



November Board Meeting Minutes

1. Call to Order and Introductions

BMNA President Kevin Thompson called the meeting to order at 6:30pm. A quorum was present. Introductions ensued.

Attendees:

Kevin Thompson, President

Brian Treece, VP

Dennis Fazio, Treasurer

Dave Holets, Area 1 Rep

Jessica Wiley, Area 3 Rep

Joanne Michalec, Area 4 Rep

Beth Turnbull, Area 5 Rep

Jay Peterson, Area 6 Rep

Barry Schade, Area 6 Rep

Steve Harvey, Area 7 Rep

Lynda Shaheen, Comm./Fundraising Coordinator

Patty Wycoff, Events Coordinator

Jeremy Staffeld, Webmaster

Rod Miller, Area 6

Erin Duffy, Area 6

John Poursu, Area 6

Mark Laverty, Area 6

2. Approval of today's agenda.

With a minor change to update the date listed for Saturnalia and the craft fair, Jessica Wiley moved to approve the meeting Agenda was approved as modified. Seconded.

Decision: Motion to approve Agenda carried.

3. Approval of minutes of last month's meeting.

With no changes noted for last month's minutes, Jessica Wiley moved to approve the meeting Minutes. Seconded. Motion carried.

Decision: Motion to approve last month's Meeting Minutes carried.

4. **City of Minneapolis: Councilmember Lisa Goodman's Report**

Lisa Goodman could not attend as the City of Minneapolis was holding the final decision on adoption of the Minneapolis 2040 plan.

5. **Eloise Butler Budget Cuts: Jay Peterson**

Jay Peterson moved to approve the following opposition to the Eloise Butler Garden:

The Bryn Mawr Neighborhood Association (BMNA) strongly opposes the significant budget cuts that are being considered for **Eloise Butler Wildflower Garden and Bird Sanctuary** (EBWG) by the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB). Bryn Mawr is known as a "neighborhood within a park." This action of the MPRB will have a negative impact far beyond Bryn Mawr.

Rod Miller provided some background. Suggested cuts include closure on Monday, closing the garden 6 weeks during the growing season which reduces the incomes of the garden staff.

Additional discussions items included whether BMNA had an opportunity or responsibility to include this letter other areas that could be cut instead.

Task: Kevin Thompson will draft the letter.

Decision: The motion for BMNA to oppose the cuts to Eloise Butler Garden carried.

6. **Treasurer's Report: Dennis Fazio, Preliminary 2019 Budget Discussion**

Dennis Fazio presented a draft of the 2019 Budget for review and discussion. Using the last year's budget as a template, Dennis created 2019's plan. Amongst the discussion was an expected increase in the price of printing, an increase in Accounting and bookkeeping costs, budgets were required for Craft Fair and Ice Cream social, as well as additional funding for the Garden Committee. We expected increase in membership revenue over 2018 and to be able to draw on NRP monies.

The full budget will be posted on the BMNA website once it is finalized and approved.

Task: Dennis Fazio will check with Cannon Valley for latest news on printing costs.

7. **Communications and Fundraising Coordinator Report: Lynda Shaheen**

Lynda Shaheen, the new Communications and Fundraising Coordinator, kicked off her new role with a flurry of activities, including expanding the BMNA's social media presence. BMNA hoped to receive some donations on Give To The Max day.

8. **Event Coordinator Report: Update on position, Kevin Thompson**

Kevin Thompson reported that Kristen Hannosek resigned the position and Patty Wycoff has accepted the role as Event Coordinator. Welcome back, Patty!

9. **Bugle Report: JoEllyn Jolstad**

JoEllyn Jolstad, Bryn Mawr Bugle editor, wanted to remind everyone that this is the last issue for two months. The next issue is February.

10. **Webmaster Report: Jeremy Staffeld**

Jeremy Staffeld, Webmaster, reported that the website was down for about 24 hours as part of the domain name switchover. Everything is working correctly now. Jeremy is working on some modifications to the home page to make important or trending items more prevalent. A link to register to the craft fair can be found on the website.

11. **Standing Committee Reports**

As needed.

1. **Communications**

Jay Peterson met with JoEllyn and Jeremy and was happy to note that contracts will be in place in a more timely manner than previous years.

2. **Schools**

Lynda Shaheen noted that schools committee is meeting on November 29th. The new Principal is planning to attend both the meeting and the Harvest Dinner.

3. **Gardens**

Kevin Thompson noted that there is a plan in place to clear out the dead plants and install winter interest.

4. **Community Projects**

Jessica Wiley stated that Community Projects committee is accepting project suggestions for 2019. Suggestions will be captured through December 31st. One of the 2018 Community Projects, the Mosaic, was featured in Community South magazine.

5. **Nominations**

6. **Events**

Harvest Dinner has six local business donation foods. Patty noted that Saturnalia is the most expensive event, and it is completely free. This event is entirely covered by membership donations throughout the year.

7. **Membership**

8. **Safety/Traffic**

Chris Etz reported via Kevin Thompson that the City of Minneapolis confiscated the speed sign. Once a policy is in place on the use of speed signs, the sign will be returned.

9. **Finance**

Jessica Wiley communicated that the Finance Committee has been meeting frequently to discuss BMNA's long term financial planning. There was discussion that future CPP funding could be in jeopardy. After the proposal from the City is received, Jessica will report back to the Board. Jessica is compiling information to include in the application that represents the impact that neighborhoods associations have on communities.

Jessica Wiley moved to approve the CPP application for 2017 through 2019 once the appropriate amounts have been included. Seconded.

Decision: Motion to approve the CPP application carried.

10. Garden Art

No significant documentation exists regarding what can or cannot be done. General guidelines, with respect to our use, are as follows:

For the Community Roadside Landscape Partnership Project, the space should help with:

- beautification of an otherwise empty space
- environmental stewardship of an otherwise under utilized green space
- community engagement by the BMNA garden committee involvement

For the MnDOT Highway Sponsorship, should assist with:

- improving the aesthetics and attractiveness of the highways as an off-ramp
- creating a mechanism for private entities (BMNA) to maintain
- potentially creating a pollinator habitat

After some initial discussions with MnDOT, we determined that this parcel should be eligible for either or both the Community Roadside Landscape Partnership, or the MnDOT Highway Sponsorship

Working with David Bauer to get an official request from the City on behalf of Bryn Mawr to MnDOT

1. Next step is for a formal letter from the City to Todd Carroll at MnDOT.
2. An application for each program will need to be completed.
3. A design concept(s) may need to be reviewed, or we may create collaboratively with Todd at MnDOT.
4. If approved, expenses for creating the installation will be reimbursed.

12. Other Standing Reports

As needed

1. ROC/Basset Creek Valley Update

Kevin Thompson provided an update on ROC. A grant was awarded to Wellington to determine that development along Bassett Creek would require significant remediation because of the pollution and water table. A plan for Wellington or others who wish to develop in that area has been created and is available for use. This area has seen a significant increase in value due to other positive additions to the area.

Ned Abdul will host a public hearing to determine the future use on 1001 Glenwood Ave. The charter school has been put on hold.

2. SWLRT Update

SWLRT has finally been funded and construction will start soon. A historic moment and impact on Bryn Mawr.

13. Reports from BMNA Representatives to affiliated groups

14. Discussion Items, New Business, Updates and Announcements

Jessica Wiley stated that we need to revisit the Staff and Board email list. With limited time, it was determined to take this conversation offline.

15. **Adjourn by 8:00 p.m.**

With no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00.