Downtown Minneapolis Neighborhood Association

Minutes from Board Meeting
Tuesday, February 10, 2009
Hennepin Center for the Arts
Room 310, Minneapolis, MN

I. CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Board Chair Carletta Sweet called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Other Board Members in attendance included Gerry Ewald, Paula Klimek, and Scott Parkin.

Guests in attendance included Michelle Bruch, Downtown Journal; 7th Ward Council Member Lisa Goodman; David Hunt and Ryan Kronzer representing the Gateway and Centre Village Parking Ramps; downtown resident Michael Katch; Tim Rooney and Brian Gorecki representing the Walker Apartment Project;

Board members Andy Hauer, Natasha Heimer, Corey Kline, and George Rosenquist were unable to attend.

Staff member Christie Rock was also present.

II. CONSIDERATION OF THE AGENDA

There were no changes to the agenda.

III. 7TH WARD UPDATE PRESENTED BY COUNCIL MEMBER LISA GOODMAN

Council Member Lisa Goodman reported on the following items:

- Kudos on annual meeting
- Ward 7 E-news
- LGA cuts
- Bike Share
- Hennepin Avenue 2-way update
- Bike lane shift on 1st Avenue
- Reorganization of 12th Street
- City of Minneapolis hosting the American Planning Association’s 2009 National Planning Conference April 25-29 at the Convention Center
- Next “Lunch with Lisa” scheduled for February 25
• Request for Inspiration for site that wraps around Riverfront Ramp across from the Guthrie Theater
• 7th Ward Newsletter
• Proposed changes to City Charter
• Bike Boxes
• Mill District City Apartments
• Marmont
• Parcel A
• SAMA Lot

IV. LAND USE COMMITTEE REPORT

• Walker Apartment Project – Brian Gorecki and Tim Rooney gave a presentation on the revised plans for the Walker Apartment Project located at 12th Street and Hennepin Avenue. The project is now proposed at six stories as opposed to five; however, the building height remains the same. In addition, the revised proposal includes 85 units, compared with the original number of 70. The number of affordable units remains at 15, and the number of homeless units remains at four.

Gorecki and Rooney are seeking support from the DMNA board for their application to the Minneapolis Affordable Housing Fund. Due to the lack of quorum, staff member Christie Rock will contact DMNA board members via email regarding their thoughts about the changes to this project. Once she has received enough responses to constitute a quorum, she will prepare a letter of support.

• Gateway and Centre Village Parking Ramps – Ryan Kronzer from Shea Architects gave a presentation on the proposed façade improvements and new signage for the Gateway and Centre Village Parking Ramps. Alatus Partners recently acquired the parking ramps from the City. Kronzer provided architectural drawings of the changes. Alatus Partners needs several variances associated with the proposed new signs on both parking ramps.

Due to the lack of quorum, staff member Christie Rock will contact DMNA board members via email regarding their thoughts about the changes to this project. Once she has received enough responses to constitute a quorum, she will prepare a letter of support.

• The 501 Club (501 Washington Avenue) – The owners of the 501 Club are seeking a Class B liquor license. The owners also operate a nightclub in Northeast Minneapolis called the “331 Club.” The venue at 501 Washington Avenue will be similar to the northeast location. Board members asked several questions regarding live entertainment and parking, but expressed general support for the license application.
V. CRIME AND SAFETY UPDATE

Board Chair Sweet gave the crime and safety update due to the absence of George Rosenquist.

VI. NRP IMPLEMENTATION REPORT

There was no NRP Implementation report this month.

VII. MARKETING UPDATE

Scott Parkin gave an update on the DMNA website. He noted that he recently updated the “hot topic” and needs profile information from new board members Paula Klimek and Corey Kline. He also indicated that he could use some assistance with updating the website. Klimek volunteered to help and Staff member Christie Rock stated that she would also assist.

VIII. CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES FROM JANUARY 13, 2009 BOARD MEETING

Due to the lack of quorum, consideration of the January 13, 2009, minutes was tabled until the March 10, 2009, meeting.

IX. CONSIDERATION OF FEBRUARY 2009 FINANCIAL REPORT

Due to the lack of quorum, consideration of the February Financial Report was tabled until the March 10, 2009, meeting.

X. OLD BUSINESS / NEW BUSINESS / OTHER BUSINESS

Sweet distributed and updated Outreach and Collaboration list.
XI. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Signed this ________ day of ________________________, 2009.

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Chair                                                                 Secretary