

Bryn Mawr Neighborhood Association Meeting Minutes, July 11th, 2007

Call to Order and Introductions

Meeting called to order at 7:09 pm

Approval of Agenda and June minutes: Approved as written.

Attendance: Marlin Possehl, President; Ed Juda, Vice President; Ron Sterbenz, co-treasurer; Lisa Mills, Secretary; Rob Harris, NRP Chair; Jessica Wiley & Rick Carter, Area 3 Reps.; Robert Lindquist & Beth Turnbull, Area 5 Reps.; Carey Sirianni & Jay Peterson, Area 6 Reps.; Stephen Harvey & Larry Skov, Area 7 Reps.; Patty Wycoff, Neighborhood Coordinator, and JoEllyn Jolstad, Bugle Editor. Also in attendance were neighbors Matt Stark and Paula & Rik Horton; Tim Hammet, Mpls., Police Dept.; and Lisa Goodman, Mpls. City Council member.

Special Business: Election of Beth Turnbull as co-Rep for Area 5. As it is between annual meetings and cannot be put to a vote by the entire membership, the Board can and did vote to accept Beth as co-Rep for Area 5. She will serve until the next full membership election for Area 5, in 2009.

City Council Report — Council Member Lisa Goodman

National Night Out is Tuesday, August

We routinely win national awards for high participation. You can apply online for street closing at

<http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/nno/>, or just call 311. If you sign up by July 24th, it's free – after that it'll cost \$100 to close your street.

Remember, you still need permission of 75% of your neighbors to be approved for street closure - have their names and addresses with you when you apply.

For those who register with the city (whether or not you apply for street closing), there is a free kit, which includes: Child ID kits (up to 10); ride tickets for The Park at MOA (up to 25); vouchers for very low cost Minnesota Twins tickets (20 tickets); reminder door hangers (as many as you need); name tags (as many as you need); coloring sheets (as many as you need); and, if your block is new to NNO, a free start-up kit with party basics like paper plates, etc. (first come, first served).

One registration per block – check with Tim to see if someone has already registered your block.

Hazardous Waste Disposal

There will be two *Special* Minneapolis Household Hazardous Waste Collections coming soon:

1. August 9, thru August 11, 2007

Pillsbury/Bottineau School - Teachers' parking lot
2250 Garfield Street N.E. in Minneapolis

2. September 20, thru September 22, 2007

City of Mpls. Snelling Avenue Garage
3607 East 44th Street in Minneapolis

<http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/solid-waste/garbage-hazardous.asp> or call 311 for more information.

Minneapolis wireless is up and running downtown, about 2 weeks behind. Bryn Mawr is included in Phase 4, which had an original completion date target of September 30th.

Youth Violence Prevention Steering Committee on City Council is looking for input – next meeting is Monday, July 16th.

MPD 4th Precinct Report -- Tim Hammett

The MPD encourages neighbors to participate in **National Night Out**, and particularly on a block-by-

block basis (rather than larger neighborhood groups getting together). The purpose of National Night Out is to encourage nearby neighbors to get to know one another, so that they can and will watch out for each other – this is one of the greatest crime prevention strategies – neighbors who pay attention and know each other.

Crime Report - Petty thefts are up (theft from cars is a big part), but there have been 12 home burglaries (through June '07) as opposed to 20 for the same period last year. No rapes or homicides reported, and all other crimes are down,.

Activity report: Patty Wycoff, NC

Youth Council has 11 participants so far!

A group helped out, painting stakes for the Upton Garden – they look great!

They will also be helping out at the Ice Cream Taste-Off with setup and tear down, face painting & stamping, balloons, and other activities.

Green grants (Barry & Patty)

We applied for a \$1,000 mini-grant and received it. We are going to be educating people about the Energy Challenge, and will be giving away energy-efficient light bulbs to those who participate.

Patty also applied for a \$10,000 grant, to buy push mowers for blocks to share - to get people to give up their gas powered ones. More info to come, if the grant is approved.

Budgeting & Fundraising Committee Reports

Treasurer's Report – Ron Sterbenz

Ron presented the numbers and the updated budget was unanimously approved by the Board. The budget numbers are available on the bmna.org website.

Car wash & BBQ Aug 12 – Patty Wycoff

Patty is working on the planning of this event – the date is set, but not all the details.

Ice Cream Taste-Off -- Ed Juda

We've got volunteers on the Board to pick up the ice cream from the various shops who are donating it. We still need volunteers to help with setup and tear-down, and scooping of ice-cream. Patty will send out an email, requesting volunteers. Lisa has ordered signs for the sandwich boards, to be placed both north and south of 394 reminding neighbors about the event, and will pick them up tomorrow.

