

DOWNTOWN MINNEAPOLIS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
Minutes from the Board of Directors Meeting on Monday, November 21, 2022
Via Zoom

(https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/K-d_eV5zWKgGCudkQxRN4U2NfKtsdnqHYUV3YLIGNb3-cSneM7gmyRCBe7Q71Kc.cEGM7Ad-cHUMTQML?startTime=1669073892000, Passcode: c*!b6nfq)

I. Call to Order

President Pamela McCrea called the Board meeting to order at 5:46 p.m.

Other Board members in attendance were:

Jim Bishop
Andrew Gittleman, Vice President
Abby Larson
Isaac Risseeuw
Carletta Sweet, Secretary
Joe Tamburino
Dianne Walsh, Treasurer

Board Member Danielle Eisenbacher was absent.

Executive Director Christie Rock Hantge was also present.

Zoom guests in attendance included:

Howard Cohen, Bridgewater Lofts	Michael Rainville, Ward 3 Council Member
Dan Edgerton, Minneapolis Public Works	Ryan SanCartier, Ward 3 Policy Aide
Brody Honkanen, IncredibleBank	Ben Shardlow, Minneapolis Downtown Council
Ella Graham, Minneapolis DID, Green Corps	Blake Slette, Falls Initiative
Elijah Marriott, Minneapolis DID, Climate Impact Corps	Laura Tiano

II. Consideration of Agenda

McCrea asked that the agenda be amended by moving the President's report to precede Election of Officers.

Walsh moved and Gittleman 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, Ward 3 Policy Aide Ryan SanCartier (<https://www.linkedin.com/in/ryan-sancartier-14090161/>), reported on the following:

- He's been working primarily on Rainville's budget priorities. In the Mayor's proposed budget back in August, he had increasing overnight traffic enforcements agents baked in; they're seeing

a need for that with the decrease in police patrol to take some of that burden off them at night especially for downtown events (e.g., Timberwolves, Twins and Vikings games).

- He's looking to get a few 100,000 dollars to continue a pilot project they started this fall to pedestrianize (i.e., activate spaces and remove cars) a certain section of downtown. They did two weekends (one in September behind Glueks and surrounding streets, and one in October along a couple blocks along 1st Avenue) in the area close to Target Center. When they did 2 weekends, 4 nights total of this project within the perimeter, there were zero violent incidents. That was an optimistic outlook and they're looking forward to continuing the pilot coming into spring. As they regroup this winter and reflect on the pilot from fall, it's important to explore if they need to shift it elsewhere.
- He's trying to give a jolt to the economic recovery downtown as they continue to see businesses leave storefronts.
- He's targeting the East African community who asked to receive some of the \$150,000 opioid treatment resources, and in light of Roe v Wade, \$30,000 for women's sexual health and education.

SanCartier believes it's been a successful first year for Rainville in terms of budget and he's happy where they are at.

McCrea, who was told that there is also a chunk of the [State Opioid Response] funds available to the Native community, she emphasized the need to invest money to get individuals on the right track to become productive citizens.

In response to Bishop's inquiry about the City's commitment to enhanced lighting, SanCartier confirmed the budget to fix all lighting in the city toward improving public safety was \$4.5 million in 2023 and \$4.5 million in 2024 (<https://www.startribune.com/minneapolis-aims-to-shore-up-street-lighting-to-boost-public-safety/600225417/>).

Lastly, McCrea asked him to remind Rainville of the ongoing public health issues related to the homeless living on the Corps of Engineers' property along West River Road.

If we have any more questions or concerns, please contact the Ward 3 office (<https://www.minneapolismn.gov/government/city-council/ward-3/contact-ward-3/>).

IV. Falls Initiative Update

Blake Slette, Outreach and Communications Assistant for the Falls Initiative, provided an update on the work his organization is doing to determine the future use of the St. Anthony Falls Upper Lock and Dam. He began by acknowledging the leadership of the four Mni Sota Dakota Tribal Nations (which he is not a part of) who engaged with them throughout this process and the government partners, e.g., the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the City, the Park Board, and the Minnesota Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund.

Minneapolis is built around St. Anthony Falls (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Saint_Anthony_Falls), a very

significant place for indigenous people, and the specific site they're working on is the Upper Lock and the adjacent land, excluding Mill Ruins Park, that's going through a conveyance process. Several milestones have occurred since this process began, the most recent being the Memorandum of Understanding reached between the FOF, City, and Park Board; and the launch of public engagement including the five Community Conversations series with graphic recordings (<https://thefalls.org/engage/#phase6>) and some pop-up engagement this summer. Where they stand today is moving away from the public engagement and design process and towards fundraising.

