



BRYN MAWR NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION 2021 Annual Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, June 9, 2021

6:30– 7:30 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 Rep
Karen Frederickson - Area 2 Co-Rep
Sue Verrett – Area 2 Co -Rep
Dennie Juillerat - Area 3 Rep
Allison Fruen - Area 3 Rep
Joanne Michalec - Area 4 Co-Rep
Chris Etz – Area 4 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
Anthony Ramirez - Area 7 Co-Rep
Vida Ditter – Emeritus Board Member
Jeremy Staffeld - Webmaster
McKenzie Erickson – Event Coordinator
JoEllyn Jolstad – Bugle Editor
Lynda Shaheen – Communication/Fundraising Coordinator

Guests:

Lisa Goodman – Minneapolis City Councilperson
Esther Agbaje– Minnesota House of Representatives 59B
Meg Forney – Minneapolis Park Board
Jono Cowgill –Minneapolis Park Board
Andrea Cerillo – Minneapolis Public Schools Board
John Davenport – Area 1
Scott Graham – Area 1
Roberta Jordan – Area 4
David Sommerfeld Area 4
Ken and Atsuko Ashlee Fukushi – Area 4/5
Bridget Bergheger – Area 5
Amber Senn – Area 6
Ben Gansky – Area 6
Bill Miner – Area 6
John and Lindsey Lyrenmann – Area 6
Deb Anderson – Area 6
R. Michael Martens – Area 6
David Dayton -Area 7
Karen Soderberg Area 7
Molly Dengler – Area 7
Sheri Erickson
Ken Huym
Elizabeth Schaffer

*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 at least five days before our event. *Meeting location is ADA compliant.*

1. Call to Order and Welcome at 6:35 PM by President Kevin Thompson

2. Agenda approval moved, seconded. Motion carried.

3. Introduction of Board Members and Elected Officials

- **City Councilperson Lisa Goodman.** Thanked the BMNA volunteers for all the work they do. Shared that the vast majority of the money the city will receive from the federal government for critical needs that pertain to the pandemic will go into economic development. About \$37 million will be spent to: revive Lake St, help BIPOC businesses buy their buildings, universal income pilot program, help for employees, mental health support, homelessness response, affordable housing, public safety, overtime for police, alternatives to policing, and violence interruption and prevention. Main goal is to get the first allocation of dollars out as soon as possible into areas of great need. Second allocation of resources will go into forward thinking projects. This is one-time money; cannot be spent for activities that create ongoing expenses that need funding from the city general fund. Public hearings will be held in the next four weeks. Wirth on the Woods is headed towards approval of planned unit development, then closing on financing can happen. There will be a neighborhood groundbreaking in late summer. The senior housing, townhomes, and reuse of the historic building will add about 400 new units to Bryn Mawr. The development of this site has been a very good of example of citizen participation. Thanked Rod Miller for communicating with neighbors about the development of the site. The developers have created a list serve for those wanting information about the progress at the site. It will be an opt-in list serve. Email construction@swervo.com to get on the email alert list. This will be a 20+month construction project.
- **District 4 School Board Rep Andrea Cerillo.** Greeted those at the annual meeting. It is an honor to be representing District 4 on the School Board, looking forward to participating in future meetings of the BMNA.
- **Minneapolis Park Board President Jono Cowgill.** Looking forward to in-person meetings as District 4 Rep and President. Park Board being pro-active in response to activities that occurred in the park this past year related to encampments. Have created a community connection and violence prevention team working to connect people with safe housing in a dignified way. A number of programs will occur this summer for youth. Safe, small events are scheduled throughout the city this summer. Partnering with other agencies for storm water improvements at the Meadows. Asked about status of the right-of-way purchase from the railroad for the Loose Line extension-still in conversation but no progress to date.
- **Minneapolis Park Board Commissioner at Large Meg Forney.** Have legislative proposals at the state for park infrastructure related to climate change resiliency. Asking for dollars for Bassett's Creek shoreline for in-stream enhancement and meandering. Park Board has master planned the entire city which aids in asking for funding from the state and city. Strategic connections are critical and make our parks accessible. Excited by development along the Mississippi River making it accessible to more communities.

- **House Representative 59B Esther Agbaje.** Thanked Board for their service. Legislative session wrapped up on May 17, but still in constant conversations to complete the budget before July 1. Focused on budgets that relate to needs, particularly those related to Co-Vid and the civil unrest, including housing resources, health care, and funding for economic development. Push to get people vaccinated. Free and easy vaccine pop-up clinics have been set up.

4. State of the Neighborhood

- President Kevin Thompson shared that the housing market in Bryn Mawr is strong and crime rates are some of the lowest in the city. BMNA is working well and in good financial health.
- **Membership and Communications** – Coordinator Lynda Shaheen reported that we have increased our communication reach through social media, our lists are growing. Fundraising during 2020 was in line with 2019, came through Co-Vid well with maintaining support. Webmaster Jeremy Staffeld reported that he had time to revamp the website, bmna.org, with reduced action on the website during Co-Vid, and looks forward to increased interaction.
- **Events** – Coordinator McKenzie Erickson reviewed the events since our last annual meeting in November 2020. Held a winter lights event in December highlighting wonderfully lit homes in the neighborhood. Winter Fest looked different from those in the past two events but was successful. Upcoming events include a modified ice cream social on July 15, and the rescheduled garage sale on September 11.
- **Financial Health** – Treasurer JD Dietrich gave an overview of our income and expenses. Savings is at \$100,000 and checking is at \$49,500. Our revenue is down from 2019 but our expenses also were reduced.

5. Election of Board Members for Open Seats

Brian Treece presented the slate and asked for other nominations.

- Vice President – Brian Treece
- Treasurer – Roberta Jordan/Deb Anderson - Co Treasurers
- Area 1- Liv Nielsen, Scott Graham
- Area 3 - Dennie Juillerat, Allison Fruen
- Area 5 - Colleen Dhennin, Beth Turnbull, Bridget Bergheger
- Area 7 – Steve Harvey, Kate Knuth, Anthony Ramirez

New candidates, Deb Anderson, Roberta Jordan, Scott Graham, and Bridget Bergherger, introduced themselves.

With no contested seats, Brian moved to approve the slate by acclamation. Slate approved.

6. **Slide Show.** Lynda shared a slide show celebrating neighborhood committee work. Committees include neighbors who are not on the board, and we thank them for their participation. The slide show will be available on our website.

7. Meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.