Upton Garden project – Ron, Chad & Ed

All 28 plots are adopted, but 2 are big so they'd like to have 2 people for those. Ed has been out there tilling, and several volunteers have helped with planting and watering. Ron & Chad got the sign all fixed up and it looks great. It'll be a couple of weeks until the bushes come in, then we'll send out another request for help. An adjacent neighbor has generously agreed to mow the grassy part of the garden.

Nominations Committee Report – Marlin

The committee has come up with guidelines for individuals who represent the BMNA on other committees and government boards, meetings, etc... A copy of the guidelines was passed around, and they were unanimously approved by the Board. The guidelines will be posted on the website.

The committee originally had 3 potential volunteers for Greg Lecker's representative position on the Bassett Creek ROC, but 2 of the three had to recuse themselves because of potential conflicts of interest (their firm was considering bidding on some of the projects being developed by the ROC). The committee, with Greg's support, nominated Mike Martens to be our new ROC representative. The

nomination was unanimously approved by the Board.

NRP Committee Reports

Housing Density – Rob Harris

A neighbor recently raised the issue of "density" with Rob, and he agrees that this is an issue that should be pursued with the neighborhood. Basically, Bryn Mawr does not seem to have a consensus position on the issue of housing density in the neighborhood (for example, what do we want to see done with the Palm Bros, Fruen Mill and Qwest sites, and future development in the so called "banana" area near the Meadows).

Our decision on whether or not to support increased density has an impact on Bryn Mawr's transportation options and traffic congestion; on affordable housing and senior housing options; on business development and restaurant options within Bryn Mawr, etc. The housing committee and traffic committees, not to mention the land use committee, could all have input on, and would all benefit from, a neighborhood consensus on this issue.

The Board agreed that a panel discussion on the "impact of density" is in order. We want to start by educating Bryn Mawr on this complex issue. We will invite neighbors to attend an event where we would ask experts from the U and other places to lead a discussion on the topic. We will ask the Bugle to follow up with an article or two on the subject.

NRP Traffic/Transportation Committee - Rob

The City is still mulling over our proposal for the Penn Ave & Cedar Lake Rd intersection and will provide a budgetary estimate for our requested changes. We submitted a proposal to the City on April 30th, and we have emailed or called the department every few weeks to remind them to follow up with a budgetary estimate. We were told recently that one reason it is taking so long for them to get back to us, is that they are completing a "policy document" on street lights, i.e., to get better control of lighting equipment costs and to implement standards across the city of Minneapolis.

Our neighbors who visited (Paula and Rik Horton) live on Chestnut and have concerns with traffic there and how to get stop signs to make the crossing to the park safe. The city told them they wouldn't put up a crosswalk or stop signs. The Traffic Committee is going to follow up on that issue. We did let them know that sidewalks for Chestnut are a priority and that we've made certain that they are on the City's Master Plan.

The next Traffic Committee meeting is scheduled for the first Monday in August at 7PM at the Bryn Mawr Church. New members are always welcome! Rob may schedule a quick meeting with members of the Traffic Committee & Downtown Committees to review any budgetary proposal that the city sends us.

NRP Schools Committee – Jessica Wiley

The committee had a meeting in June, at which the new process for bringing issues was used for the first time. A group of neighbors brought their concerns about the school district deciding not to bus Bryn Mawr kids to Carondelet Catholic School anymore, instead giving us the choice of Ascension. There was lively discussion (as always) and the process worked well. The committee reiterated our commitment to retaining Bryn Mawr's Southwest orientation, as we are a Southwest Minneapolis neighborhood, despite part of our neighborhood being north of Hwy. 394.

NRP Parks Committee (Ed Juda & Rick Carter)

We were supposed to have met in June with the Park Board, to discuss a plan to improve Brownie Lake (the plan was to include the addition of a canoe rack, removal of invasive species and the upgrading of the trails). However, Tracy Nordstrom explained in an email in early July that the Park Board would rather not meet with us at this time, but would instead like more time to develop the plan first, and then meet with Bryn Mawr representatives to review it. Rick Carter is trying to schedule a

meeting with the Park Board (Tracy, Tom Nordyk, and others) to jump start things. The good news is that the MPRB does have plans for improving Brownie Lake's environ. They have already begun mulching some trails, and plan removal of buckthorn and other invasive species, along with installation of park benches.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday, Aug. 6th – National Night Out

Wednesday, Aug. 8 – Next Board Meeting (7pm, Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church)

Sunday, Aug. 12th – Bryn Mawr Neighborhood BBQ Event (details to come) at Bryn Mawr Meadows