Slette then shared what they heard from the public engagement process, all of which can be found at <https://thefalls.org/native-partnership-council/#heard>. There are five big themes that have been brought forward and carried into their current programming and partnership studies: water is life; water and culture; knowledge sharing; ceremony; and indigenous food system. There are many things they've heard, one is that USACE is not considering removal of the Upper Lock but to reuse it as an opportunity to heal the story disrupted, support for less structures and more restoration, spiritual and contemplative spaces.

He also explained that they're going through a design process with GGN in Seattle (<https://www.ggnltd.com/>) and BJK (?) here in Minneapolis; the vision is to gain access to the water.

Lastly, he explained their next steps: continue to focus on programming and partnerships; continue the conveyance process with USACE; explore ownership and operations models; fundraise; schematic design for early enhancement of the site.

For more information, please visit <https://thefalls.org/>.

V. 2nd Street Resurfacing Project Update

Dan Edgerton, Vice President at Zan Associates (<https://www.zanassoc.com/dan-edgerton>), and consultant to Minneapolis Public Works, provided an update on the 2nd Street Resurfacing Project (<https://www.minneapolismn.gov/government/projects/2nd-st-resurfacing/>) along South 2nd Street from 2nd Avenue South to 13th Avenue South. As part of this work, the City is looking at changes that improve safety for all people, with a focus on:

- Encouraging safer travel speeds
- Shortening crossings for pedestrians
- Upgrading the existing street corners to ADA standards
- Upgrading the bike lanes along South 2nd Street

Resurfacing work includes the replacement of the top layer of pavement as part of an ongoing maintenance program. This will extend the life of the street between larger reconstruction projects. The new pavement should last about 10 years. They will also look at changes to the existing bike lanes and pedestrian crossings. This includes:

- Changing the existing bike lanes to a consolidated protected bikeway on one side of the street

- Making it safer to walk across the street with concrete medians at 11th Avenue, 10th Avenue, Park Avenue

Project goals include:

- Improve safety and mobility for all people
- Install ADA curb ramp improvements
- Repair the street pavement
- Encourage safer car/truck speeds
- Create safer places for people to walk across the street
- Install a bicycle facility for all ages and abilities
- Allow access for residents and visitors

There were a lot of questions and concerns about the scope of this project from the Board. There was a strong interest in getting more input from residents directly impacted by the project. There seemed to be consensus that the project should be more substantial than just resurfacing. Edgerton will talk with his supervisor and engage Council Member Rainville.

More information is available at <https://www.minneapolismn.gov/government/projects/2nd-st-resurfacing/>.

VI. Minneapolis DID Green Corp Update

Ella Graham, MN GreenCorps Member (<https://www.linkedin.com/in/ella-graham-008096197/>), introduced herself, along with Ben Shardlow, Director of Urban Design at Minneapolis Downtown Council & Downtown Improvement District (<https://www.linkedin.com/in/benshardlow/>), and Eli Marriott. She began by reviewing the boundaries of the Downtown Improvement District and noted one of the primary goals of the DID is greening. Although the DID has fixed boundaries, they want to share successful strategies that will help create a greener downtown overall. She highlighted the partnership with the DMNA on Service Saturdays. She noted challenges related to participation but is hopeful we can continue to improve that in 2023. She also talked about challenges for trees in the downtown community, including dog waste, soil issues, lack of water and excessive chloride from de-icing salt. She reviewed the adverse impacts that salt causes and then presented some strategies to reduce the impact of de-icing salt. She talked about Smart Salting trainings offered by the Minneapolis Pollution Control Agency (<https://www.pca.state.mn.us/business-with-us/smart-salting-training>) and asked for help in promoting them to residential buildings. She'll be back at the January 23rd Board meeting to provide an update on tree mortality rates, soil monitoring and tree canopy disparities.

VII. President's Report

McCrea took the opportunity to thank the Board for allowing her to serve as Chair/President for the past 3 years. She has really enjoyed her time in the position. She highlighted a few of her accomplishments, including increased brand recognition, National Night Out, HOA Advisory Group, and the Native Lands Project. She is looking forward to seeing all the good work continue.

VIII. Election of Board Officers

President: Tamburino moved and Bishop seconded the motion to nominate Gittleman for the position of President. Gittleman accepted the nominations. McCrea called for further nomination. There were none. The motion passed.

