

# DOWNTOWN MINNEAPOLIS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

## Minutes from the Board of Directors Meeting on Monday, January 24, 2022 Via Zoom

### Meeting Recording:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/bvYE6DS\\_fCwdvh-y2J-GRiSVxklbuMdyHFyrOkz4za34CWsEZwh2BHZpG7ah8IHF.ubuUwGEaTIHbC3RW](https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/bvYE6DS_fCwdvh-y2J-GRiSVxklbuMdyHFyrOkz4za34CWsEZwh2BHZpG7ah8IHF.ubuUwGEaTIHbC3RW)

### I. Call to Order

President Pamela McCrea called the Board meeting to order at 5:546 p.m.

Other Board members in attendance were:

Jim Bishop  
Andrew Gittleman, Vice President  
Abby Larson  
Douglas Pearson  
Laurie Rice  
Carletta Sweet, Secretary  
Joe Tamburino (joined later in the meeting)  
Dianne Walsh, Treasurer

Executive Director Christie Rock Hantge was also present.

Zoom guests in attendance included:

Kevin Frazell, DMNA Land Use Committee Chair	Elizabeth Shaffer, MRPB District 4 Commissioner
Karl Hedlund, Move Minneapolis	Michael Rainville, Ward 3 Council Member
Nick Klebs, Bridgewater Lofts	John Turnipseed, MAD DADS
Dave Malver, Minnesota Film	Elizabeth Vandam, Oaklands on 9th
Randy Manthey, The Carlyle Condominiums	Jon Wertjes, Minneapolis Public Works
Rinal Ray, People Serving People	Catherine Windyk, Move Minneapolis
Paul Rheingans, Salvation Army Harbor Light Center	Shane Zahn, Minneapolis DID
Ryan SanCartier, Ward 3 Policy Aide	

### II. Consideration of Agenda

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

### III. Ward 3 Update

In the absence of Council Member Michael Rainville (<https://www.minneapolismn.gov/government/city-council/ward-3/>), Senior Policy Aide Ryan SanCartier (<https://www.linkedin.com/in/ryan-sancartier-14090161/>) advised it's their official second week of having moved into their office on the 3rd floor [at City Hall] and Rainville is excited to represent Ward 3 since he grew up in the area and has been a part of helping businesses thrive in downtown as well as making it a great place to live.

One of Rainville's priorities is crime, so he has already

- Met with Interim Police Chief Amelia Huffman (<https://www.minneapolismn.gov/government/departments/police/police-chief-administration/> and <https://www.linkedin.com/in/ameliahuffman/>) which went well;
- Conducted meetings in several condominium and apartment buildings in the North Loop around forming community safety groups, as well as attended meetings at the NLNA (<https://northloop.org/event/public-safety-meeting/>); and
- Reached out to downtown neighborhood organizations to apply for the Office of Violence Prevention BPAI Fellowship (<https://www2.minneapolismn.gov/media/content-assets/www2-documents/business/Blueprint-Approved-Institute-RFA-2022.pdf>) to help build capacity on youth violence prevention and general organizational capacity.

In public safety, the OVP (<https://www2.minneapolismn.gov/government/departments/health/office-violence-prevention/violence-prevention-initiatives/>) is playing a larger role and has millions of dollars contributing to it, and as they balance needing more officers with the reality they can't get them right now, trying to see how they can leverage those dollars and putting forth some of those techniques that have worked in other cities is also a vital point of focus. Anything and everything that can help with public safety, Rainville is focused on and has started having meetings with those who oversee those resources.

Turning to the DMNA's scooter issues, SanCartier noted Jon Wertjes, Director of Traffic and Parking Services (<https://www.linkedin.com/in/wertjes-jon-b651b1125/>), is here and advised the City is in negotiations with the scooter companies and because Council Members may have some private interests, they can't be influencing those negotiations. The RFP for the three scooter companies went out in the last term, so Rainville didn't have influence on what that RFP looked like but staff did incorporate a lot of the issues they heard from folks like us into the RFP and Rainville has experienced a lot of the issues the DMNA has recorded. This issue is new to SanCartier himself and he's getting up to speed on the issues and technicalities.

