



BMNA Reporter

Bryn Mawr Neighborhood Association Meeting Minutes, September 10, 2008

Call to Order and Introductions

Meeting called to order at 7:05pm
Approval of Agenda, Financial Report and July minutes: Approved as written.

Attendance: Marlin Possehl, President; Larry Skov, Vice President; Ron Sterbenz & Chad Smude, co-Treasurers; Lisa Mills, Secretary; Lynda Saheen, Area 2 co-Rep.; Jessica Wiley, Area 3 co-Rep.; Robert A. Lindquist, Area 5 Rep.; Jay Peterson, Area 6 co-Rep.; Patty Wycoff, Neighborhood Coordinator; and JoEllyn Jolstad, Bugle Editor. Also in attendance were neighbors Claudia Egelhoff, Dave Logson, and Salena & Jeff Gallo; Tim Hammet from the MPD; and Michael Katch from the Minneapolis Mirror.

City Council Report - Council Member Lisa Goodman

Lunch with Lisa on Wednesday, September 24th at St. Thomas, will be a discussion of the Better Schools referendum. Lunch with Lisa on October 22nd will be a review and discussion of the Citywide Master Pedestrian Plan. This plan includes sidewalks slated to be added in Bryn Mawr.

Results Minneapolis is a management tool the City uses to systematically track performance toward achieving the City's five-year goals and 2020 vision.

A review panel of City leaders meets with a different department head each week to track progress and discuss strategies on key performance measures. By regularly tracking performance data at these "progress conferences," City leaders identify

areas where the City is excelling, as well as opportunities for improvement. These meetings, on Tuesdays at 8:30 a.m., are open to the public. After several years of business planning and performance measurement, Results Minneapolis provides the next step in institutionalizing a results-focused, accountable and more transparent government. For more info:

<http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/results-oriented-minneapolis/resultsminneapolis.asp>

The 35W bridge should open next week, after an event to be held there for officials, on the 16th.

Lake of the Isles Parkway has upcoming closures for the Minneapolis Bike Tour and then for resurfacing. The Kenilworth Bridge will be closed from September 15th to October 2nd. The parkway between Franklin Ave. and the bridge will be restricted to local traffic only. The Calhoun Lagoon Bridge will be closed from October 6 to October 23, and the parkway will be closed b/w 28th St. and Knox Ave. Detour routes will be posted for both closures. Please note: bike and pedestrian paths will remain open during the bridge surface replacement. Call 612-673-5634 with any questions.

Minneapolis Crime Prevention Specialist - Tim Hammett

Tim brought statistics showing that burglary is now up 74% for the year in Bryn Mawr (while still declining in the rest of the city). Auto theft has also seen a significant increase. Tim stressed that anyone whose home, garage or car is broken into should report it, no matter how small the loss. This is the only way the police can track patterns of crime, which helps them determine in which areas to add patrols, and ultimately to catch the thieves. Patrols have been increased in sev-

eral areas of Bryn Mawr, especially at night, as most of the burglaries have occurred in the overnight hours.

Tim held a Crime Prevention Meeting last month, with Patty Wycoff's assistance. About 25 neighbors attended. Patty reported that the most important thing she took away from the meeting was that you can't stop people from trying to break in, but you can make it more difficult. You can also make your property unattractive to burglars. Tim has also had several more neighbors take him up on his offer to come and do a free Home Security Survey, during which he makes suggestions on how to accomplish those two things.

Tim reminded us that, if you are questioning whether to call 911 about something suspicious you've seen, do it! The best way they can catch and convict burglars is to catch them in the act.

Land Use Committee - No report - no variances requested this month. THE COMMITTEE NEEDS NEW MEMBERS FROM AREAS 2, 4 & 5. Any BMNA member is eligible to join - please contact Larry Skov, Nominations Committee chair.

Budget/Fundraising Committee - Ron Sterbenz

Membership has almost reached its goal for the year in dollars, though we are still short of our goal for the number of households who have joined. Several businesses have sent us matching donations (for which we are eligible now that we are a 501(c)(3)), including Target and TCF. We will put a reminder in the Bugle, for people to check with their companies about matching their membership donations to us.