Vice President: Gittleman moved and Walsh seconded the motion to nominate McCrea for the position of Vice President. McCrea accepted the nomination. McCrea called for further nominations. There were none. The motion passed.

Secretary: Tamburino moved and Larson seconded the motion to nominate Sweet for the position of Secretary. Sweet accepted the nomination. McCrea called for further nominations. There were none. The motion passed.

Treasurer: Tamburino nominated Walsh for the position of Treasurer. Walsh declined the nomination and encouraged another Board member to take on the position and noted she has been in the role for the past 6 years and would like to see someone else take on the duties. She said she would help with the transition process and provide support for the new person. Larson nominated herself. Tamburino seconded the motion. McCrea called for further nominations. There were none. The motion passed.

Appointment of Board Liaisons to Committees

Land Use Committee: To be determined.

Safety and Security: Jim Bishop

Civic Engagement: Isaac Risseeuw and Danielle Eisenbacher

Renters Advisory Group: Abby Larson

Homeowners Advisory Group: Pam McCrea

Branding and Marketing (considered an assignment, not a committee; could be rolled into Civic Engagement; works primarily on National Night Out and product storage and DMNA both at Mill City Farmers Market): Isaac Risseeuw

IX. Consent Agenda

Walsh moved and Bishop seconded a motion to approve the consent agenda which included the October 17th Board meeting minutes; the F2022 Budget vs. Actual for the period ending October 31, 2022; and the Neighborhood Coordinator / Finance Coordinator staff report for October (Invoice #094). The motion passed.

X. Land Use Committee Report

There was no report because no LUC meeting was held in November.

XI. Committee Reports

- A. Safety and Security.** Bishop introduced Committee Chair Howard Cohen and advised the first meeting took place on November 10th, the purpose of which was to familiarize themselves with each other and understand why they are serving. The committee reviewed the charter and is recommending that the purpose statement be updated to include visitors. The committee also reviewed the Bike Patrol Final Report and is looking for some more detailed information regarding what the officers did when they were working. McCrea noted that they completed written reports for each night, but that Council Member Rainville has those now. Committee member Dan ??? who has a law enforcement background has provided a First Precinct report for review, and Sheila Gallagher has agreed to develop a list to other downtown groups. The next meeting is on December 12th.
- B. Historic Signage.** Walsh is looking for more volunteers for 2023; it currently consisted of three researchers and they successfully completed histories for 19 buildings. The signs are in fabrication right now at Pixelwerx and they anticipate installing them in December.
- C. HOA Advisory Group.** McCrea stated that this group met on November 15th. They reviewed the Bike Patrol Report and discussed the electronic door entry systems. And because so much has been done online, they want to have a holiday party in December.

XII. New / Old / Other Business

A. Renters Advisory Group

Larson reviewed the draft charter. She has contacted a few people about serving on the group and stated that she will serve as the temporary committee chair. She hopes to have the first meeting in January.

Gittleman moved and Bishop seconded a motion to approve the Renters Advisory Group Charter. McCrea called for discussion. The motion passed with Risseuw voting against.

B. Letter Regarding Seizure of Uncontracted NRP Dollars

Hantge explained that during one of the City Council meetings regarding the 2023 Biennial Budget, there was a suggestion that the City could seize uncontracted NRP dollars from neighborhoods and use them to increase the base funding for the Neighborhoods 2020 program. However, many of these dollars belong to neighborhoods with the most need on the north side of the city. The recommendation to seize dollars away and reallocate them across the city is counterintuitive. Another resource should be identified to increase the base funding for neighborhoods so that they can properly do the equitable engagement work that the City expects of them.

Tamburino moved and Larson seconded a motion to approve the letter to Council Member

Rainville regarding the possible seizure of uncontracted NRP dollars. McCrea called for discussion. The motion passed.

C. DMNA-NLNA DEI Workshop

Reminder that this will take place on Thursday, December 15th at Mill City Museum, 710 South 2nd Street, 7th Floor ADM Conference Room. This is work that we are expected / required to do as part of our Equitable Engagement Funding from the City.

D. Thanks to Former President

Walsh, et.al., extended their gratitude to McCrea for her leadership over the past several years as President of the DMNA.

XIII. Adjournment

There being no further business, Gittleman moved and Walsh seconded a motion to adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Signed this _____ day of _____, 2022

Chair

Secretary