



BRYN MAWR NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Board Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, February 10, 2021

6:30– 8:00 PM

Google Meet/Virtual Meeting

Board and Staff

Kevin Thompson – President

Brian Treece – Vice President

James Dietrich - Treasurer

Jessica Wiley – Secretary

Liv Nielsen – Area 1 Co-Rep

Karen Frederickson - Area 2 Co-Rep

Allison Fruen – Area 3 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

Jay Peterson - Area 6 Co-Rep

Rod Miller - Area 6 Co-Rep

Barry Schade – Area 6 Co-Rep

Stephen Harvey – Area 7 Co-Rep

Anthony Ramirez – Area 7 Co-Rep

Vita Ditter - Emeritus

McKenzie Erickson – Event Coordinator

Lynda Shaheen – Communication/Fundraising Coordinator

JoEllyn Jolstad – Bugle Editor

Jeremy - Webmaster

Guests:

Lisa Goodman – Minneapolis City Councilperson

Elizabeth Mary Adams – POSTME Coalition

Chris Whalen - POSTME Coalition

Dave Holets – Area 1

Gail Freedman – Area 6

Ben Gansky – Area 6

Jim Nelson – Area 6

Karen Soderberg – Area 7

Michael Martens – Area 7

Ly Maskini

Pat Venue

1. Call to Order at 6:34 PM.
2. Agenda approval moved, seconded. Motion carried.
3. Minutes from January 2021 moved, seconded. Motion carried.
4. City of Minneapolis -Councilmember Lisa Goodman. Lunch with Lisa, February 17. Andrea Brennan, Director of Planning and Economic Development will talk about plan for rebuilding Lake Street following the civil unrest and about Federal Rental Assistance program rolling out. Bryn Mawr hedge agreement accepting the dollars from MNDOT will be signed on February 17. Upon request, Public Works will be taking down old neighborhood watch signs from the 80's. The extremely cold weather has necessitated adding warm shelters for homeless. Ample availability for families. Through the Federal Rental Assistance program, Minnesota has been allocated \$375 million dollars. Minneapolis will receive over \$10 million for

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direct financial assistance to pay rent. The county will also be getting \$25 million. Tenants will be able to apply directly for rental assistance. Asked about TOPA (Tenant Opportunity to Purchase). Has been briefed. Authors not committed to a specific path. Thinking it could be positive as an affordable housing strategy.

5. Crime Prevention Specialist Report. Torie not available. Kevin forwarded the crime report from the city. Bryn Mawr had one theft on the report. These reports are of higher-level crime; not reporting criminal activity like break in-attempts on cars.
6. Treasurer Report– JD Dietrich. 1099's are done. Michael Wilson from the City will be helping with the 990. Cash reserves are healthy. Moved \$18,000 to checking. CPP dollar draw is in process. All reports are in our G-Suite.
7. POSTME (Public Oversight of Surveillance Technology and Military Equipment) – Jessica Wiley. Councilmember Fletcher has proposed an ordinance banning facial recognition technology use by law enforcement in Minneapolis. Ben Gansky brought this issue to the Racial Justice Committee in November; completed an IRP for the committee, garnered committee support for the ordinance. Elizabeth Adams, Stanford Fellow, and Chris Whalen, AI specialists working with the POSTME coalition, gave background information about facial recognition technology, what the ban would and would not affect, and answered questions. There are several exceptions to the ban. Currently, Clear View AI is specifically the problem. It misidentifies black and brown faces, which can result in false positives with legal consequences. The City Policy and Oversight Governance Committee has approved the ordinance, full Council vote to approve on Friday, February 12. Jessica moved that the BMNA Board support Councilmember Fletcher's language banning facial recognition technology under the POSTME ordinance. Barry second. Approved. Kevin will email our support to Councilmembers Goodman and Fletcher.
8. TOPA – (Tenant Opportunity to Purchase) Discussion – Kevin Thompson. HNA (Harrison Neighborhood Association) presented their position on TOPA in November and asked for our support for option 2. HNA submitted an IRP which was sent to the Board on January 11, 2021. Three options are proposed - discussed pros and cons of the three: the impact on Harrison and Bryn Mawr, on BIPOC communities, on the real estate market, and how its working in other cities. Board committee formed (Brian, Steve, and McKenzie) to research history and answer questions raised. Bring back further information and continue Board discussion in April.
9. Communications and Fundraising Report - Lynda Shaheen. Shared report. Working on Welcome Packet coupons. New businesses included. Laura Glass has presented a choice of templates for our e-newsletter. Working on school choice. Neighborhood schools had open houses. Presence on social media grew in 2020 - FB likes and followers, Instagram, Twitter. 900 on email list. Membership is similar to last year; 285 members have donated.
10. Event Report – McKenzie Erickson. Report shared. Winter coloring sheets are posted in the box outside the bus stop at Cuppa Java. Winter Fest is on for March 13, not a fundraiser this year. Will be a combo of Saturnalia and Sip and Stroll. Goal is to bring people together in a safe way. Earth Day coming up. Need leadership to work with the city on this. Talking with church to partner on a CoVid memorial on April 29. Garage Sale likely to be postponed to fall.
11. Bugle - JoEllyn Jolstad. The deadline for articles/ads is the 20th, as usual. Thanks to Rod and Barry for their February submissions. Turn around for March very short.
12. Webmaster – Jeremy Stafford. Still working on website issues with WordPress updates. May move to a new server host.
13. Committee Reports (as needed)
 - Communications - Jay Peterson. The Visioning Committee is meeting again. Looking at operating manual for new board members.
 - Community Projects - Jessica Wiley. Had seven ideas submitted. Approved three projects; Bassett's' Creek Park restoration planning and native plantings, wrap a(nother) utility box, and create a walking tour of Bryn Mawr. Committed \$4000 total.

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- Events – Brian Treece. Meeting in next month to decide 2021 events.
- Finance/Membership – JD Dietrich. No report.
- Gardens – Dennie Juillerat. No report.
- Gateway Project – Karen Frederickson/Dennis Juillerat/JD Dietrich. Approval of dollars for hedge is a big step for the Gateway project. Monies will be appropriated through MNDOT for planting of hedge in April/May.
- Elections – Brian Treece. No report.
- Racial Justice – Kate Knuth/McKenzie Erickson/Jessica Wiley. Will be developing a land acknowledgement statement for the committee meetings. Books were donated by the Little Free Library organization focused on diversity for our Little Free Libraries. Resource suggested; Healing Minnesota Stories, presented by the Minnesota Council of Churches
- Safety/Traffic – Chris Etz. Follow up--study supports the current configuration of the traffic light at Brownie Bridge. If traffic backs up they will consider timing. Adding a crosswalk on Glenwood and Xerxes would require ADA compliant ramp on both sides of street. Safety committee is dormant right now, most issues are handled by our Crime Prevention Specialist, Torie. Chris proposed that we re-establish our Park Committee. Should be addressing the Cedar Lake/Lake of the Isles master plan, the re-design of the Meadows, and Loppet issues with hiking/biking and ski trail use. Question as to whether it should be broadened to be an environment committee. Will make a committee recommendation in March. Discussed light rail remnant land given from railroad being tied to the Cedar Lake Park planning effort.
- Schools – Lynda Shaheen. No report.

14. Other Standing Reports (as needed)

- ROC/Basset Creek Valley Update
- SWLRT Update. March 4 public meeting being planned.

15. Discussion Items, New Business, Updates and Announcements

16. Adjourned at 8:51 p.m.

NEXT BOARD MEETING: Wednesday, March 10, 2021

Upcoming Events: Winter Fest, March 13, 2021

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