Wertjes then guided the audience through his *Shared Bike and Scooter Program* slide presentation which covered the status of the program in 2021 and wrap up items occurring in the first quarter of 2022. For those unfamiliar, he noted there's a lot of robust data about what they're doing, ways to jump on the 311 system, or give feedback (<https://www.minneapolismn.gov/getting-around/scooters/>). As SanCartier said, the RFP went out last year and they did a lot of market research and due diligence prior to its submission, there was a comprehensive scope of services to which the vendors were required to respond, and new to the program is its multijurisdictional. They've been working with the Minneapolis Recreation and Park Board and the University of Minnesota but the City of St. Paul has decided to join their solicitation, so they collectively issued one solicitation for all four jurisdictions. They received seven responses to the RFP, reviewed the proposals, and the multijurisdictional panel scored and ranked the vendors. The Minneapolis City Council granted them the authority to award up to three licenses, and they're in the throws of negotiating and executing the licenses with the anticipation of having an April 1st start date. Once they're done with their negotiations, they'll hand off the information to the other jurisdictions so they can enter into their own agreements.

Wertjes then responded to questions from the Board and audience about:

- What were the material differences in last and this year's RFP? *None except for the depth of responses.*
- Has he read the list of issues and lack of enforcement summary prepared? *If it's a recent document no, but he's been briefed on last year's dialogue and has seen data collected by 311.*
- Why was the option to submit a complaint in 311 for bicycle and scooters shut down in July 2021 without explanation? *There were several ways to get to 311 and offer feedback, via online, phone, and SeeFixClick app which wasn't being used correctly, so they decided the other two were adequate until SeeFixClick could manage the app more adequately.*
- Is recreational use of scooters appropriate for the program as designed and what are they going to do next summer to reduce scooters to a manageable level consistent with the goals for this neighborhood? *Their primary intent is for scooters to be used for functional transportation but recreation is a part of that, and he'll have to look at the details for placement of scooters in downtown and will continue to monitor where they're placed.*
- What are they going to do next summer to manage and get the safety issues under control and not be abused by scooter riders? *He hasn't looked at the forward-looking deployment efforts that are being planned for 2022 and he'll have to get back on that.*

McCrea interjected the importance of working proactively with them and advised when they look at the vendor companies to take into consideration those with the best accelerometers so they can set the boundaries to keep riders off the sidewalks and the park.

- Why hasn't there been any public engagement for the scooter project prior to the issuance of the RFP versus park, street, sewer, or bridge projects coming out of your department? How can we work with the City to develop a program that will serve the goals of the program? *There was a citywide survey to obtain feedback, direction, support/no support related to the upcoming scooter and bikeshare program, and there were lengthy conversations between folks at DMNA and the Mobility Office, particularly with Danielle Elkins the Mobility Manager in the last months of 2021, and he knows it happened in the summer and fall.*

Because of the lack of enforcement of the agreement, and the verbal abuse community members suffered from scooter riders as well as the vendor workers, Manthey stressed the importance of bringing forth a program that will not compromise our safety and ability to enjoy the neighborhood.

- Where does the revenue from this program go? *The revenue the City charges is a fee to pay for staff who manage the program and operations. The revenue, which is dependent upon ridership levels, is approximately \$100,000 to \$200,000 annually, or a capacity for one to two persons.*
- Can we get a copy of the license agreement, and going forward who is our contact? *The draft license agreement is attached to the RFP and then once executed it'll become public data, and Danielle Elkins (<https://www.linkedin.com/in/danielkins/>) is still our contact.*

Then CM Rainville joined and stated he just came from a Planning Commission meeting, and he'll get the list of DMNA's concerns to Wertjes. Then he thanked Wertjes for coming tonight.

