



BMNA Reporter

Bryn Mawr Neighborhood Association Meeting Minutes, August 13th, 2008

Call to Order and Introductions

Meeting called to order at 7:06pm
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; Susan Verrett, Area 2 co-Rep.; Jessica Wiley, Area 3 co-Rep; Robert A. Lindquist, Area 5 Rep.; and JoEllyn Jolstad, Bugle Editor. Also in attendance were neighbors/committee members Matt Stark, Claudia Egelhoff, and Joan Orke; Tom Madden from the Mpls. School Board; Julie Sabo for the Better Schools Referendum; and Dylan Thomas from the Southwest Journal. Neighbor Tracy Cook, representing the Capital Project team which won the support of the Board - a Block/Area-wide competition to reduce electrical consumption.

City Council Report - Council Member Lisa Goodman

The Council's biggest focus right now is the upcoming Republican convention. An estimated 45,000 guests, including 15,000 international media, will be in Minneapolis.

They'll be carted around by charter bus. 50 of 72 convention-related events are in Minneapolis. Traffic will be affected most from 2-5pm each day (including Labor Day), especially on eastbound 394.

The State has received a Federal grant from the Dept. of Homeland Security to increase policing during this "National Security Event." In addition to extra police around the convention site, all local Minneapolis precincts will have extra staff.

CivicFest, produced by the Minneapolis Saint Paul 2008 Host Committee, will be held August 29 through September 4, 2008 at the Minneapolis Convention Center. Exhibits will include, from the Smithsonian; a detailed replica to scale of the White House, and full-scale replicas of the Oval Office & Air Force one, in which you can have your picture taken. There should be coupons for discounted admission in local newspapers.

The City of Mpls 311 line has taken its 1 millionth call! Remember to call if you need to inquire about services (like licenses & permits, garbage & recycling, traffic & parking, etc.), report problems, find out where to vote, or have any other questions about services in Minneapolis. If they don't know the answer, they can find out for you.

Lunch with Lisa in August is open mic with Doug & Lisa on 4th Wednesday at St. Thomas.

Land Use Committee -

No report - no variances requested this month.

THE COMMITTEE NEEDS NEW MEMBERS FROM AREAS 1,2,4 & 5. Any BMNA member is eligible to join - please contact Larry Skov, Nominations Committee chair.

Budget/Fundraising Committee

No meeting this month (it was National Night Out). Planning is underway for the Harvest Dinner, and the next membership mailing. Patty has also been working to organize the first annual potluck picnic at Bryn Mawr Meadows park, on August 17th.

NRP Traffic Committee

The committee met, and is still working on new lighting at the Penn Ave. / Cedar Lake Rd. intersection; sidewalk addition on the south Wayzata Blvd. frontage Rd; and traffic issues around the West End Development at I-394 and Hwy 100. The committee wishes to thank County Commissioner Mark Stenglein for assisting in getting the crosswalks painted at Penn/Cedar Lk Rd.

Discussion items:

Bassett Creek Valley Redevelopment Oversight Committee

The BMNA representative to the BCV-ROC, Beth Ducher, has resigned. The Board voted unanimously to elevate 1st alternate, Kathryn Kaatz, to the position. Kathryn has been attending meetings regularly, and is up to speed on what's going on. That makes Kevin Thompson the 1st alternate.

Better Schools Referendum advocacy group - Julie Sabo and Tom Madden.

Tom is on the Minneapolis Public Schools Board of Education, Julie is a teacher and former legislator. There will be two school-related Referenda this Fall. One concerns School Board Representation by District. Tom & Julie are here to promote the Levy referendum. The previous \$30million levy is about to expire. This time, they're asking for \$60million from '09 to 2017. Half of that is slated to go to help keep down class-size. The other priorities are Early Literacy (kids need to be able to read by 3rd grade to get

what they need out of school); Math & Science; then Textbooks & Technology. An Oversight Committee would be appointed to independently audit the way the schools are spending the \$\$.

