



BRYN MAWR NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Meeting of the Board of Directors

Wednesday, June 8, 2016

7:00– 8:45 PM

Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church

Call to Order

President Kevin Thompson opened the meeting at 7:00pm

Attendees:

Directors:

Kevin Thompson-President
Jessica Wiley-Vice President
Dennis Fazio- Treasurer
Dave Holets - Rep Area 1
Dennis Juillerat - Co-Rep Area 3
Brian Treece - Co-Rep Area 3
Christopher Etz - Co-Rep Area 4
Beth Turnbull - Co Rep Area 5
Barry Schade - Co-Rep Area 6
Jay Peterson- Co-Rep Area 6
Steve Harvey - Area 7

Staff:

Patty Wycoff- Neighborhood Coordinator

Others:

JD Dietrich, Matt Stark, Peg Meier,
Henry Crosby Heritage Park YMCA
Lisa Goodman, City Council

A quorum was present

Agenda

Jessica Wiley moved approval of the Agenda as written. Carried.

Lisa Goodman, City Council

Two variances under way for the neighborhood.

Hennepin Lyndale renovations moving along.

Lunch with Lisa occurs on June 29th. It will be a field trip to Givens Violins' location at 1201 Marquette. Contact Lisa Goodman for more information or to sign up.

MNDOT will be doing some sound testing on the new pavement on I394. Many neighbors have noticed a reduction in noise from the highway.

Penn Ave will be resurfaced from Highway 55 to I394 within the next couple of weeks

Henry Crosby, Exec Dir of YMCA in Heritage Park

Provided highlights of the Health & Wellness Center (1015 4th Avenue N), where the YMCA is an anchor tenant along with 9 other organizations including the Thomas T. Feeney Manor, a residence for assisted living and memory care housing, and the Northside Funders Group, among others. The building is owned by the Minneapolis Public Housing Authority (MPHA). The YMCA in partnership with the Alzheimer's Association is doing a NuStep fundraising event, on Sat Jun 11 5am – 9pm at the YMCA in Heritage Park. YMCA Heritage Park membership is available for \$36/mo. Metro membership is also available, giving access to all YMCAs metro wide and nation wide. Offer was extended to the Board to host meetings in their large meetings space. For more information, contact Henry Crosby at 612.330.3988

Peg Meier

Ms Meier described her effort to rename *Reserve Block #40 Park* (also called Triangle Park locally) at 24th Ave and Drew Ave (Area 1), just west of Cedar Lake in honor of Gratia Countryman, director of Minneapolis Public Library, 1904-1936. She was the nation's first female head of a big-city library. Current proposed name is "Gratia Countryman Park."

Motion by Jay Peterson that the Association support Ms. Meier and her effort to petition the Park Board to effect the name change. Carried.

Secretary Election

Jessica Wiley offered in nomination Barry James "JD" Dietrich as Secretary of the BMNA for the current two year term ending May 31, 2018. Carried.

Coordinator Report

Patty Wycoff reported that preparations for the Ice Cream Social occurring on June 21, 2016 are under way. Likewise, preparations for the Garden Tour preparations taking place on July 16, 2016. Tickets can be purchase online at <http://www.bmna.org/garden-tour-registration/>.

Webmaster Report

Jay Peterson noted that we're getting good comments on the new site <http://www.bmna.org/>. Web traffic is up to about 50 visits/day and increased enthusiasm for the Garden Tour as it's been better publicized. Maintenance and updating is much easier now.

Schools

Jessica Wiley has retired from the Schools Committee. Linda Shaheen has taken the chair and 2 new members have joined board. The Board thanks Jessica for her service on the Committee. The new contract for new New Superintendent Ed Graff starts in July.

Gardens

Dennie Juillerat brought up the gateway hedge which has welcomed people to Bryn Mawr for 18 years. Because of its deteriorated state of the current hedge, the Garden Committee plans to remove the hedge before the Garden Tour. Discussion around replacement options occurred, whether to replace with another topiary hedge or hardscape. Hardscape is more expensive. A topiary would require more maintenance and/or an irrigation system. The BMNA would like the opinions of the neighborhood. Opinions can be shared at <http://www.bmna.org/contact/>

Community Projects

Four projects were approved in April. Jessica Wiley reported that The Bee Hotel is completed and ready for installation. Buckthorn removal volunteers have been working in the Chestnut Park area and are hoping to get additional funding and assistance from the Park Board. Process is under way to complete applications to the City for the street painting projects. The doggy stations placement is also nascent.

Garden Tour Update

Patty Wycoff reported that ads are going into Hill and Lake Press, Northern Gardener, and the Bugle. Sandwich Boards are up. There are 12 gardens on the Tour plus the Community Gardens. Plans are on track.

Annual Meeting Update

Jessica Wiley reported on survey results returned at the meeting. About 25 ratings were submitted 84% rated Really Well, 8% rated Satisfactory. Comments were generally positive. Saturnalia and Ice Cream Social were the favorite events. Attendance was about 80.

Membership

Patty Wycoff reported about \$9,000 in revenue has arrived so far.

Variance

Notice of several variances submitted to BMNA for acknowledgement for 1946 Cedar Lake Parkway to construct a new home at a teardown site. Councilmember Goodman's office has determined there is no historical significance to the current house on the property. Normal city processes will be followed to determine whether the variances will be granted. Board acknowledges the notice from the new property owners.

CPP/NRP

Dennis Fazio reported on the recent community engagement efforts at NCR. Robert Thompson is leading an effort to host a series of conversations on the long-term role of neighborhood associations in the City. These would occur during the fall of 2016 and facilitated by a subset of neighborhood associations. Funding for neighborhood associations will have to be renewed by 2020 by the City Council. These conversations and a resultant report would provide advocacy to them to continue funding. NCR will be seeking a grant from the Bush Foundation to provide training in facilitation using the "Art of Hosting Conversations that Matter" method (artofhosting.org). Bottineau has volunteered to be fiscal agent if granted. Because of the 3 day training regimen, many of the representatives at the meeting were hesitant. There may, however, already be an adequate number of facilitators available. Dennis suggested that the BMNA maintain participation in this initiative as it will also provide a venue for us to engage Bryn Mawr neighbors with the BMNA. Board members agreed.

SWLRT

Discussion around progress of Light Rail. Funding included in State Funding bill. Dayton pushing for special session. Learn more at <http://metro council.org/Transportation/Projects/Current-Projects/Southwest-LRT.aspx>

Area representation election

Brian Treece has moved out of Area 3 and is no longer eligible to represent that area.

Jessica Wiley moved to nominate and elect Brian Treece as an area representative in Area 5, where he now resides. Carried.

Movements

Britta Larson has moved. The Board thanks her for her work and wishes her all the best in her new adventure.

With no objections, President Kevin Thompson adjourned the meeting at 8:35pm.

These minutes were approved by the Board of Directors on <date>

_____,
James Dietrich, Secretary

Next meeting: Wednesday July 13, 7:00pm, Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church basement hall.