



## BRYN MAWR NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION 2020 Annual Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, November 18, 2020  
6:30– 7:30 PM

**Google Meet/Virtual Meeting**

### **Board and Staff**

Brian Treece – Vice President  
James Dietrich - Treasurer  
Jessica Wiley – Secretary  
Dave Holets – Area 1 Rep  
Karen Frederickson - Area 2 Co-Rep  
Sue Verrett – Area 2 Co -Rep  
Dennie Juillerat - Area 3 Rep  
Joanne Michalec - Area 4 Co-Rep  
Chris Etz – Area 4 Co-Rep  
Colleen Dhennin - Area 5 Co-Rep

Beth Turnbull Area 5 - Co-Rep  
Jay Peterson - Area 6 Co-Rep  
Rod Miller - Area 6 Co-Rep  
Barry Schade – Area 6 Co-Rep  
Stephen Harvey – Area 7 Co-Rep  
Kate Knuth – Area 7 Co-Rep  
Jeremy Staffeld - Webmaster  
McKenzie Erickson – Event Coordinator  
JoEllyn Jolstad – Bugle Editor  
Lynda Shaheen – Communication/Fundraising Coordinator

### **Guests:**

Lisa Goodman – Minneapolis City Councilperson  
Torie Stone – Crime Prevention Specialist MPD  
Senator Bobby Joe Champion – Minnesota Senate  
Representative Frank Hornstein – Minnesota House of Representatives  
Representative Elect Esther Agbaji – Minnesota House of Representatives  
Liv Nielsen – Area 1  
Cheryl Davenport - Area 1  
Kathy P -Area 2  
Amy Sheldon – Area 2  
Mike Motzko – Area 3  
Kevin Pochatila – Area 3  
Allison Fruen – Area 3  
Richard Bauer – Area 3  
Chris Davis – Area 3  
Terri Stark – Area 4  
Haven Stephens – Area 6  
Ben Gansky – Area 6  
Gail Freedman -Area 6  
Mary Bolla – Area 7  
Molly Carina - \_Area 7  
Barbara Gasterland – Area 7  
David Dayton  
Dale Thomas  
Jen Schmidt

*The BMNA invites and encourages participation by every resident to each program, service and event organized by the BMNA. Should you require an accommodation in order for you to fully participate, or if you require this document in a different format, please let us know by contacting us at [bmna@bmna.org](mailto:bmna@bmna.org) at least five days before our event. \*Meeting location is ADA compliant.*

Deborah and John Wallwork  
Jim and Judith Preston  
Cecilia Krum  
Sheri Erickson

1. Call to Order and Welcome at 6:30 PM by Vice President Brian Treece
2. Agenda approval moved, seconded. Motion carried.
3. Introduction of Board Members and Elected Officials
  - City Councilperson Lisa Goodman thanked Bryn Mawr for being one of the most successful neighborhoods and neighborhood organizations in the city. Impressed with how neighbors and the association have stepped up during COVID-19 and civil unrest to support others in the neighborhood.
  - Senator Bobby Joe Champion commented that legislators just finished a special session to address COVID-19. Upcoming legislative session this spring is a budget session. Will have challenges with the deficit facing us but will continue to live our values. Established organizing committee to determine committee make-up. My door is open for anyone to talk with me about issues of importance to them.
  - Representative Elect Esther Agbaje is getting oriented to her new position. Looks forward to conversations with neighbors about issues facing the neighborhood.
  - MPD Crime Prevention Specialist Torie Stone had no new crime to report at this time. Met virtually with a citizen and safety patrol committee. The committee will be putting together a letter of intent, a phone tree, avenues for communicating with the community, and an activity calendar.
  - Representative Frank Hornstein thanked us for all our work and for our district leading the state in voter turnout. Plans for the coming legislative session; intends to be bold in working on issues of importance even with the deficit, including housing, transportation, and climate. Frank raised the issue of redistricting splitting Bryn Mawr. A board member commented that there is one advantage to having Bryn Mawr split as we have two Representatives and two Senators representing us in the State Legislature. A Board member asked that representatives do anything they can to lead on climate from the local all the way to the state. It's an important issue and intertwined with racial justice. Would love to hear from neighbors, shared

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his cell phone number.

#### 4. State of the Neighborhood

- Accomplishments – Vice President Brian Treece updated participants on what has been accomplished during this challenging year. Following the death of George Floyd, a BMNA racial justice committee was formed with ambitious goals that have been worked on throughout the summer and fall. The neighborhood banded together to support each other during COVID-19. BMNA continues to operate with virtual meetings, have been flexible with planning events and nimble when they need to be modified. We have volunteers maintaining our community gardens, have been working with developers on the housing at the Wayzata property, and with the city on the iconic hedge formally on Penn Avenue. Have been keeping neighbors informed with regular electronic communications. Despite the uptick in crime in the city, Bryn Mawr remains one of the safest neighborhoods in Minneapolis.
- Membership and Communications – Communications Chair Jay Peterson thanked staff for their coordinated efforts in communicating through our website, the Bugle, and all our social media communications. Coordinator Lynda Shaheen reviewed our social media efforts to keep neighbors informed. Fundraising is steady; but a bit behind last year, although we have two months left. Hoping to benefit from Give to The Max day. Lynda shared a slide show celebrating the neighborhood. The slide show will be available on our website.
- Events – Coordinator McKenzie Erickson reviewed the events of the year. Winter Fest took place just before the spring COVID-19 lockdown and was very successful. Since then we have had three tiers of events- 1) traditional in-person (but masked and distanced) like the Ice Cream Stroll and Member Night at Utepils 2) new in- person events that are socially distanced like yoga in the Meadows, 3) shared experiences that can be done from home or individually like the May Day ribbon activity, anti-racist workshops, pet photo contest, coloring sheets, and a Bugle scavenger hunt. Events have been impacted by restrictions and we had to cancel several events, but we continue to bring neighbors together in a responsible way. We also were able to partner with other groups like the Nature Pre School for earth week, Lupe Development for a naming event, and the HS graduation parade and have shared resources for other sponsored events by the city.
- Financial Health – Treasurer JD Dietrich gave an overview of our income and

expenses through November 2020. Healthy balances in savings and checking. Earned a bit less this year with events cancelled due to COVID-19, but our budget will be balanced because we can draw CPP funds from the city and donations and spirit wear have generated income for us. All taxes have been filed. Our budget and profit and loss documents are available on our website.

- Neighborhood Feedback – Our bylaws state our purpose to be to strengthen our community, improve the quality of life in our community, foster good personal relationships in our community, and keep the channels open for information and communication in our community. A google form is available for neighbors to identify their priorities for the coming year to help us meet our mission. The link is in the chat during the meeting and will be sent out through our BMNA email list.

## 5. Election of Board Members for Open Seats

Brian presented the slate and asked for other nominations.

- President – Kevin Thompson
- Secretary – Jessica Wiley
- Area 2 Rep - Sue Verrett and Karen Frederickson
- Area 4 - Chris Etz and Joanne Michlec
- Area 6 - Jay Peterson, Rod Miller and Barry Shade

Brian moved to approve the slate and called for a vote. Slate approved.

## 6. Meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.