Capitol Project Committee: Jessica Wiley

Healthy Community Energy Competition. Tracy brought an outline of their Project Goals and Objectives. She and Beka Padilla will also be doing an article for the September Bugle. A summary of the main Goals/Objectives:

1. Increase community awareness of household energy consumption.
2. Increase Community Involvement and 'Get to Know Your Neighbors' through a healthy competition.
3. Utilize the "Healthy Community" theme to expand awareness of other ways to step intentionally towards a more sustainable community over this year and beyond.

Patty W has agreed to help with the front end - getting people signed up. We'll likely have a table at the Harvest Dinner, as well.

Schools Committee: Lynda Shaheen

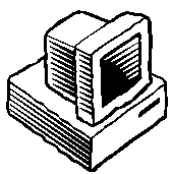
The schools committee will review the proposed MPS Levy referendum and make a recommendation to the Board on whether or not to publicly support it.

An oversite at the District resulted in Bryn Mawr School appearing on the 2008-08 MPS Organizational chart under the supervision of Area Superintendent Willy Fort along the schools that are part of the North-side Initiative.

JoEllyn Jolstad (Parent Liaison for Bryn Mawr School) along with Tom Madden and Pam Costain from the School Board investigated it and learned this was a mistake. Bryn Mawr Community School (and Anwatin) will continue to be supervised by Dr. Maryanne Norris. Park View Montessori will be supervised by Dr. Fort.

Next Meeting - Wednesday, September 10th, 7pm, in the lunchroom at Bryn Mawr Elementary.

Upcoming Events - Neighborhood Potluck Picnic at Bryn Mawr Meadows, Sunday Aug. 18th.



From the Editor

This is the story of the Bugle that just would not get finished. Last night, as a fierce thunderstorm raged outside, I sat trying to finish this paper. I heard a booming crack of thunder and then the power went out and blasted an hour's worth of work into blank space. Luckily, the bulk of the document survived and so did the computer.

I sat in the pitch dark of our basement for a good five minutes before I resigned myself to the fact that the lights were not coming on again anytime soon. I called to my son to bring a light so I could navigate my way upstairs.

We went around the house closing windows and lighting candles. I grabbed a legal pad and pen and tried to get back to work.

Most of you were probably in bed when all this happened, but since it was the night before my press date, I still had a couple more hours planned. Add that to the hour that evaporated in the surge and I was feeling seriously time-crunched.

I knew that in the morning (if the power had been restored and the computer would turn on) I would only have a short time before I had to head off to the schools to get ready for the back-to-school open houses.

I slept a little later than I hoped to and that flashing clock was not at all helpful in motivating me to get up. I was glad for the coffee that the restored power yielded and very relieved for the cooperation of my MAC. I was able to finish most of the paper by the time I had to leave.

My editorial is always a last minute thing, so why should this month be any different? Somewhere in my twisted brain I thought I might steal a few minutes away throughout the day and evening to flesh it out. It didn't happen.

My original intent was to write about the Minneapolis Public Schools Tax Levy Referendum. But, that is not the kind of thing about which you can just casually bang out 425 words. So, two hours after I got home and started writing it, I shifted to an all-too-familiar narration of the chaos that I call my life.

Now it is 24 hours later and the Democratic National Convention is totally distracting me from completing this task. Senator Barack Obama is accepting the nomination for President of the United States and I am compelled to watch and listen.

Regardless of politics, I can't help but think how remarkable it is for our country that for so many people, his color just doesn't matter.

-JoEllyn Jolstad, bugle@bmna.org



Recycling

www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us
/solid-waste
(612) 673-2917

Bryn Mawr Recycling Schedule

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
Area 1	September 8 September 22		
Areas 4W, 5W, 6, 7	September 15 September 29	September 2	
Areas 2, 3, 4E, 5E		September 16 September 30	September 3
Use it up, wear it out, make it do, do without. Recycle.			