

**DOWNTOWN MINNEAPOLIS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION**  
**DMNA Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**  
**Monday, April 28, 2025, via Zoom**

**I. Call to Order**

President Dan Brophy called the Board meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Other Board members in attendance were:

Steve Arnold  
Kristen Hansen, Vice President  
Julia Laden, Treasurer  
Matt Monroe  
Latonya Reeves, Secretary  
Craig Simonson

Board member Zachary Brunnert was absent.

Executive Director Christie Rock Hantge was also present.

Other guests included:

Toby Brill, downtown building manager  
Jessica Callahan, Minneapolis DID Green Corps  
Ethan Fawley, Vision Zero Program Coordinator, City of Minneapolis  
Ella Graham, Minneapolis DID  
Michael Rainville, Ward 3 Council Member  
Laurie Rice, DMNA Land Use Committee Chair  
Isaac Risseeuw, downtown resident  
Dianne Walsh, downtown resident

**II. Consideration of Agenda**

*Arnold moved and Hansen seconded a motion to approve the agenda. Brophy called for discussion. The motion passed.*

**III. Update regarding the City's Traffic Safety Camera Program**

Ethan Fawley from the City of Minneapolis's Vision Zero Program introduced himself and provided the following report:

- The City of Minneapolis plans to begin a pilot program for traffic safety cameras.
- The pilot will start as early as August 2025.

- The cameras will provide automated enforcement of speed limits starting at about five locations.
- The city could expand the project up to a max of 42 camera locations during the pilot period.
- The pilot may also expand to include enforcement of red lights.
- Public Works staff have identified 51 initial candidate camera locations.
- The city will use public feedback to help determine the initial locations and any future additions.

Fawley concluded his presentation by inviting residents to provide feedback regarding the Traffic Safety Camera Pilot Program by taking a survey available at [https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=Wj\\_7C-roVE2wISsvkQxxX59kaXk9f2ROoGt82pdpBPdUNUtSQIBGRTRZN01aN1JBMEdRM0NMRVFFNS4u&route=shorturl](https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=Wj_7C-roVE2wISsvkQxxX59kaXk9f2ROoGt82pdpBPdUNUtSQIBGRTRZN01aN1JBMEdRM0NMRVFFNS4u&route=shorturl)

More information about the Traffic Safety Camera Project is available at <https://www.minneapolismn.gov/government/programs-initiatives/visionzero/actions-taken/traffic-safety-camera/>.

#### IV. DID Update

Ella Graham introduced herself and provided an update on the following:

- **Tree Stewards Training.** Graham announced that the DID is hosting a Tree Stewards Training on June 14, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., at the Elliot Park Recreation Center. The training is free to attend. Participants will learn about tree care basics including tree biology, plus planting, watering, and pruning techniques from University of Minnesota educators.

More information regarding the Tree Steward Program is available at <https://mntca.umn.edu/tree-steward>.

- **We Are Water Exhibit.** Graham stated that the Minneapolis Downtown Council is hosting an interactive “We Are Water” exhibit from June 19 to August 11, at the DID community space on the Nicollet Mall (809 Nicollet Mall). They are looking for volunteers to serve as docents or exhibit guides. Docents will volunteer at the exhibit and related events for up to 25 hours a week. They will answer questions from visitors and share the main messages of the exhibit. The MDC will provide training.

More information about the We Are Water exhibit and volunteer opportunities is available at <https://www.mplsdowntown.com/we-are-water/>.

Learn more about We Are Water MN at <https://www.mnhum.org/program/we-are-water-mn/>.

## V. Ward 3 Update

Councilmember Michael Rainville reported on the following:

- **800 Washington Avenue.** He met with the DMNA Land Use Committee on April 1. He is working on getting perimeter fencing installed around the site to prevent illegal activity. He is also setting up a meeting between the DMNA and CPED staff to discuss the future of the property and to get input on the next steps.
- **Safety Update.** He is planning to attend the Safety Update at the Central Public Library on April 29.

## VI. Consent Agenda

*Reeves moved and Monroe seconded a motion to approve the consent agenda which included the board meeting minutes for March 24, 2025; FY 2025 Budget; Financial Report for March 2025; and the Executive Director staff report for March (Invoice #123). The motion passed.*

## VII. Committee Reports

**A. Land Use Committee.** Chair Laurie Rice reported on the following:

- **800 Washington Avenue.** Council Member Rainville attended the LUC meeting and had a discussion around this city-owned site. He will work with city staff to get fencing put up around the perimeter to prevent illegal parking and activity. He will also work with Executive Director Hantge to coordinate a meeting with CPED staff and LUC leadership at the Farmer's Kitchen to strategize about the next steps for this property.
- **9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> Street Corridor Improvement Project.** City staff attended the LUC meeting and provided an update on improvements planned for these two important downtown streets. Staff reported that the city will enhance the safety and comfort of all users in the following ways:
  - Upgrade current bike lanes
  - Boost safety at cross streets
  - Upgrade curb ramps and traffic signalsMore information about this project is available at <https://www.minneapolismn.gov/government/projects/9th-10th-st-corridor-improvement/>.

**Next meeting is Tuesday, May 13.**

**B. Safety and Security Committee.** In the absence of Chair Howard Cohen, President Brophy reported on the following:

- **DID-MPD Safety Update on Tuesday, April 29.** 45 people attended. Good information shared. The committee also distributed the remaining safety whistles.

**Next meeting is Thursday, May 8.**

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

**A. Civic Engagement Update.** President Brophy reported on the Earth Day event on April 19. There was an excellent turnout of volunteers that day. He also talked about the Neighborhood Day event planned for May 5, at Gateway Park. He invited board members to come over between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. There will be lawn games provided by the DID and they will be giving away DMNA branded items. He also said he is working on a Take a Kid Fishing Day in collaboration with the DNR. More information to come on that.

**B. Business Engagement Update.** This committee has not met yet. Executive Director Hantge stated that this group is having their first meeting on May 1. She also provided an update on the East Town Business Partnership's dissolution. She reminded the board that the membership will vote on the dissolution at the Annual Meeting, which is Wednesday, May 7, at 4 p.m., at Sawatdee. She encouraged the Business Engagement group to attend. She will send them the meeting information and a calendar invite.

### **C. National Night Out Update.**

- **Fundraising Update.** President Brophy provided an update on the meeting with his sister, Virginia Brophy. She has been a big help. We have finalized the sponsorship request letter. He encouraged board members to add to the donor list and to start making asks. We need to have a firm idea of the budget by mid-to-late May to secure a food caterer and entertainment.
- **Discussion regarding offering beer and wine.** President Brophy asked for input on whether the DMNA should offer alcohol at the NNO event. He said that MPRB staff have inquired, because they serve alcohol at some of their events. Hantge noted that we do get quite a few kids who attend from the People Serving People family shelter, and that the RS Eden sober house is in Downtown West and a short walk to The Commons. We want the event to be inclusive and family friendly. She added that serving alcohol would come with increased costs for the

MPRB permit, liability insurance, and we would need to have on-duty park police officers at the event. After some discussion, the board decided that we would not offer alcohol at this year's event.

**IX. Updates / Reminders regarding 2025 Events**

- DMNA Neighborhood Day event at Gateway Park on Saturday, May 3, 2025
- DMNA Take a Kid Fishing event on Saturday, June 7, 2025
- DMNA Day at the Mill City Farmers Market on Saturday, June 21, 2025
- DMNA National Night Out celebration on Tuesday, August 5, 2025

**X. Adjournment**

There being no further business, Reeves moved, and Hansen seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting. Brophy called for discussion. The motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Signed this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2025.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary