

DOWNTOWN MINNEAPOLIS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
Minutes from the Board of Directors Meeting on Monday, September 25, 2023

Via Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/s5GnXwkWF12Br4BRflrkKzAkGk33u6Y78-gWWXeeR3tilWUDIdQasaPoH3nbSclL.OneWgGPe11IVWap>

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I. Call to Order

President Andy Gittleman called the Board meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Other Board members in attendance were:

Steve Arnold
Pam McCrea, Vice President
Carletta Sweet, Secretary
Joe Tamburino
Isaac Risseeuw
Dianne Walsh

Jim Bishop and Treasurer Abby Larson were absent.

Executive Director Christie Rock Hantge was also present.

Zoom guests in attendance included:

Kevin Frazell, DMNA Land Use Committee
Sheila Gallagher, DMNA Safety & Security
Jay Kolls, KSTP
Randy Manthey, DMNA Land Use Committee
Audra Peery, Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board
Michael Rainville, Ward 3 City Council Member
Elizabeth Shaffer, 4th District Commissioner, Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board

II. Consideration of Agenda

Gittleman presented the agenda which had no additions or changes.

Tamburino moved and McCrea seconded a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Gittleman called for discussion. The motion passed.

III. Ward 3 Update

Council Member Michael Rainville reported on the following:

- Congratulations and thanks to all who worked on the October 3rd DMNA Safety and Security Summit at the Mill City Museum (<https://www.thedmna.org/event/7837/>). Christie advised as of today's date she has received 152 RSVPs. Sheila Gallagher explained the process for the Q&A session with the panel.
- Also worked with Commissioner Shaffer on the September 27th community meeting at the Millwright to address growing safety concerns around both the Commons Park and US Bank

light rail station (<https://www.thedmna.org/event/community-safety-meeting-regarding-the-commons-on-september-27-at-6-p-m-at-the-millwright-building/>).

- They'll take suggestions from Randy Manthey and Susan Field to develop a proposal to enhance the 2024 Bike and Scooter Share Program for the benefit of riders, pedestrians, and residents.

IV. Park District 4 Update

Commissioner Shaffer reported on the crime and safety concerns at The Commons. She noted that some MPRB maintenance workers are refusing to go to work there without a police escort. She invited the Board to attend the meeting at the Millwright on September 27th.

McCrea inquired about the MRPB not sponsoring fireworks on July 4th and strongly encouraged the MPRB to bring them back in 2024; she believes doing so will help alleviate some of the issues that take place on that night in downtown Minneapolis.

Tamburino stated that many of the crime and safety problems are the result of repeat offenders. The police arrest criminals but they are released fairly quickly without having to post bail. He noted that the MPD is still down 30%. He stated that the problem centers around drug use and mental health. The court needs to re-examine the civil commitment process.

Shaffer announced that a portion of the plank sidewalk on West River Parkway is going to be repaired. Also, she commented on the Stone Arch Bridge Rehabilitation Project. For more information, visit

<https://www.dot.state.mn.us/metro/projects/stonearchbridge/index.html>.

V. Consent Agenda

Tamburino moved and McCrea seconded a motion to approve the consent agenda which included the August 28th Board meeting minutes; the F2023 Budget vs. Actual for the periods ending August 31, 2023; and the Neighborhood Coordinator / Finance Coordinator staff report for August (Invoice #104) The motion passed.

VI. MPRB Fall Fest Update

Audra Peery, Event Coordinator at the MPRB, explained that the MPRB is hosting a Fall Fest at The Commons on Friday, October 13th (<https://www.minneapolisparcs.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/Fall-Fest-Detailed-Flyer.pdf>). The event will include food and beverages for sale, games, bonfires, and an overall festive fall atmosphere. She is asking for the DMNA to help market and promote the event to downtown residents, as well as volunteers who could potentially assist at the event. She also inquired about the possibility of a sponsorship. The Board asked for more specifics regarding what the funds would be used for. Peery will put together a proposal and send it to Hantge.

VII. Committee Reports

A. Land Use Committee. Chair Frazell reported on the following items presented on September 5th:

- **North Star Lofts** is seeking a Certificate of Appropriateness application for new windows and patio doors. The LUC recommended approval.