#### **IV. Introduction of MPRB 4th District Commissioner**

Elizabeth Shaffer (<https://www.minneapolisparcs.org/about-us/leadership-and-structure/park-board-commissioners/commissioner-elizabeth-shaffer/>) introduced herself and noted she'll be sharing with the MPRB tomorrow what she learned about the scooter share program at our last meeting and if we pass a

resolution tonight or have any printed information she'll direct us to the specific staff who will be negotiating the scooter share program contract.

Next, she advised because she has 12 neighborhoods, she won't be able to attend all DMNA monthly meetings but welcomes emails at [eshaffer@minneapolisparcs.org](mailto:eshaffer@minneapolisparcs.org) from constituents at any time with issues or concerns related to the MPRB.

Then she highlighted at their meeting on January 19th

(<http://minneapolisparcsmn.iqm2.com/Citizens/FileOpen.aspx?Type=1&ID=2238&Inline=True>) they approved the permit for MnDOT to begin repairs on the Stone Arch Bridge

(<https://www.dot.state.mn.us/metro/projects/stonearchbridge/index.html>) which will begin this fall and last for 2 years. As it evolves, she wants us as well as Move Minnesota to be proactive in giving them and MnDOT feedback needed to make it successful and painless as possible.

Lastly, she noted redistricting of the Park Districts (<https://www.minneapolismn.gov/government/programs-initiatives/redistricting/>) is taking place in tandem with the redistricting of the City Council Wards. District 4 is proposed to jump the river to the Marcy Holmes neighborhood to bring continuity to the riverfront. At the MPRB's last meeting, they put forth a request to keep the North Loop boundary in District 4, and that Cedar-Isles-Dean not be split. Since the proposal is still in the works, please let them know if we have a unique perspective.

#### **V. Ward 3 Update (Continued)**

CM Rainville explained the reasons why he wouldn't be able to attend all the monthly DMNA Board meetings, i.e., when he's attending a Planning Commission meeting if it falls on the same Monday (it meets every other); attending Sheridan Neighborhood Organization meetings where he's going this evening (<https://www.sheridanneighborhood.org/news/january-24-community-meeting>), or when he's attending a meeting at the various organizations within his Ward which is comprised of 9 neighborhoods, 6 business districts, Minneapolis Downtown Council, and Meet Minneapolis. Whenever he's unable to attend, he has a great staff available to serve us, either SanCartier or Henry Järvinen, Ward 3 Policy Associate (<https://www.linkedin.com/in/henry-c-jarvinen/>).

#### **VI. Move Minneapolis Update**

Karl Hedlund, Outreach Specialist (<https://www.linkedin.com/in/karl-hedlund-816a06107/> and <https://moveminneapolis.org/about/staff/>), and Catherine Windyk, Outreach Specialist (<https://www.linkedin.com/in/catherinewindyk/>), introduced themselves and explained how they became involved in MM. Windyk started in September after 12 years working at the UMN on the East Bank and West Bank campuses, grew up in Northeast and commuted from there through downtown to the UMN, lived in Marcy Holmes for several years and spent a lot of time at the Stone Arch Bridge and Mill District. She first started bus commuting to the UMN and took her first bike commute in 2010 and fell in love, then started walk commuting combining all modes, and now she works with MM in downtown.

Hedlund said he and Windyk started at MM on the same day and in the same position, and John Barobs who couldn't be here tonight, is their Outreach Manager (<https://www.linkedin.com/in/john-barobs-b07a556b/>) working on the street with them. Hedlund's a year-round bike commuter and comes from a background of bicycle advocacy professionally. Besides commuting to work at 9th Street and Nicollet and his

partner's residence on LaSalle Avenue, he has a lot of fun reasons to be coming in and out of downtown.

