

**Minutes of February 10, 2016
FNA Meeting**

Board Members Present: John Finlayson, Blaire Hartley, Steve Haslach, Jane Kohlen, Jenny Monroe, Bart Phillips, Nikki Shultz, and Steve Young

Guests: Ruth Olson, Dave Delvoye and Tony Sterle

Meeting called to order at 7:09 p.m. There were no additions or revisions to the agenda.

Minutes: Minutes from January 13, 2016 FNA meeting were reviewed. John moved to approve the Minutes; Steve Y. seconded the motion. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Treasurer's Report: Jane reviewed the monthly and quarterly Treasurer's Reports in Jim's absence. The 2016 Operating budget was also reviewed and discussed. Steve Y. moved to approve the proposed budget; Bart seconded the motion. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Fulton Small Grants: The four submitted grants were reviewed by the grants committee and funding amounts were suggested.

- Normandale Center for Healing and Wholeness (\$2500) for an educational health program for adults ages 60+. Bart will ask them to confirm that they will be interacting with The Waters on 50th (not The Waters of Edina) and that they focus on recruiting Fulton residents.
- 50th & France Business Association (\$2000) for support for Open Streets on 50th.
- Student Health Force (\$1000) for a youth fitness and wellness program. Bart will ask them to modify the proposal to include all youth and hold sessions at Pershing Park.
- Lake Harriet Community School Upper Campus (\$1000) for a 7th grade field trip.

Nikki moved to approve the grants and proposed funding amounts; Steve Y. seconded the motion. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Upcoming MPRB Referendum: Tony Sterle from Save Our Minneapolis Parks presented information about the proposed MPRB referendum. Save Our Minneapolis Parks is an independent interest group, chaired by former Hennepin County Commissioner Mark Andrew. Their purpose is to help educate residents about the need for the referendum and to meet their three core goals: support youth, support quality of life for all Minneapolis residents and promote equity/fairness.

The referendum proposes to apply a property tax levy of .035% to all Minneapolis home owners on a yearly basis for the next 20 years. The levied funds would raise \$15M per year to be used for capital and maintenance costs at the 70 or so neighborhood parks in Minneapolis. This level of increase would equate to an additional tax burden of \$173 per year on a home valued at \$450K. The referendum is needed to cover the current \$111M deficit in maintenance costs. If unaddressed, this deficit will rise to \$460M by 2040.

Mayor Hodges has vetoed the initial referendum proposal. Although she indicates that she supports the idea, she does not like the way the proposal is structured. MPRB has since over-ridden the veto and plans to move forward. They are hoping to get the issue on the ballot by City Council approval.

Concerns were expressed about the already heavy property tax burden (especially for senior citizens), the need for MRPB to show that it uses its current resources wisely, the need for a larger discussion about the role of the park board and youth support, the need for smart programming, and reverse equity.

Bees & Butterflies: The planning group has been meeting for five months and has submitted a prospectus to MPRB of pollinator and butterfly habitat support at three spots along Minnehaha Creek in Fulton neighborhood. They are waiting for a response. Jenny will send the prospectus to the Board.

Utility Wraps: We now have approval to wrap four boxes in the neighborhood and will proceed with that previously approved project. Blaire and Ruth will research further boxes and artist involvement for a second round of wraps in the future.

Coordinator's Update: Ruth Olson reported:

- There is still an open Board seat due to Tim Kresse's resignation. Jane will follow-up with The Waters on 50th. If someone from the facility is not interested, we can put it in the newsletter.

Committee Reports:

- Proposed charters for the Safety and Environment Committees were reviewed. Blaire moved to approve the charters as written; John seconded the motion. Motion passed by unanimous vote.
- Safety: There was a violent incident at Southwest High School and a bomb scare at Holiday this past month. There were also several garage break-ins; all garages were unsecured.
- Environment: The group met on 2/9 and is working slowly toward reorganization. They would like to be more proactive about education and consistently provide content for the FNN.
- Zoning: The committee reviewed a variance request and has no objection.

Old Business: A Networking event was held on 1/16. Attendance was low due to cancellation of Kite Fest and the weather.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:28 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Ruth Olson, Neighborhood Coordinator

Approved by FNA Board: _____

Signed: _____

Blaire Hartley, Secretary