 1st:

- **McKesson Building Certificate of Appropriateness Application.** ACRE Real Estate sought a Certificate of Appropriate application to allow for exterior rehabilitation work to ensure the longevity of a building in the Warehouse Historic District. ACRE is working with historic preservation consultants from New History (<https://www.newhistory.com/>) and structural engineers from Meyer, Borgman and Johnson (<http://www.mbjeng.com/>) to review the building and determine the best course of action for the rehabilitation work. They hope to start the work next spring.

The proposed rehabilitation work includes the reconstruction of the partially missing lower and upper stone cornices at the north, west, and south façades, and the repair and replacement of the stone window sills at the north, west, and south façades. The consultants are recommending using reinforced cast stone for the lower cornices and fiberglass that will match the existing stone in appearance, profile, size, color, and texture for the upper. Due to the weight of the stone, it is necessary to use fiberglass.

The LUC recommended support for the CoA application and expressed appreciation for ACRE's commitment to retaining the historic character and integrity of the McKesson Building.

- **Proposed Mixed-Use Project at 17 Washington Avenue North.** CA Ventures and Harlem Irving intend to replace the Dolphin Staffing Building (<https://www.tdtmpls.com/news>) with a mixed-use project that bridges the Downtown West neighborhood with the North Loop Neighborhood (<https://lms.minneapolismn.gov/Board/Agenda/CPC-COW/1921>). The site is located on the same block as the McKesson Building, Lerner Building, and the 270 Hennepin Avenue project. It is also across the street from the Gateway Tower project currently under construction. The development is a 27-story building with 429 residential units including three live/work units, 4,800 square feet of ground floor commercial space, and 368 indoor parking spaces. The developer hopes to create a distinct, timeless, and iconic structure at a unique transitional location in the downtown community. The 4-story base along First Avenue is designed to relate to the historic character of the existing Learner building directly adjacent, and the 4-story base along Washington Avenue was designed to relate to the 270 Hennepin project. Building materials will consist of weather steel panels, metal panel, perforated metal screen, aluminum storefront, and glass.

The LUC recommended support for the preliminary concept plan for 17 Washington Avenue North and strongly recommended the developer be mindful of skateboarders when they consider the installation of street furniture on the site. They also want to see more information on the pet relief areas. The developer stated they will provide a follow-up presentation to the LUC when they start the land use application process.

*Frazell moved and Tamburino seconded a motion to approve the letters of support recommended by the Land Use Committee. McCrea called for discussion. The motion passed.*

The next meeting of the Land Use Committee is scheduled for October 6th.

## VIII. Strategic Planning Task Forces

- A. Branding.** Walsh reported she still has 100 DMNA branded facemasks left, 50 of which are earmarked for the grand opening of the police substation. She'd like input from the Board and other committees on how to distribute the remaining into the greater downtown area.

Hantge is working hard on the new website and Walsh and Erickson have given their input. If others have ideas, she's willing to hear about them.

Hantge advised a good place to distribute the masks would be at Green Minneapolis' tree census event on October 3rd and 10th. Quentin Misiag suggested distributing them at Some Great People, a marketing agency that just opened within The Vicinity in the space that was going to be Kim Bartman's coffee shop facing 2d Street as a way to introduce them to the DMNA

- B. HOA Advisory Group.** Rice reported they met at the end of August with a much larger group, so they've been successful in reaching out and getting interested participants. The topic was safety and security with CM Fletcher on the call. There was a lot of lively debate and the same concerns about things happening at Gold Medal Park and along 2nd Street were expressed as was heard at

the August Board meeting. The next meeting will take place on Thursday, October 22nd.

McCrea said they had about 18 different buildings represented by their board chairs, so our community is getting closer and stronger. Several renters have called wanting to establish a renters' group but unless another Board member wants to take this on, she and Frazell just can't take on anymore. Also, at their last meeting it was established renters have different priorities than condominium owners. Rice said there is some overlap, such as safety and security, but probably less concern about building management.

After further discussion, Moorhead said he will reach out to Fletcher and circle back with McCrea and Hantge to figure out how a renters' group can be established.

**C. Outreach and Collaboration.** Frazell is still trying to get the follow up meeting scheduled with MPRB Commissioner Jono Cowgill.

