

Bryn Mawr Neighborhood Association Meeting
Tuesday, February 13, 2007 7:00 P.M.
Bryn Mawr Elementary School

Call to Order and Introductions

Meeting called to order at 7: 05pm

Approval of Agenda and December minutes: Approved as written.

In attendance: Marlin Possehl, President; Joanna Danks co-Vice President; Chad Smude, co-Treasurer; Mike Roth, co-Secretary; Linda Shaheen, Area 2 Rep; Jessica Wiley, Area 3 Rep.; Cathy Skalicky and Alan Torborg, Area 4 Reps.; Robert A. Lindquist, Area 5 Rep.; Carey Sirianni, Jay Peterson and Barry Schade, Area 6 co-Reps.; J. Pam Weiner and Stephen Harvey, Area 7 co-Reps; Rob Harris, NRP Chair. Also in attendance: Tim Hammet of the Mpls. 4th precinct Crime Prevention Specialist.

City Council Report — Council Member Lisa Goodman

Due to scheduling conflicts, Lisa was not able to attend February's meeting nor will she be able to attend the March meeting. Please contact Lisa via her email if any questions arise for her.

Tim Hammett came to discuss what BM's community policing goals and strategies were for 2007. As suggested, they are:

1. Bryn Mawr will experience a 20% reduction in home burglaries.
Strategy: We will conduct 20-25 home safety inspections by the precinct crime prevention officer focusing on the most affected areas.
2. Speed/Traffic: Monitoring and controlling speed on Penn Avenue.
Strategy: Place cross walk signals/lights in center of street and additional lights in downtown BM highlighting the area for added safety.
3. Juvenile issues:
Strategy: Block captains hosting local meetings in ten of the most affected blocks of action. Confront juvenile's parents and review curfew.

New Business:

The Board approved a Nominating Committee to help fill the terms up for election to the Board in May at the annual meeting. The committee will consist of Carey Sirianni, Joanna Danks and Marlin Possehl. Up for election this year are Area Representatives from odd-numbered areas, VPs and Treasurer(s).

Mike Pengra and Joanna Danks announced their intentions to not run for reelection to the Board.

The BMNA is looking for volunteers for these positions. Preparing welcome packets for new residents; Helping coordinate the garage sale map preparation and distribution are just some of the duties. We are also seeking members for the Budgeting/Fundraising Committee, Schools Committee and ROC.

The Board is considering a new contract template for our paid contract positions (Neighborhood Coordinator and Bugle Editor).

NRP & Committee Reports

NRP Budgeting ~~report and~~ recommendations by NRP Steering ~~Committee~~ Committee and Report by Rob Harris:

The NRP Steering Committee met face-to-face in December and again, via email, in January and February to discuss where to allocate left-over Phase 1 funds into the Phase 2 Action Plan.

Approximately \$61,000 is left over in contracted and un-contracted funds from Phase 1. The Steering Committee came to a consensus on how the funds should be allocated in Phase 2, and Rob presented their recommendations to the BMNA Board. A lively, constructive dialogue ensued. There will be a vote at the March BMNA meeting on the Steering Committee's recommendations.

NRP Housing Committee

Thursday, January 23, 2007. Marlin, Vida and Rob attended the meeting at the Bryn Mawr Church, and Dave King from the CEE also joined ~~us.~~ The agenda was to review Phase 1 results and discuss the next steps for Phase 2. Dave provided a summary of the activity realized through the Phase 1 Home Improvement Program, showing that Bryn Mawr had sponsored 45 loans and 26 grants, totaling \$153,600 and \$93,815, respectively, over the course of roll outs in 1997, 1999 and 2000. The average loan amount was for \$3,400, and the average grant was for \$3,600. When taking into account additional non-NRP funds, a total of \$583,946 was spent on home improvements in Bryn Mawr because of our NRP Phase 1 Home Improvement Program.

Action Items

- Dave completed a draft of the Home Improvement Program Brochure and distributed it for the Housing Committee to review.
- ~~An Rob to present to the BMNA Board at their Feb 13 meeting, to gain final approval.~~
- ~~Informational~~ informational meeting on the Home Improvement Program will be held in mid-March at the Bryn Mawr School.

