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Monthly Meeting, 6PM, January 11, 2022

January Meeting Minutes: Done virtually via Zoom

**Called to order**: 6:06 pm

**Presided by**: Tim Knight, Chair

**In attendance**: Allan Campbell, Richard Logan, Tim Knight, Joey Meiers, Bob Gordon, Lynette Davis, Melanie Fehlberg, Megan Betterman , John Bordwell, Michelle Sass, Dave Stougaard

Others in attendance: A.J. Imholte (resident), Jill Hagen (resident), Michael Sanders (Bakken Museum), Linea Palmisano

**Absent:** Tim Walker

**Note Takers:** Megan Betterman & Bob Gordon

**Welcome from the Chair**

Tim called meeting to order at 6:06 to welcome the group.

**Approval of December minutes**

Motion by Allan, second by John. **Decision: motion approved.**

**Guest Speaker: Linea Palmisano, City councilmember**

Regarding issue of ticketing people running red lights, there is a difference between a parked car violation vs. a moving vehicle. More information needed on this point. In the past, Linea has been approached by different groups willing to do traffic observations (ex: Eagle Scouts). A.J (new to area and our group), did this type of work when he was an Eagle Scout. Richard has forms we could potentially re-purpose for doing current traffic observations. Linea is open to sharing this need with other groups.

Linea: Often asked to speak to youth groups. E.G. Repaint the fire hydrants.

Covid is real and present. Working on keeping city safe. Here to see what’s on our mind and how available to be.

Richard: Met with head of CIDNA met with City emergency management office about rail safety.

Linea was sworn in recently as our 13th Ward representative. She represents 7 neighborhoods and likes to visit our groups when possible. She is now part of the council leadership as of yesterday, January 10. She is looking for our input on how often to visit. Cathy Abene will also be joining today and is our new park board representative. She is here to see what is on our minds and how we can work together. She suggested coming every other month to our board meetings. Ruth Olson is someone from Linea’s office and manages her scheduling- she can help orchestrate having Linea join us.

Richard mentioned a potential workshop for CIDNA and West Maka Ska boards on rail safety. Linea is aware of this and has been part of meetings like this in the past.

**Decision: confirmed to have her join us every other month in the future.**

**Guest attendee: A.J. Imholte**

A.J. Imholte moved to our neighborhood in early January. Works in finance/wealth management in the Twin Cities. From Wisconsin originally.

Tim- interested in a regular spring/summer cleanup. A.J. is interested in this for our neighborhood and has been involved in this in the past. Richard: We had forms made in the past to collect data.

**Guest attendee: Michael Sanders**

Per Joey, reaching out to the Bakken about an event but hasn’t gotten much response yet. Michael Sanders from the Bakken joined our meeting and is happy to talk about the February event

Michelle has a list of events at the Bakken for 2022 and will send these out after the meeting (also in the chat).

The Bakken is sponsoring one event in February- interested in having our board members attend. We could have a table with materials at an upcoming event if desired.

Chris Lundeen is the person to be in touch with regarding events.

Dave Stougaard- we have $7,000 for equitable engagement and $2,000 set up for events. Allan shared we may have more funds coming in for equitable engagement. Dave is curious on how that will work.

Discussed timeline for events. Megan suggested May and September for events. Group weighed in to share February felt too soon for events. Hosting happy hours or events in community rooms could be done on a smaller scale in between.

Bob- how many children in our neighborhood? A few years ago, 199 people under age of 17. Spring is optimal kite flying time- possible to make a kite at the Bakken and fly it?

Melanie- event about native landscaping/restoration could be a potential in the spring- May timeline. Per Lynette, the Bakken could be a great location for that.

**Decision: a small group to come together and create our events plan.** 2 larger events and some smaller as well. Group: Joey, Jill, Megan, Melanie, Tim, Richard. Megan to schedule time for this group to begin our planning efforts.

**Cathy Abene, Minneapolis Park Board Representative**

Sworn in last Monday to serve in District 6 as our Park Board Representative. Lives in Lynhurst.

There isn’t money for improvements planned in our neighborhood, nothing is looming at this time.

Cathy asked if it has been identified there is no park in our neighborhood other than the regional park. Allan believes yes, that has been identified.