## **IX. Public Safety Task Force**

Tom Schmid explained conveniently an update on this task force can be found in the recent DMNA eblast newsletter prepared by Hantge. The overall function is to advance the police reform principles the DMNA Board adopted on July 7th; and to inform the community on public safety issues and encourage them to participate in this yearlong debate. Encouragement should be fairly easy if you look at what's happened tonight and at every HOA meeting; public safety is *the* issue of the day and he'd reinforce comments made tonight about the growth and potential for growth in the neighborhood organization. There are people coming together and clearly part of that is the shared concern over the public safety issue. It's also significant that all our operating functions – the Board, HOA Group, upcoming civic engagement – have public safety dimensions to them.

Schmid then gave an overview of what they've been doing since they were approved at the July 20th Board meeting:

- They've been up and running for the past 3-1/2 weeks. Both the initial meeting on August 27th and second meeting on September 10th were devoted to organizing their work and clarifying objectives.
- The initial period of authorization as requested is just through the annual meeting in October, so after July 20th they put out an invitation, published it in a few places, suggested applications be in by August 17th, then he, McCrea and Frazell reviewed the applications.
- Because there's a wide framework to cover under a short time period, they've shifted attention to what happens between now and the DMNA annual meeting, and have identified four short-term goals to achieve:
  - i. Expand building collection of public safety materials on the online platform Slack.
  - ii. Begin developing and distributing public information materials through the establishment of a public safety page on the DMNA Website.



- iii. Begin conversations with other organizations that have signed on to the Minneapolis Downtown Council's Guiding Principles. Recently met with MDC President and CEO Steve Cramer and have been invited to their Downtown Virtual Safety webinars.
- iv. Prepare report for the Board that will outline how the DMNA can engage in the City's year-long public safety and police reform process.

Their goal is to have an operating organizational system in place by the public safety forum at the annual meeting and the much-vaunted year-long public safety and police reform process at the City. They'll be asking for the go-ahead at the next Board meeting on October 19th, and once received they'll put out a call for additional community volunteers to address the specific objectives they're charged to achieve.

## **X. DMNA Chairperson's Report**

- A. Renters Advisory Group.** This item was discussed during the HOA Advisory Group update above.
- B. DMNA Annual Meeting Elections.** McCrea encouraged anyone listening that is interested in the DMNA to run for one of three seats on the Board of Directors via the application on the DMNA Website. They are seeking diverse candidates for better representation of the community.
- C. Public Safety Forum.** McCrea was working with Tim Bildsoe from the North Loop Neighborhood Association on a joint event but has not heard from him in quite some time. She recently sent him a message stating the DMNA intends to host its own public safety forum at the annual meeting. Hantge will invite our City Council Members, County Commissioners, and a variety of people who oversee public safety in the downtown community.

Erickson explained how this Zoom public safety meeting was structured: invite community stakeholders who people would like to hear from – Board members to submit their suggestions, and take questions related to crime and safety from the community in advance for a controlled panel discussion. Hantge gave the names of possible panelist she currently has on her list.

## **XI. New / Old / Other Business**

- A. Civic Engagement Committee.** McCrea explained there are a few people who signed up for the Public Safety Task Force but it's not what they envisioned, i.e., they wanted more public safety action-oriented things to do in the community, so they talked about Quentin Misiag doing a joint civic engagement and public safety committee that comes up with things to do, or adding a public safety element to civic engagement that is action oriented and can do things immediately.

Schmid spoke about the EPNI Safety Forum last week where residents were detailing the same issues we have but on steroids. He was impressed with the organization and the residents who were articulate, socially conscious about the crime taking place, and cognizant about the mental health issues that need to be addressed. They suggested a series of solutions, but an interesting one among them was a litter patrol. Then Schmid posed how about one specifically designed for areas that get repeatedly trashed, parallel to what's happening at Gold Medal Park, and combining it with an active-eyes-on-the-street function on a daily or every other day basis. That's a fabulous

idea and there are any number of things that can be done through a civic engagement initiative. He would like for Misiag or somebody else sit in on the PSTF so that we can figure out how best to combine them at that dual level.

Misiag, who organized the community cleanup in August, seconded the comment about having the litter cleanup be more often and stated he would like to transition us similar to what the North Loop has, i.e., litter cleanup once a month and having a regular schedule so people can check in and have a consistent understanding of when it happens. Because there's a limited number of us, he'd like to see litter cleanup be more frequent and get the word out especially as COVID continues through the winter.

Wendy Rubyini would like to see civic engagement and public safety work together because she believes in the idea of "act local" just like they say "eat local", and empowering neighborhood residents to be a part of the PSTF. She suggested working with the HOA Advisory Group to establish a neighborhood watch program, empowering residents with a brochure on how to be engaged and act locally and installing DMNA identifiable signage. She's beyond in favor of combining civic engage together with public safety because it has a lot of potential; it's not just public information and forms, it's also action oriented.