There will be no Housing Committee meeting in February. Rob will contact members to confirm an agenda for a meeting in March.

Traffic Committee

The Traffic Committee met on February 5, 2007. Vida Ditter, Rob Harris, Steve Maurelli and Clarence Shallbetter attended. Many issues discussed, including:

1. Update on Penn Ave traffic/speed study. The Traffic/Speed study on Penn has not been released. Everyone agreed we needed to see the results of this study before making any recommendations about the four-way stop at Penn & So Cedar Lake Rd.
2. Update on Roundabout at Mt View and Penn. Vida reported that there is no interest on the part of MnDot or the County in placing a round-a-about at this location unless and until the City showed some interest in the project. The Committee agreed this essentially means the idea is dead for now.
3. Update on Penn & Cedar Lake Rd intersection. The temporary stop signs have been in place now for 6 months. The response from the neighborhood continues to be overwhelmingly in favor of making them permanent. However, the owners and workers at Cuppa Java have witnessed an increase in near-accidents and increased noise from honking horns, and patrons of Cuppa Java have complained about drivers not respecting the cross walks. Moreover, delivery trucks have trouble entering and exiting the driveways from Penn, as traffic does not clear out as often as it did when traffic lights were in place. The Committee agreed that more data was needed from the Penn traffic study before we could make a decision on whether to make the stop signs permanent. It should also be noted that, despite the business owner's concerns, the business owner said he would support making the stop signs permanent if that is what the neighborhood wants to do.
4. 6th Street exit on 394 closing to make way for the proposed Twins stadium
3rd Ave North closing to make way for the proposed Twins stadium
The Committee agreed that the closing of 3rd Ave was not in the best interest of Bryn Mawr, as many residents use this avenue to commute home from the downtown area. The Committee also agreed that the City/County's current proposal to address our concerns (namely, turning 2nd Ave North into a two-way street with only one "west-bound" lane) was not acceptable. Vida attended the public hearing on

the Twins Stadium issues (closing of 3rd Ave, etc.) which was held in Harrison Community Center at 6:30PM on Feb 13. The Committee encourages everyone to voice their concerns by contacting CM Lisa Goodman.

5. Southwest expansion of the LRT. The majority of the committee supports the expansion of the LRT in general. However, the Committee agreed that the County should provide solid data about rider-ship and the potential impact on I-394 congestion and noise/air pollution.

6. Long term, comprehensive transit/traffic study for Bryn Mawr, leveraging University of Minnesota resources. The Committee agreed this was an excellent idea proposed by Haris Sih, our newest member of the Traffic Committee. Everyone was delighted that Haris was willing and able to champion this effort.

Budgeting and Fundraising Committee

Volunteers met beforehand to stuff remaining envelopes for membership drive mailing. This was the final area mailing to be sent.

Schools Committee

Members: Bruce Jones Area 1; Lynda Shaheen, Co-Chair Area 2; Kevina Munnich, Area 2; Nancy McIntosh Nelson, Area 2; Jessica Wiley, BMNA Rep Area 3; Beth Boyle, Area 4; JoEllyn Jolstad, BMNA Rep Area 4; Janet Peters, Area 4; Jean Dufresne, Area 5; Vida Ditter, Co-Chair, Area 6.

Members serve two year terms.

Purpose of committee:

- Increase cooperation b/t Mpls Parks & Rec Board and Mpls Public Schools.
- Increase safety of schools.
- Support Bryn Mawr Elementary and Anwatin Middle Schools and ECFE.
- Support MPLS "Kids and Sports Arts Program."
- Facilitate communication about educational choices offered to BM families.
- Advise BMNA on educational issues affecting BM.
- Assist BMNA Executive Board in execution of the NRP plan as it relates to schools.

At its January 18th meeting, the school committee unanimously voted to have the BMNA compile and send a letter to each school board member which would serve as an introduction of the BMNA to the newly elected school board members.

NEXT MEETING: 7:00pm. Wednesday, March 14th, 2006, Bryn Mawr Elementary

UPCOMING EVENTS:

May 9th, Wednesday BMNA Annual Member meeting and potluck, Bryn Mawr Elementary

-