

**Minutes of May 9, 2018**  
**FNA Meeting**

**Board Members Present:** Katharine Brown, John Finlayson, Blaire Hartley, Steve Haslach, Ray Klahr, Jane Kohlen and Steve Young

**Guests:** Diane Moe, Dave Delvoye, Nance Kent, Amanda Niskode-Dossett, CM Palmisano, Jose Vautrin and Ruth Olson

**Meeting called to order at 7:02 p.m.** There were no revisions or additions to the agenda.

**Minutes:** Minutes from the April 11, 2018 FNA meeting were reviewed. Blaire moved to approve the Minutes; Ray seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

**Treasurer's Report:** Ruth reviewed the monthly and quarterly Treasurer's Report.

**Pershing Park Update:** Diane Moe provided a written report:

- There are 6 baseball teams, 5 softball teams and 70 kids in track this spring/summer season; games run through mid-May.
- There is a Park Police Open House on 5/15.

**Ward 13 Update:** Council Member Linea Palmisano reported:

- John Freude has been promoted to the senior staff aide and Josie Vautrin is the new junior aide.
- The Ward 13 Summit went well and was well attended.
- The Draft Minneapolis 2040 Comp Plan has been getting a lot of attention. There are 5 public open houses as well as the Ward 13 session on 5/23. The proposed land use changes are significant and concerning to lots of Ward 13 residents. People can comment online or at an open house.
- There have been several serious incidents at Southwest High School over the past couple of weeks that are impacting the quality of life in the surrounding communities. CM Palmisano has been trying to speak with neighbors in the nearby blocks and is using Nextdoor to keep people informed. The school and community need to be supportive to one another.
  - 4/27 Incident: There was an evening performance of the Muslim Student Alliance Talent Show; reports are anywhere from 300-500 people present. Behavior got boisterous at the end of the event and spilled out into the surrounding neighborhood; this included fights, yelling property damage, etc. The school had insufficient staff to manage the event and numerous 911 calls were made to police. There was a lot of police presence to break up the gathering and extra patrols were ordered throughout the weekend. The school reports that many of the attendees were not from Southwest and that there have been no ongoing tensions.
  - 5/2 Incident: A 10th grade SWHS student had the back window of his vehicle shot out. It is believed the shooter is not a SWHS student.
  - 5/4 Incident: A BB gun was found at school and the incident was contained within the school.

Comments:

- The past year has been difficult with transitory leadership. A new principal, Dr. Michael Favor, has been hired. CM Palmisano will reach out to begin a relationship with him and request a community meeting before school is out for the year.
- The needs of the school need to be balanced with the needs of the community- neither operate independently of each other and respect flows both ways. Numerous examples

of bad student behavior in the neighborhood were given. This is a real problem for neighbors and affects their quality of life- some are considering moving.

- At the 4/27 gathering, the people of color may have been afraid of the police- this is a systemic issue.
- Others felt that increased adult or police presence is necessary to build relationships and establish respect. We need to think creatively how to approach this in a different way if we want different results than we are getting now.
- We need to build and then maintain positive relationships with the school and its students; again, this flows both ways.

Ideas:

- More trash cans along high traffic routes
- Invite the principal to meet with FNA to give examples of past issues and offer our partnership
- Sponsor a table/treats at First Friday
- The Edina Art Fair is coming in June and there will be significant traffic issues made worse by the sewer lining project which has been started. CM Palmisano will ask for assistance with traffic management and signage. FNA will help communicate whenever possible.

**Survey:** Ray is still gathering results; the team will meet on 5/21. The open-ended questions are still being coded, but will have some good information about residents' opinions, such as the need for more restaurants, environmental programming, etc.

**Coordinator's Update:** Ruth Olson reported:

- City of Lakes Land Trust has requested a letter of support. We will first invite them to present on their current programming and how we could partner in the future.

**Committee Reports:**

- Safety: The 5th Precinct Open House is 5/16, 5-7 p.m. at 3101 Nicollet Ave. S.
- Community Engagement: Will schedule a meeting to start festival (9/8) planning.
- Streetscape/Traffic: A neighbor has concern about speeding on Chowen Ave (50th to 44th). This is the only through street and is dangerous; Ruth will contact CM Palmisano's office.
- Zoning: Variance request approved at 5101 Abbott.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Ruth Olson, Neighborhood Coordinator

Approved by FNA Board: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Blaire Hartley, Secretary