- **Gidi Bar and Lounge (322 1st Ave. N.)** is seeking a Liquor license application. The LUC recommended approval.
- **801 Fish (800 Nicollet Mall)** is seeking a Liquor license application. The LUC recommended approval.
- **Bazmnt (501 Washington Ave.)** is seeking a Liquor license application. The LUC recommended approval of this application, but Executive Director Hantge recommended that the Board postpone approval pending additional information she has requested from the City.

Gittleman moved and Sweet seconded a motion to approve the COA for the North Star Lofts and the liquor license applications for Gidi Bar and Lounge and 801 Fish. Gittleman called for discussion. The motion was approved.

- B. Proposed Scooter Geo-Fencing Ordinance.** LUC member Randy Manthey reviewed his proposed updates to the 2024 Bike and Scooter Share Program License Agreement. His proposal calls for expanding the geo-fencing on the north and the south sides of the river to reduce speed, decreasing the number of scooters distributed along the riverfront, and requiring operators to address abandoned e-bikes and scooters more effectively on a daily basis. He shared a map outlining his proposed changes.

McCrea moved and Sweet seconded a motion to approve the proposed changes to the 2024 Bike and Scooter Share Program License Agreement. Gittleman called for discussion. The motion was approved.

McCrea thanked Manthey and Council Member Rainville for the work on the proposed changes.

- C. Safety and Security.** Committee Member Sheila Gallagher provided an update on the Safety and Security Summit that will take place on Tuesday, October 3rd, 5 p.m. to 9 p.m., at the Mill City Museum. She encouraged the Board members to attend and then highlighted the following:

- Almost 200 RSVPs so far.
- Mayor Jacob Frey will give a welcome at the beginning of the meeting.
- Panel moderator is Jason DeRusha from WCCO Radio.
- Nine civic leaders on the panel.
 - City Council Member Michael Rainville
 - MPD Chief Brian O'Hara
 - MPD 1st Precinct Inspector Bill Peterson
 - MPRB Police Chief Jason Ohotto
 - MPRB 4th District Commissioner Elizabeth Shaffer
 - Metro Transit Police Chief Ernest Morales
 - Hennepin County Sheriff Dawanna Witt
 - Minneapolis Downtown Council President Steve Cramer
 - DID Director of Safety Initiatives Shane Zahn
- 12 Neighborhood and Community Organization information tables.

- Be That Neighbor
- Safety Walking Groups (Mill District and North Loop)
- Minneapolis Park and Recreation
- Downtown Minneapolis Neighborhood Association
- Elliot Park Neighborhood, Inc.
- North Loop Neighborhood Association
- Citizens for a Loring Park Community
- East Town Business Partnership
- Downtown Improvement District (DID)
- Mad Dads
- A Mother's Love
- 21 Days of Peace

Widespread marketing and promoting of the event is continuing. Please help spread the word and plan to attend.

D. Civic Engagement. Board Liaison Isaac Risseeuw reported on the following:

- 1. DMNA Day at the Mill City Farmers Market.** The next DMNA Day at the Mill City Farmers Market is September 16th.
- 2. Service Saturdays.** The next Service Saturday event will take place on Saturday, September 30th.
- 3. City Council Candidates Forums.**
 - Ward 3 forum was Thursday, September 21st, from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., at the Central Public Library. Small turnout but very good event.
 - Ward 7 forum is on Thursday, September 28th, from 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., at the Woman's Club of Minneapolis
- 4. Community Survey.** Risseeuw and Larson are working on a Community Survey for the DMNA Annual Meeting. Approximately 10 questions. Will be on paper not with an phone app.

E. Historic Signage. Walsh reported that all 20 building signs are at Pixelwerx for fabrication. Hantge has uploaded the history building narratives to the website and added the building locations to the map. Signs should be installed by the Annual Meeting.

Walsh also stated that she was contacted by Open Doors about participating in the May 2024 event. She will provide more information about volunteer opportunities as the date gets closer. They are not seeking a financial contribution.

VIII. President's Report

Gittleman noted that he has been working with Executive Director Hantge on planning the 2023 Annual Meeting at the Mill City Museum. D'Amico is the caterer. He has secured musical

entertainment. Hantge is working on the agenda and the meeting's PowerPoint presentation. She is also working with Risseuw on a postcard mailer that will be sent to all downtown residents.

IX. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m. The next Board meeting will take place on November 27h.

Signed this _____ day of _____, 2023.

Chair

Secretary