There is going to be a pop-up skateboard plan (not in master plan). On the to-do list based on “City of Skate”- advocates for skateboard parks. Was going to happen last summer but there was a paperwork issue. This would be the parking lot of the executive center. This is the only thing she’s aware of being considered imminently.

Richard mentioned concern on density and how it’s been mentioned many times. Would hope the park board would evaluate this closely based on how much is already happening here with the amount of traffic.

Per Cathy, she thinks there is a priority to make driving inconvenient in this area to encourage alternative forms of transportation. Trying not to center the automobile in city planning any longer.

Doesn’t like the idea of giving developers a way to pay their way out of an obligation. If adding density to MPLS, we need to be maintaining and increasing our green as we go. Bob- trail on Bde Maka Ska has been broken for years and shouldn’t be working on new things until old things are fixed. Cathy is meeting with park board tomorrow about maintenance and Lake Harriet Bandshell roof (falling apart).

Our council is willing to take Cathy to see the issues on the walking path (John and Bob in particular).

Bob- concrete wall that gets graffiti often- often suggested to paint a mural. Is that a park board piece of concrete? Cathy is unsure. West Bde Maka Ska parkway, it’s a barrier for the retaining wall. Right on the corner of the golf course. Between Rose Lane and Ivy Lane. Lynette shared more graffiti is on the arches of the bridges between Isles and Maka Ska. Cathy unsure on how graffiti is cleaned up and who covers it financially.

Allan- one of the barriers to the park idea is the land is owned by the county and there is a plan to put housing there.

Lynette on the priorities:

1. Park between Drew and France on lake street.
2. Keeping as much green as possible. More concrete is concerning.
3. Path fixed around Bde Maka Ska (west side of lake).

Cathy wants to take on water management and water quality. The flooding we experience on the northwest corner of the lake could be coming from the suburbs. It could be functioning as a flood plain. She sees some opportunities for that along Minnehaha Creek. She would like to figure out where the flooding is coming from.

Melanie- bringing up concern from a neighbor- has a plot at a community garden quite far away. Desperately wants something closer, we used to have in the past and would like to have an option for this again. It’s not in the master plan but something that could be popular with residents.

We discussed the growing density and the buildings still going in. Cathy shared these buildings will have to have storm water management.

**Decision: Cathy to find out who owns the wall between Rose Lane and Ivy Lane. Will follow up with Michelle and Tim once she knows more.**

**Treasurer’s Report- Dave Stougaard**

The budget is approved for next year, unsure on what will be transferred but will have a better idea next meeting.

**Coordinator report- Michelle Sass**

Neighborhood banners: going with Pixel Werks and it will be a single banner vs. double. Quote: $3,700 (our budget was $10K)

Business cards: working with Tim and Allan on the final design and then will order them.

**Committee Updates**

* Safety- Richard Logan
	+ Workshop coming for rail safety
	+ Hotrodding- not happening with the weather
	+ Would like to have a broader meeting with CIDNA on public safety in general
	+ No meeting set up yet
* Greenspace
* Land Use
* Equitable Engagement
	+ February event – at Bakken- didn’t know it was $2,500 to be a sponsor. Going to pause on this one.
	+ Can local businesses help alleviate costs for future events.

**Bob Gordon- MyBurger**

My Burger is interested in having us use the space when it’s nice out. MyBurger to share some of the profits with the organization holding the fundraiser (us). We might be able to put up flyers in their space and maybe other neighboring locations. Bob to check in with Mike about when we might get together with him.

Lynette- could also do this at Chipotle- another option for a local business we could partner with for an event. Whole Foods could also be a partner. Ben & Jerry’s. Could do a drawing as part of the event.

**Upcoming events**

-Ice lanterns, polar plunge, Luminary Loppet, Art Shanties

Miscellaneous Topics: Open for discussion

* Discussion on honoring those in our neighborhood
	+ Tabio Yuoh, Chris Lundeen
* First Responder Appreciation Day Review
* February minute taker review- **decision: Allan and Bob to take notes. Dave and Melanie will not be able to join February meeting.**
* Michelle’s rate effective1/1/22: **Decision: $35/hr.**
* **Tim would like to begin an email newsletter that leads to our website.**