Hedlund then described who they are. They are the Transportation Management Organization (TMO) for downtown Minneapolis, an affiliate of the Minneapolis Regional Chamber (<https://www.mplschamber.com/programming/sponsorship-movempls/>), a leader in sustainable commuting who helps downtown employees and employers reduce travel and commutes, guides building owners and managers implementing world-class commuter amenities, and advocates for commuters and residents who wish to live their green values every day. Hedlund likes to think of MM as a multimodal cross-sector resource hub for connecting service providers – such as Metro Transit or the scooter vendors going through the City's RFP process – with users. MM can be involved in those internal conversations and help give voice to the needs of the community. And he doesn't have to give a big speech that climate change is a reality and vehicle emissions seriously contribute and electric vehicles can't be the entire answer. As a commuter, he likes coming back to the 2013 poll by the National Association of Realtors showing what people really want in their communities; it is clear people want more safe places to bike, public transit, places to go, and places to walk.

Windyk then described what they do. They participate in commuter fairs for employers to help employees get to work using sustainable transportation – see the picture of she and Hedlund attending a Deluxe Corporation open house in October 2021 where they helped someone through individualized trip planning using the Metro Transit website to navigate the system; promote MetroPass (<https://moveminneapolis.org/employers/metropass/>) as a benefit; offer transportation benefits consultation; promote resources for people who interact with them; put on events – e.g., the annual Minneapolis Transportation Summit held in May, the Car-Free MSP held in September – and webinars (Hedlund is currently working on the 24-hour commute); keep people in touch through social media (<https://moveminneapolis.org/2022/01/blog-downtown-leader-loves-his-walk-to-work/>); and conduct the Commute Ambassador Program (<https://moveminneapolis.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/2022-Commute-Ambassador-Information.pdf>).

If anyone has questions, Hedlund can be reached at [karl@moveminneapolis.org](mailto:karl@moveminneapolis.org), Windyk can be reached at [catherine@moveminneapolis.org](mailto:catherine@moveminneapolis.org), and Barobs can be reached at [john@moveminneapolis.org](mailto:john@moveminneapolis.org).

## **VII. MAD DADS Street Outreach Program Update**

Shane Zahn, Director of Safety Initiatives at Minneapolis Downtown Improvement District ([https://www.mplsdid.com/news\\_article/show/973691](https://www.mplsdid.com/news_article/show/973691)), extended a huge thanks to the DMNA for funding outreach initiatives with MAD DADS last summer. They had a gap on weekends so they rolled out a team of six on the MD staff from noon to 6:00 p.m.; he cannot tell how much he appreciates the support from the DMNA.

Then John Turnipseed advised he's been the Acting President for MD for about 6-8 months, and he's been with the organization since it was established in 1998. When they did the weekends, it looked different because not as many people were going back and forth to work but the problem still existed. They had 41 days and did 113 signs ups, i.e., contacting individuals just hanging out with nothing to do, asking them what their major problem is, and offering appropriate resources, so 113 people signed up for resources. They also handed out 835 masks, 747 COVID information packages, and 103 sanitizers. They talked with security personnel at the Hilton Hotel, Peavy Plaza, the Millennium Hotel, Speedway,

Jungle Red Saloon, The Nicollet Diner, 365 Nicollet, Target, Hennepin Theatre Trust, and the downtown light rail stop. They noticed marijuana is the most common drug being used and sold because they can't get arrested for it, so they couldn't intervene. They also noticed that Target is the hub, like the Mall of America, where kids come and congregate, engage in drugs and prostitution, and he thinks it's one of the areas we have to take back from the people there not doing any good for the city. They've gotten a lot of feedback from the business owners and some have donated funds because when they come around, they make sure their area is safe, and the kids know them because they help family members and have good in the community. It was eye-opening, different from the weekday, and they were glad to help.

Zahn highlighted MD has a great working relationship with the 1st Precinct, Inspector Bill Peterson, Lieutenant Mark Klukow, and all the supervisors; it's important to have that collaborative relationship between the MPD and Outreach.

McCrea advised she's supportive of MD and its employees but expressed as a citizen who walks downtown great frustration over all the loitering around Target and congestion when you go in; she fears we'll lose it.

Zahn believes it has been the perfect storm these last 2 years with COVID, the murder of George Floyd, there's less people downtown, Hennepin Avenue under construction has displaced 100% of bus ridership on Nicollet Mall, a lot of businesses are closed after 6 p.m., you can't even go through the skyway after 6 p.m., and the MPD being low. There are only 48 officers in the 1st Precinct, and there was a shift recently with only three officers on duty covering the entire Precinct but there is some light at the end of the tunnel. There are five recruit classes coming on this year and they're thinking outside of the box because they need it in layers, i.e., the MPD, Ambassadors, and Outreach all need to come together to make downtown vibrant and welcoming for everybody. He's been doing this for over 14 years and it's the most challenging he's ever seen. He does a lot of work with The Minneapolis Youth Coordinating Board (<https://www.ycb.org/>) and Minneapolis Youth Congress (<https://www.ycb.org/myc>) and there aren't a lot of resources for youth downtown, not at the MPRB or MPS after school activities, and the Central Library being shut down, so all these places you normally would have for youth aren't there and downtown hasn't been youth friendly. He talks to youth and the reason they come downtown is because it's safer than in the neighborhood where they live. We're going to need all hands on deck for the next 2-5 years to fix what challenges we've experienced in the last few years.

After further discussion, Gittleman concluded this is a much bigger issue than MAD DADS and we could have a separate meeting about it, but they won't solve all the problems on Nicollet Mall in front of Target.

Lastly, Turnipseed advised he's on loan by Urban Ventures (<https://urbanventures.org/our-people>) and just told his boss he'll be with MD until they don't need him anymore. And because he's 67 years old, they need someone younger in their 40s and they think they've found a person.

### **VIII. MNHS Grant for the Historical Marker at Oaklands on 9th**

Elizabeth Vandam, author and historian of architecture, advised the MNHS Small Grant Application she submitted in October 2021 for the historic signage project at the Oaklands on 9th was approved, so now before work can begin, she needs to submit a script draft of the marker text along with the critical

review document which they have 30 days to review.

Then she gave a shoutout to those attended the tour in November; it was fun and everybody had a great time. The tour included John Crippen, Executive Director at the Hennepin History Museum (<https://www.linkedin.com/in/johncrippen/> and <https://hennepinhistory.org/staff-board/>) and his colleague Seth Goodspeed, Development & Membership Manager (<https://www.linkedin.com/in/seth-goodspeed-9587241b/>), and they plan to do a story for their newsletter regarding the building and the historic marker. She will check in periodically as she has information to report.

**IX. Applications to the Hennepin County / City of Minneapolis Shelter Renovations Grant**

McCrea advised there are two nonprofit homeless shelters in the downtown community submitting applications to the Hennepin County / City of Minneapolis Shelter Renovations Grant Program and they're seeking the DMNA's support. The money is coming from the CARES Act.

**A. Salvation Army Harbor Light Center.** Paul Rheingans, Administrative Manager at the Salvation Army Harbor Light Center (<https://www.linkedin.com/in/paul-rheingans-4a019a2b/>), said he's coordinating the documents for the grant application. Their RFP is targeted at reducing risks for transmission of infectious diseases on their 2nd and 3rd floors. When it comes to public health, congregate sleeping rooms and restrooms are tricky, so they need the funds to renovate the rooms to make them smaller with fewer beds, have a more modular HVAC system for better ventilation, and have private stalls with a shower and restroom for more effective moisture exchange. It will technically have a net increase of 4 beds but it won't reduce the capacity; it's mainly focused on mitigating the risk of transmitting infectious diseases and creating more dignified shelter for guests and more efficient and serviceable space for staff.

They are awaiting a final cost estimate from their architect but anticipate it'll be several million per floor. The City and Hennepin County have about \$7.5 million and DHS has \$17 million and together they're coordinating all the proposals, so if SAHLC isn't able to get the full project awarded they would want to set it up to get at least one of the floors done.

Then in response to what happens after 30 days, Rheingans explained they could go through Adult Shelter Connect (<https://www.simpsonhousing.org/our-programs/adult-shelter-connect-simpson-shelter/>) again and stay on for another 30 days or move to a different shelter in the system as capacity allows but over the past year there has been an increase in staffing and programming around case management and focus on emergency shelter is not a housing solution. The vision is this isn't a permanent solution but a steppingstone to something better.

**B. People Serving People.** Rinal Ray, CEO (<https://www.linkedin.com/in/rinalray/>), advised they work with families experiencing homelessness at 614 South 3rd Street in East Town, and have been at this location over the last 20 years. Their initial HVAC system was completed in 2002 and is coming to the end of its life, so they're proposing to Hennepin County and the City for these shelter-specific funds to modernize their building's automation system; replace all HVAC equipment serving emergency shelter rooms; test, balance and commission the system (<https://tsi.com/solutions/solutions-by-application/ventilation-testing-and-balancing/testing-balancing-commissioning/>); and implement some ASHRAE (<https://www.ashrae.org/>) best practices for the health emergency we're all experiencing, all to prevent

the loss of shelter capacity due to unplanned failure of the HVAC system. They're planning to do this to 14 rooms offline at a time so they won't gain or lose any capacity and it'll let them be responsive to the feedback from their families. COVID has wreaked havoc on those experiencing homelessness and they want to do everything they can to ensure they support their health and safety.

Then in response to the inquiry about capacity, Ray advised they've been 40% below full over the summer, but as the moratorium is rolling off their numbers have increased. Currently they're 70% full and they have an entire floor offline for isolation and quarantine. They're not close to pre-pandemic levels but they're filling up.

Rheingans added for the last couple of months, they've been over capacity; they have an artic overflow when the temperature reaches a certain level. Prior to COVID their capacity was 455, and during COVID to keep social distancing and health measures in place it's been about 264.

*Rice moved and Walsh seconded the motion to approve letters of support for the Salvation Army Harbor Light Center and People Serving People applications for the Shelter Renovations Grants. McCrea called for discussion. The motion passed.*

## **X. Land Use Committee Report**

Kevin Frazell announced he was voted as the LUC Chair again at the Tuesday, January 4th meeting, then he reported on the following projects that were presented:

**A. Gay 90's Permanent Expansion of Sidewalk Café License Application.** This was presented by Dennis Johnson, Partner at Chestnut Cambronne, P.A. (<http://www.chestnutcambronne.com/bio-djohnson.html>). They initially came before the LUC during the Hennepin Avenue Reconstruction project which required the removal of their sidewalk café on Hennepin Avenue, so they sought and received a Letter of Support in April 2021 for a temporary sidewalk café license on North 4th Street.

After reconstruction was completed, they thought everything would go back to normal but due to the new sidewalk configuration on Hennepin Avenue the café space is substantially smaller, so they are seeking to permanently expand the sidewalk café on North 4th Street.

The LUC unanimously recommended providing a Letter of Support for Gay 90's application to permanently expand the sidewalk café on North 4th Street, and requests that the barriers used to delineate it include elements that contribute to the public realm in a positive way, such as planters with greenery.

*Bishop moved and Sweet seconded the motion to approve the letter of support for the Gay 90's. McCrea called for discussion. The motion passed.*

**B. noa Minneapolis On-Sale Liquor License Application.** This was presented by Steve Pelissero, Director of Operations at Infuse Hospitality ([https://www.linkedin.com/in/steve-pelissero-757b28ab/?trk=public\\_profile\\_browsemap](https://www.linkedin.com/in/steve-pelissero-757b28ab/?trk=public_profile_browsemap)) from Chicago, and Josh Hochstatter, General Manager of Infuse IDS, LLC, a native Minnesotan. They have taken over the former Mission American Kitchen space in the IDS Center and revitalized it (<https://www.startribune.com/ids-center-in-downtown-minneapolis-lands-a-new->



[restaurant/600054543/](https://restaurant/600054543/); <https://ids-center.com/nea-restaurant-will-open-in-ids-center-space-left-by-mission-american-kitchen/>; <https://thedevelopmenttracker.com/mpls/news/californian-inspired-restaurant-to-open-downtown>).

The hours of operation will be Mondays through Fridays, 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., and after they go before Business, Inspections, Housing & Zoning (BIHZ), which is hopefully on February 8th to obtain their liquor license, then they'll go full scope on operations adding weekends.

The LUC unanimously recommended providing a Letter of Support for the On-Sale Liquor License Application for noa Restaurant.

*Gittleman moved and Rice seconded a motion to approve the letter of support for noa Restaurant's liquor license application. McCrea called for discussion. The motion passed.*

- C. Double Tree Suites Hotel On-Sale Liquor License Application.** This was presented by Rick Hibbs, Director of Licensing at MCR Hotels (<https://www.linkedin.com/in/hibbsrichard/>). MCR Hotels (<https://www.mcrhotels.com/>), the 4th largest hotel owner and operator in the country, recently acquired DoubleTree Suites by Hilton Minneapolis Downtown (<https://www.hospitalitynet.org/news/4108131.html>) and will be making no significant changes to the operations or services. They are seeking approval for the same liquor license approved for the restaurant and bar in the hotel.

The LUC unanimously recommended providing a Letter of Support for the On-Sale Liquor License Application for the Double Tree Suites Hotel.

*Gittleman moved and Rice seconded a motion to provide a letter of support for the Double Tree Suites Hotel liquor license application. McCrea called for discussion. The motion passed.*

- D. Continued Discussion of 2022 Shared Scooter Program.** Randy Manthey who did a great job of presenting and preparing his list of 10 most significant concerns that should be taken into consideration when vendor agreements are being negotiated that were shared with Council Member Rainville and his staff. Manthey and Hantge have been working behind the scenes communicating with City staff and elected officials to help ensure this year's program is safe for riders, pedestrians, and residents in the downtown community. The Board will consider a scooter resolution later in the meeting.

- E. 800 Washington Avenue Mixed-Use Project Update.** This was presented by Brian Dusek, Managing Principal of Real Estate Development at AECOM (<https://www.linkedin.com/in/brianmdusek/>), Gizman Abbas, Principal of Direct Invest Development (<https://www.linkedin.com/in/gizman-abbas-a56454/>), and Matt Johnson, Senior Project Manager at AECOM Hunt (<https://www.linkedin.com/in/matt-johnson-76722113b/>).

They last came before the LUC in March 2021 when they presented a 5-story wood frame over a 2-story concrete condominium structure, but because that wouldn't work financially for them, they are now proposing a 12-story white gauge steel frame over a 2-story concrete podium structure that would include 2 stories of underground parking. The height is permitted under Minneapolis 2040 (<https://minneapolis2040.com/>). There are now 300 owner-occupied residential units with 10% being affordable at 60-80% Area Median Income, and the overall layout with a double loaded corridor is

still the same. The essence of the art walk has been preserved, the plaza can also be a sidewalk café on the corner of Chicago Avenue, and the screening of the Mill Quarter Parking Ramp will turn the alley into an amenity for the building and community when it's not being used for service vehicles.

The development team will be back before the LUC on February 1st with an updated landscaping plan and a decorative or reflective lighting of the building plan for a nicer nighttime cityscape. The LUC also requested that no short-term rentals be allowed to which they committed to because of the HOA covenants.