Schmid clarified one of the things the PSTF is turning to in this last month is a preliminary report to the DMNA Board in which is mentioned providing an initial list of neighborhood options, e.g., Neighborhood Watch, litter patrol. The idea is to get direct action information through to the DMNA Board, and the PSTF would love to be involved in that.

Referencing back to Rubyini's comment about neighborhood signage, and Misiag's original idea to have a discussion with local artists/community members to help tell a story of Downtown East and West through banners, McCrea stated now more than ever is the time to define and take ownership of our community, reignite passion for community in place, and address some of the public safety issues. Branding through neighborhood street banners can be done in a nice cohesive way.

McCrea then asked if the Board was ready to establish a Civic Engagement and Public Safety Committee with Misiag acting as its chair.

Misiag was comfortable with combining both and acting as its chair. Schmid, however, was not. Civic Engagement has a public safety component but it's organizationally confusing to combine them. He clarified the PSTF is not conducting research or developing policy, its objectives were laid out at the beginning of the process and approved by the Board. Yes, it's collecting materials and hopes to collect neighborhood data in order for the neighborhood to have a voice in the City's critical public engagement process that keeps getting postponed and the citywide debate about what kind of public safety system we'll have. The PSTF's emphasis is on providing that voice and encouraging people to participate in any way they can. Rubyini is working on the first article they have scheduled for promotion of public safety, i.e., the importance of calling 311. Yes, civic engagement has a public safety component, but it makes no sense to him to have two new functions with public safety in their name.

After further detailed discussion which included Tamburino's concern about adding more work to

Hantge's already busy schedule, McCrea's suggestion that each committee have a Board Liaison who works with Hantge to filter all external communications, and Hantge's recommendation to think about expanding the Board to spread the work around,

*Frazell moved and Rice seconded a motion to establish a Civic Engagement Committee. McCrea called for discussion. The motion passed with Tamburino opposing.*

Misiag then introduced himself (<https://www.linkedin.com/in/quentinmisiag/>), explained the Little Free Library project (<https://littlefreelibrary.org/>), and thanked Hantge for sharing the information with the Board. He has identified two possible locations for them: one each at the 205 Bark Park (<https://thevicinitympls.com/205-bark/>) and The Commons (<https://www.greenminneapolis.org/projects/the-commons/announcement/>). He reviewed the items we would need to purchase and estimated the installation to be approximately \$500 per location. Walsh inquired about whether the City requires a special permit for the libraries, and whether he has gotten permission from property owners of the two sites.

Hantge has spoken with both Sherman Associates and the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board about the idea and they are supportive. Neither wants to be responsible for ongoing maintenance. She has not been able to determine if the City requires a permit for installing a library. We'll have to work with the property owners to identify where they want the libraries installed, and Misiag will install them. Frazell requested that the location at The Commons be sited close to the Edition.

*Frazell moved and Rice seconded a motion to approve allocating up to \$2,000 for Little Free Libraries at the 205 Bark Park and The Commons. McCrea called for discussion. The motion passed with Tamburino opposing.*

- B. Gold Medal Park Conservancy Thank You Letter.** McCrea would like to send a letter to the members of the Gold Medal Park Conservancy thanking them for all the work they do to maintain the park to keep it a wonderful place for Mill District residents and visitors to the neighborhood, and especially for quickly repairing the recent damage done to a bench by a car cash resulting from a police car chase related to a crime in Roseville.

*Walsh moved and Tamburino seconded a motion to draft a thank you letter to the Gold Medal Park Conservancy. McCrea called for discussion. The motion passed.*

- C. Request to Support the Mill City Farmers Market Winter Market.** On behalf of Brenda Langton who had to leave the meeting earlier, McCrea explained she reached out to her about obtaining additional DMNA financial support for the Winter Market because COVID-19 has had a horrible impact on their vendor farmers. She would like the DMNA to contribute some funds to help cover the additional costs of curbside pick-up to keep the market going over the winter months, and to cover booth rental fees.

*Walsh moved and Tamburino seconded a motion to approve \$10,000 contribution to the Mill City Farmers Market for the Winter Market if it's approved by the NCR. McCrea called for discussion. The motion passed.*

**XII. Outreach and Collaboration**

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 September 2020 Board materials on the DMNA's website.

**XIII. Next Board Meeting**

Monday, October 27, 2020, at 5:45 p.m. via Zoom.

**XIV. Adjournment**

There being no further business,

*Sweet moved and Walsh seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting. McCrea called for discussion. The meeting adjourned at 8:39 p.m.*

Signed this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2020

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary