

Minutes of October 9, 2019
FNA Annual Meeting

Board Members Present: Chris Black, Craig Brown, Katharine Brown, John Finlayson, Blaire Hartley, Ray Klahr, Jane Kohnen and Carolina Li

Guests: Ruth Olson, Sen. Scott Dibble, Rep. Jamie Long, CM Linea Palmisano and approximately 20 other neighbors

Meeting called to order at 7:07 p.m. Katharine Brown welcomed the crowd and the FNA Board introduced themselves.

FNA Accomplishments for the Year: Katharine reviewed some of the major accomplishments of FNA over the past year including the Fulton Fall Festival and Silent Auction, Pershing Park Ice Cream Social, Open Streets on 50th, Happy Hour, security rebate program, small grants, t-shirts, Block Party Kits, communications, Minnehaha Creek and SW Parks Advisory Councils and the France Ave. and Ewing Parking lot development representation.

MPD Update: Inspector Amelia Huffman reported:

- Inspector Huffman began in her current position in April, but has been a member of the Minneapolis Police Department for 25 years.
- Fulton neighborhood's crime statistics largely reflect property crimes and very few violent crimes.
- The best thing residents can do to decrease crime is to remove the opportunity for the crime to be committed in the first place. This includes locking doors, closing garage doors, locking up bicycles, etc.
- Inspt. Huffman is appreciative of the FNA security grant program and noted that the video doorbells have proved to be quite helpful to the police.

Fulton Small Grants: The fifth year of the Fulton Small Grants has concluded. Blaire Hartley reviewed the Southwest High School (SWHS) Jazz Band and science grants; a grant for the SWHS men's basketball team will be completed in 2019/2020 due to the timing of the season.

Lake Harriet Upper Campus Principal Walter Schleisman reported on the grant they received to bring in a community speaker. Margaret Hagerman, author of *White Kids: Growing Up with Privilege in a Racially Divided America*, was able to meet with school staff and students and then held a community discussion. The theme of the presentation was how to help privileged families recognize how their choices affect segregation in our communities.

State of Minnesota Update: State Senator Scott Dibble and State Representative Jamie Long discussed:

- The state is in the middle of the two year budget cycle. The \$48.5 B budget has been set.
- A large portion of the budget is spent on health and human services and E-12 education.
- There was a small budget surplus reported, but that will be primarily taken up by rising costs of existing programs.
- We are on track to finally make-up for some of the deficits that were created under Gov. Pawlenty.
- Successes:
 - Provider tax was continued
 - Opioid crisis funding
 - Eldercare
 - Hands-free cell phone
 - Increase to Minnesota Family Investment Program
 - Wage Theft
 - Expanded community solar funding

- Disappointments:
 - No increased funding for transportation and our aging infrastructure
 - 100% Clean Energy bill not taken up by Senate
 - No change to the criminal justice and probation systems

Ward 13 Update: Councilmember Linea Palmisano reported:

- She chairs the city's Audit, Enterprise and Budget Committees; additionally, she sits on the Public Safety and Ways and Means Committees.
- The mayor has proposed a budget which calls for a 6% property tax levy increase. This levy is spread across all types of properties and she expects that homeowners in Fulton will see very modest increases.
- She met with the developers of two proposed development projects on France Ave, but they have not formally submitted a land use application. She believes they could be doing a better job of community engagement and does not support their proposals as is.
- The Ewing Ave parking lot is under consideration for an affordable housing project; there are very few opportunities in all of Ward 13 for this type of housing. This project is very early in the process and they are only at the point of considering a Request for Proposal. Her take-aways after the 9/24 community meeting were that parking is precious in the area and that a process for how to move forward needs to be developed. A question was posed about how the project could help address the Fulton Flood Plain.

Friends of Fulton Awards: Awards were presented to Brad Johnson, Rich Nyquist, and Carol Li.

Board Elections: The slate of candidates for the Fulton Board of Directors was presented. There are three candidates for five open spaces. Katharine briefly introduced Steve Young and Brian Arnold in their absences; Rachel (Ray) Klahr introduced herself. There were no further nominations from the floor. A motion to approve the slate of candidates by a vote of acclamation was carried by unanimous vote. The following people have been voted in for a two-year term expiring in October, 2021: Brian Arnold, Ray Klahr and Steve Young. There are still two open positions on the Board that will be filled by appointment when a candidate is identified. Recognition was also made of retiring Board Members Blaire Hartley and Mary Jordan.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Ruth Olson, Neighborhood Coordinator

Approved by FNA Board: _____

Signed: _____

Ray Klahr, Secretary