#### **XI. President's Report**

McCrea had no report to give.

#### **XII. Consent Agenda**

*Sweet moved and Walsh seconded a motion to approve the consent agenda which included the November 15th Board meeting minutes; the December 20th Strategic Planning minutes; F2021 Budget vs. Actual for the period ending December 31, 2021; and the Neighborhood Coordinator / Finance Coordinator staff report for December (Invoice #084). McCrea called for discussion. The motion passed.*

#### **XIII. Committee Reports**

- A. Branding.** Walsh reported 10 boxes of DMNA-branded items (e.g., pizza cutters, spooners, flippers) were delivered to the Bridgewater today where they'll be stored, so there's a lot of product available to hand out at public events. Hats and totes are forthcoming.
- B. Historic Signage Committee.** Walsh reported they met in early January and produced a list of 20 buildings they'll be working on this year with the ultimate goal of having 20, 15 of which have already been selected and she has already begun the research. They have an additional member and are also recruiting. The goal is to build recognition of the DMNA in downtown and increase participation in our activities.
- C. Civic Engagement Committee.** Board liaison Pearson said they met on January 13th at which he was voted Chair, and they got through a lot of material and those who showed up had a lot of great ideas, e.g., trash pickups, collaborating with the public safety committee, highlighting businesses. They will continue to meet on the second Thursday of the month for 45 minutes. The next meeting will take place on February 10th.
- D. HOA Advisory Group.** Board liaison McCrea advised they're scheduled to meet on February 8th and they're going back to monthly meetings.

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

- A. North Loop Crime and Safety.** Bishop reported he attended the January 12th meeting (<https://northloop.org/event/public-safety-meeting/>) along with Pearson and it was attended by CM Rainville and other City officials. Aileen Johnson presented information on Block Clubs, a grass roots initiative to deal with safety concerns in the North Loop area on a building-by-building basis. This is

not officially sponsored or supported by the North Loop Neighborhood Association, but there's a lot they're doing that we could leverage or build upon. They are establishing contacts in each of the buildings with those who have interest in safety issues to promote a "security watch" group and working on Discord (<https://discord.com/>) to allow individuals to communicate with each other. He's going to meet with Johnson this Wednesday to gather more information about this process and how we may support them. He put some thoughts together for our perusal (<https://www.thedmna.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/North-Loop-Block-Club-Update-1-20-22.pdf>).

- B. Consideration of Scooter Resolution.** Rice reported this resolution was included in the Board package and made available on the Board Members Only page on the website (<https://www.thedmna.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/DMNA-Board-Scooter-Share-Program-Resolution.pdf>).

*Rice moved and Sweet seconded the motion to approve the Scooter Resolution. McCrea called for discussion. The motion passed.*

- C. Renters Advisory Group.** Larson advised she and Gittleman met and determined they should start by engaging higher level regional/area rental property managers and she'll work on committee guidelines.

Rice commented before we make that decision, it's important to see a mission statement or charter so that we can understand its purpose and goals because among the outcomes is getting renters involved in DMNA activities which is a different outcome having regional managers, so we need that dialogue.

Frazell reminded everyone that he worked with Hantge on the Neighborhoods 2020 compliance for City-funded neighborhood associations and one of their strong goals is getting renters involved, so that is something we wouldn't want to overlook.

Gittleman stated the goal to reach out to managers was because they have no mechanism to reach out to renters unless they go through the management companies of these buildings, much like we rely on HOA to get their homeowners involved and engaged in issues.

After additional comments, Larson stated she'll work on a charter.

**XV. Next Board Meeting**

Monday, February 28th at 5:45 p.m., via Zoom.

**XVI. Adjournment**

There being no further business,

*Sweet moved and Rice seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting. McCrea called for discussion. The motion passed at 7:37 p.m.*

Signed this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2021

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Chair

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Secretary