Planning is underway for the Harvest Dinner, to be held on Thursday, October 30th from 6-8 p.m. The theme this year is an Appetizer Contest. Those who do not wish to enter the contest should bring a salad or dessert to share for the potluck. Patty is working on an article for the Bugle about this.

Two benches (purchased at Bloomsbury) have been donated for the Upton Garden, by neighbors Haven Stephens and Davis Klaila.

Neighborhood Coordinator Report- Patty Wycoff

In addition to the Crime Prevention Meeting and Harvest dinner planning, Patty organized the second annual August BBQ at the Bryn Mawr Meadows. The potluck was attended by about 40 neighbors, many of whom Patty had never seen at a neighborhood function before. It was a great success, and we plan to hold one every year on the 3rd Sunday of August.

NRP Schools Committee: Lynda Shaheen

The committee met, but without a quorum. They will meet again near the end of September, and vote on

whether to make a recommendation on whether the Board should adopt a resolution for or against the Better Schools Referendum. If they do, they will write something up for the Bugle before the publication deadline. Their main concern will be how the resolution would affect the Bryn Mawr schools.

Discussion items

Claudia Egelhoff made a presentation about the HourCar program. The Neighborhood Energy Connection (NEC) is looking for more neighborhoods to serve as HourCar hubs. There is a group in Bryn Mawr pursuing hosting a hub here, and there are already some HourCar members who live in the neighborhood. HourCar is supported by varying levels of membership fees, but there is an upfront cost to having a hub (to help purchase a car, etc.). The McKnight foundation is willing to match the money raised by the neighborhood/group who wish to host a hub. The group would need to raise \$12,000-15,000 (depending upon the car) to qualify for the match, which can include sponsorships from local businesses who would get to put their logo on the car. There is already one business owner willing to help sponsor the car here in Bryn Mawr. The group is looking for the support of the BMNA. The Board indicated, by a unanimous show of hands, that we think this is a good idea.

Update on Sustainable Bryn Mawr Capital Project - Jessica Wiley
The Energy Challenge is the first phase of the project. There will be an informational meeting Wednesday, September 17th, at the school. They will be recruiting neighbors to help lead the effort in their Areas. Jay Peterson will be the BMNA's representative to this project committee.

We are in need of a 2nd alternate representative to the BCV-ROC board. Marlin Possehl volunteered to fill the post, and the Board voted unanimously to appoint him as 2nd alternate.

Discussion/decision on November planning meeting. Marlin suggested that we don't have the November Board retreat this year, as we don't have big issues/changes to discuss this year like we have for the past 2 years. The Board voted unanimously to put it off until we know what is going to happen with NRP and we have a new NRP chair. We'll have a just a regular meeting in November, on the 2nd Wednesday.

Next Meeting - Wednesday, October 8th, 7pm, in the lunchroom at Bryn Mawr Elementary.

Upcoming Events -

Harvest Dinner, appetizer contest and potluck. Thursday October 30, 6 p.m., also in the lunchroom of Bryn Mawr Elementary School.

Wanted: More Good Ideas for Improving the Neighborhood!

The BMNA continues to solicit ideas for our next capital project. We will be collecting suggestions, which will be reviewed by a board committee and presented to the BMNA board for a vote. These projects are mainly supported with sweat equity and donations, although the board has a small budget to support some expenditures. If you have an idea for a project, contact Jessica Wiley, jesswiley@comcast.net, or at 374-3481, by December 1, 2008. A list of neighborhood improvement suggestions collected over the past year was printed in the September issue of the Bugle.

The BMNA capital project has been in place for the last three years. The first project focused on redesigning the Upton Garden in Area 4. We are currently in the process of sponsoring the Energy Challenge. (read all about it in both the September and October issues of the Bugle) We will identify our next project early in 2009. Committee members include committee chair Rick Carter (Area 3), Jay Peterson (Area 6), Steve Harvey (Area 7), and Jessica Wiley (Area 3).