

Minutes of February 8, 2017
FNA Meeting

Board Members Present: Katharine Brown, Blaire Hartley, Mary Jordan, Jane Kohnen, Bart Phillips, Kimberly Rubel, Jim Tincher and Steve Young

Guests: Ruth Olson, Dave Delvoye and Kendal Killian

Meeting called to order at 7:04 p.m. There were no additions or revisions to the agenda.

Minutes: Minutes from January 11, 2017 were reviewed. Blaire moved to approve the Minutes; Steve Y. seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Treasurer's Report: Review of the Treasurer's Report was tabled until Jim could be available.

Ward 13 Report: Policy Aide Kendal Killian reported:

- A full City Council vote is expected on 2/10 to return the NRP funding frozen in 2010. The TIF District that funds neighborhood programs is generating higher income than projected and the desire of the Council is to return it to the neighborhoods. Fulton will receive \$116,189.85 over two years. Ruth noted that the funds will be returned to the strategies from which they were taken. Accounting for the requirement to spend 70% of NRP Phase II funds on housing related strategies, that means that FNA will need to spend approximately \$68K on housing and will have another \$48K for other priorities.
- Further funding discussion focused on the proposed future streetcar line. Funding has been diverted for this project at the City level, but the momentum and interest may have waned. Kendal is unsure how much money has been set aside, but Steve Y. noted that it would be nice to put that back in the general fund if it isn't needed for streetcars.
- Minneapolis is identified as a Sanctuary City and federal funding cuts have been threatened to cities that continue to support immigration. It is the position of the City that, since they do not investigate immigration backgrounds, any cuts would not be applied to Minneapolis. The City is closely monitoring the situation.
- The proposed \$15 minimum wage is being presented at public Listening Sessions. The two city-wide sessions are scheduled for 2/21 at Sabathani Community Center and 2/23 at the Urban League. Ward 13 and Ward 11 are working on getting another session in Southwest Minneapolis; the Board requested that other council members and city staff also be invited to hear the discussion first hand. Kendal noted that almost all city workers are at a minimum of \$15/hr. A question was posed as to the unbalanced viewpoints of the committee members working on the issue- almost all are in favor of the higher wage and there doesn't appear to be a range of viewpoints represented. Kendal will address that concern with CM Palmisano, but noted that the issue is a strong part of the Mayor's agenda.
- The city-wide plastic bag ban will be implemented on 6/1.
- CM Palmisano is co-hosting a workshop, The Psychology of Sustainable Behavior, on 2/25.
- A concern was expressed about the lack of coordination and communication about crosswalks at 47th & Xerxes and 50th & Drew. FNA has asked to be a part of these discussions, but have been excluded and/or forgotten.
- Liquor licenses were also discussed. There is an unfair system in place for any businesses south of Lake Street. Those businesses have to petition the State of Minnesota for a full liquor license and have an unfair financial burden. The whole system needs to be addressed by a city-wide policy.

New Board Member: Jim moved to appoint Katharine Brown to the FNA Board; Mary seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote. Katharine has been living in Fulton for about six years, has a wide variety of experiences and is looking forward to contributing to the neighborhood.

FNA Small Grants: Three grant applications were received. The reviewing committee has considered the requests and after presenting to the Finance Committee recommends:

Cub Scout Pack 6: \$650 for fixed cost materials to start a new troop in the Fulton area.

Venturing Crew 6: \$285 for the purchase of startup manuals, handbooks and other materials to serve as resources to start a high adventure group for older youth.

SWHS Orchestra Program: \$1,000 to purchase new sheet music and for transportation costs to allow the orchestra to perform for local middle and elementary schools.

Jim moved to approval the grant funding as recommended; Kimberly seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote. Further discussion was held as to how to increase the interest in the program. Ideas such as advertising, using the summer festival and changing program dates were discussed. Bart, Blaire, Mary and Kimberly will come up with recommendations to present to the Board.

Networking Event: The event on 2/6 went very well. There seemed to be some confusion over if the event was a business marketing event or a social, community building event; we will better define the goals next time. The Board would like to have at least two events like this per year, maybe in different settings- possibly a Creek Walk in October.

2017 Operating Budget: Jim reviewed the proposed budget. NRP funds will continue to support electricity and the housing program; further projects can be funded in the future. Friends of Fulton funds will largely support the festival, networking events and the Ice Cream Social. CPP funds support the daily operating expenses of the neighborhood association (staff, communications, events, etc). Additional CPP Priority funds are proposed to support ongoing small grants, senior education programming and Open Streets. Funding these additional priorities will require a Neighborhood Priority Plan. Ruth provided the Board with a 21+ day notice that a vote on the Priority Plan will take place at the March FNA meeting. Jim moved to approve the proposed budget; Blaire seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote. Katharine, Blaire and Jane will focus on surveying seniors to determine what type of programming/education in which they would most be interested.

Neighborhood Survey: Jim, Katharine and Mary will work on a survey for the neighborhood by which we can identify future priorities.

Coordinator's Update: Ruth Olson reported:

- Coalition is a new restaurant that will be opening at 50th & Ewing. Even though there will be a shared parking lot with Pig & Fiddle, another restaurant will add to neighborhood parking pressures. There are several different parking zones in the area- all with different rules. Steve urges the Board to think about this issue broadly and to put together a plan for the whole area in conjunction with CM Palmisano, Public Works, Traffic Services, CPED, 50th & France Business Association, etc. Steve, Jane and Katharine will represent FNA.
- A group is starting a city-wide neighborhoods discussion about funding starting in 2020. There will be a meeting on March 21 for the southwest sector of the city; Ruth will forward information as it becomes available.
- The Board signed up to deliver New Neighbor Welcome Kits for 2016 Q4.

Committee Reports:

- Safety: It has been a quieter month for burglaries and thefts. Two main concerns are an armed robbery at Dunn Brothers and an incident on 51st & Zenith which is under investigation.
- Environment: The committee has submitted budget requests for 2017 that include continuation of the Pollinator Project (\$1785), a pollinator garden patch (\$100) and support of the Neighborhood Forests program (\$5107) at local pre-school, Lake Harriet lower campus and Southwest High School. Discussion was held in regards to the distribution of costs associated with Neighborhood Forests. Jim moved to approve the Environment Committee budget requests; Kimberly seconded the motion. Motion carried on a 6-1 vote.
- Zoning: East Calhoun Community Organization (ECCO) has asked for support from nearby neighborhood associations in its objection to a development on the east side of Lake Calhoun. A developer is proposing removing three single family homes and putting in a 5 story, 61 ft. luxury condominium building. The proposed development falls within the Shoreland Overlay District which has a height restriction of 2.5 stories or 35 ft., so the development will require numerous zoning variances. A long discussion was held about this development setting a precedent for other development around the Chain of Lakes, but also FNA setting a precedent to comment on another neighborhood's development issues. The issue was tabled for now until further review/discussion is needed.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Ruth Olson, Neighborhood Coordinator

Approved by FNA Board: _____

Signed: _____

Blaire Hartley, Secretary