



BMNA Reporter

BMNA Minutes - October 14, 2009

Present: Marlin Possehl, President; Larry Skov, Vice President; Ben Horn, Co-Treasurer; Adam Maki, Co-Treasurer; Lynda Shaheen, Area 2; Susan Verrett, Area 2; Rick Carter, Area 3; Jessica Wiley, Area 3; Chris Etz, Area 4; Dave Logsdon, Area 5; Jay Peterson, Area 6; Barry Shade, Area 6; Steve Harvey, Area 7; Patty Wycoff, Neighborhood Coordinator; JoEllyn Jolstad, Bugle editor/Community Schools Liaison;

Guests in attendance: Lisa Goodman, City Council rep; Dave Holets, Area 1; Greg Froehle, Area 1; Liz and Rick Carlson, Area 2; Dylan Thomas, Southwest Journal; Kyle Rucker, Project Legos; Mike Jackson, Project Legos; Vida Ditter, Area 6;

Call to order and introductions

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 in the Bryn Mawr Elementary Cafeteria. A quorum was present. Introductions made.

Approval of consent agenda

Approved with additions to the agenda, Jay moved, Rick seconded.

Election of Area 1 co-reps-

Dave Holets and Greg Froehle were elected as co-reps to fill the vacancy in Area 1. Congratulations and welcome to the BMNA Board. Sue moved, Rick seconded.

City Updates- City Council-Member Lisa Goodman

- Lisa passed out an update on H1N1.
- City completed their transportation action plan.
- The design principles are online. Neighbors can have input into pedestrian master plan at city website.
- No Lunch with Lisa in November or December.
- City's closed pension fund obligation must be budgeted for; there will be a forum on November 17 to discuss this sponsored by the Kenwood neighborhood association.
- In response to a board member question, Lisa supports a yes vote on the question to eliminate the Board of Estimate and Taxation.

Project Legos- Kyle Rucker and Mike Jackson.

The mission of Project Legos is to inspire, empower, and prepare youth and communities to be agents of change, social leaders, and volunteers. They work with a number of partners including Boys and Girls Club. They are asking for individuals to commit volunteer time to youth in need. More information at www.projectlegos.org.

Neighborhood Coordinator Update-Patty Wycoff

The harvest dinner will take place on October 29; there will be a hot dish competition. Patty distributed a sign-up sheet for set-up and clean-up. New directory inserts are being worked on. Patty sent out email crime alerts due to the increased number of neighborhood burglaries.

Schools advocacy update

Lynda gave the schools committee report on activities that took place before and after the school board vote on the Changing School Options (CSO) plan on September 22 (see October Bugle article on school changes). The school committee responded with a letter to the school board on behalf of the BMNA board (printed in the October Bugle).

Lynda also discussed a schools committee recommendation that NRP dollars be targeted to pay for playground equipment on the Bryn Mawr Elementary school grounds vandalized this year.

JoEllyn described the transition process in place for families and staff as they move to new schools.

Lisa Goodman has been receiving phone calls from distressed neighbors about the proposed school changes; the city council does not have responsibility for the schools. Lisa reported that there will be a major redistricting in 2010 that could have an impact on Bryn Mawr's boundaries for both political and school purposes. Following the 2010 census, a bipartisan committee will draw lines based on population.

Vida Ditter, Area 6, addressed the BMNA board with concerns about school board decisions over the past years. Vida proposed an all neighborhood public meeting to discuss neighborhood identity and community commitment to a neighborhood school and the public schools in general. This proposal was referred to the school committee for a recommendation to the board. Moved by Jay, seconded by Jessica.

School committee members will also address committee membership and who should be a voting member. Discussed how our neighborhood can best influence redistricting and school board processes and decisions.

Hour Car Update

Fundraising efforts resulted in raising \$1850, which will offset the \$12,000 committed from NRP dollars. We have received the approved plan modification and are entering into a contract with NEC and the HOUR Car.

Land use Follow Up

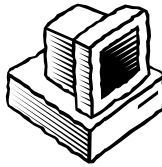
Report was deferred to November

Bugle Report

A monthly update on Bugle advertising and finances will be included on the agenda. Chris encouraged

BMNA Secretary Needed

The Bryn Mawr Neighborhood Association Board is seeking a volunteer to serve as the secretary. The secretary is a member of the BMNA Executive Board and is responsible for taking minutes at the monthly meetings which are held the second Wednesday each month. If you are interested, contact BMNA President, Marlin Possehl at 612-377-5662.



From the Editor

Our first child was three years old the first time she went out trick-or-treating on Halloween. She dressed as Tinkerbell and was very upset that I did not understand that pixies don't wear turtlenecks and tights under their dresses.

In spite of the near-freezing temperatures, there was no convincing her to wear a coat, so we trotted up and down our block of Upton and returned blue-lipped and candy laden 30 minutes later.

It turned out to be a good thing that her wardrobe limited our outing, especially considering her age. We only went to homes of people we knew and even though I consider any amount of candy, too much for a toddler, our haul was considerably more manageable than the amount we collected in subsequent years when we were out for two or three hours!

We love Halloween at our house and put lots of time and energy into costumes, decorations, and festive foods. As an adult, I love when I have the opportunity to put on my creative thinking cap, dress up in a costume, and hang out with other overgrown adolescents.

Before I had kids I looked askance at any goblin over four feet tall. But as my own children surpassed this benchmark, I didn't have the heart to squelch their

areas reps to submit area news to the Bugle each month.

Treasurers Report

Ben presented a motion to change banks. Moved by Jay, seconded by JoEllyn. The approved motion authorizes the treasurers to close our account with U.S. Bank and establish an account with Franklin National Bank of Minneapolis; Also approved to establish that any amount exceeding \$1000 require two signatures.

BMNA Capital Projects

- The Energy Challenge—no report
- Downtown improvement project—no report
- Ash Borer project

enthusiasm for this annual celebration.

I actually think it is a little unsettling to see very small children going door to door for treats late at night. Although I do enjoy seeing them in their costumes, I have come to believe that the traditions of Halloween are actually better suited to those eight years and older.

Most kids this age have developed some sense of self control and personal safety. They are less likely to eat themselves into a candy stupor and are more comfortable in a large group under the watchful eyes of someone else's parent.

Even middle and high schoolers who sometimes need more (but often get less) supervision are well suited to the accepted practices of the holiday and I don't see why we should deny it to them. They experience the evening so fully and joyfully. I only hope other adults appreciate all the energy they bring to the night as much as I do.

This year I made another princess costume for my now adult daughter and sent it to her at college in Boston. I am sure there will be no tights or turtleneck, but hopefully she will have the good sense to wear a coat, not eat too much candy, stay away from strangers and make other good choices.

- JoEllyn Jolstad, bugle@bmna.org

Jay reported on the ash tree mapping activity on September 26 and articulated next steps.

Committee Reports

- Land use-no report; no variance requests
- Traffic-no report
- Parks and Rec-no report
- Schools Committee-given during school advocacy discussion
- BFR-included in treasurers report.
- Reports from BMNA Reps to Affiliated groups- no reports due to time constraints

Discussion Items and Announcements

Adjourned at 8:50 PM

Submitted by Jessica Wiley, interim secretary.