

**Minutes of August 12, 2020
FNA Meeting held on Zoom**

Board Members Present: Chris Black, John Finlayson, Ray Klahr, Jane Kohnen, Michael Wagner and Steve Young

Guests: Ruth Olson

Meeting called to order at 7:04 p.m. Agenda additions will include Welcome Kits and Minneapolis Public Schools distance learning.

Minutes: Minutes from July 8 FNA meeting were reviewed. John moved to approve the Minutes; Michael seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Treasurer's Report: Chris reviewed the Treasurer's report. It was another quiet month; other issues include city budget revisions' impact on NRP funds and the online Silent Auction.

Ward 13 Report: Council Member Linea Palmisano (CMP) sent a written report:

- The 2020 city budget has now been revised. The mayor will present the proposed 2021 budget on 8/14 with a full written budget expected by September.
- The Charter Commission has extended review of the proposed charter amendment, which renders it too late for consideration on the November 2020 ballot. It is expected that there may be another proposal next year for the 2010 ballot.
- In May the City Council passed a resolution to conduct a year-long engagement process with city residents on how to reimagine public safety. Last week City staff presented an update on their collective efforts to create that process. The engagement process will take on several steps. The most immediate step will involve a survey, coming soon, that will ask folks how they would like to be engaged given the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. The next step will be to use those identified methods to conduct a combination of hyper-specific forums/discussions, broad discussions, committees, surveys and comment periods.

Long Term Financial Considerations:

- Propel: they are unable to accommodate any further neighborhood funds at this time.
- City of Lakes Community Land Trust is also unable to use any neighborhood funds at this time.
- Bridges: FNA is considering "seed" money for MPRB pedestrian bridges over the creek per the Minnehaha Parkway Regional Trail Master Plan; the cost estimate is \$375K for the bridge at Zenith and \$405K for the bridge at Forestdale. It is unclear how much we would need to commit in order for MPRB to partner right now on the project.
- An additional idea is to bring back the grant program. This could be structured as rebate grants to families in the neighborhood for educational support needed for distance learning.

It is unclear how the city's financial status will impact neighborhoods. It was agreed that it would be prudent to do a series of plan modifications to ensure the viability of FNA. Currently FNA has \$13,680.17 in uncontracted NRP Phase II funds plus an additional \$95,219.67 in Phase II housing program income. Jane moved to begin a Plan Modification of \$25,000 to provide educational support to families in Fulton who utilize public schools, K-12; Michael seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote. 21 day notice was given to the Board that a final vote would be taken on the proposed Plan Modification at the September FNA meeting. Jane and Michael will work with Ruth to set up program guidelines.

Once the first Plan Modification of \$25K is complete, FNA will have approximately \$84K program income funds remaining. Steve, Chris, Ray and Ruth will propose a larger plan modification, rooted in our 2018 survey, into “buckets” such as park improvements, bridges, FNA implementation, etc. at the September FNA meeting. We will then embark on broad community outreach process to engage neighbors on the proposed Plan Modification and will adjust the proposal per feedback. Outreach methods can include the newsletter, Annual Meeting, e-news, social media, etc.

City of Lakes Community Land Trust (CLCLT): CLCLT has notified us that the land trust property at 5133 Zenith Ave S will be put on the market. The current owner needs to do some repair work and then the home will be sold. The CLCLT price has been set at \$130,250. It is expected that the owner will offer it for sale to a qualified buyer in the CLCLT system in order to save on realtor fees. The owner gets to keep any equity built in the home and CLCLT will get the benefit of the increased market value. This property was originally sponsored as an affordable housing project with funds from FNA.

Fulton Fall Festival: Given the current Stay Safe MN community health guidelines, the festival committee recommends canceling the festival with two exceptions:

1. We will run an online Silent Auction where we ask community members to buy gift cards at local southwest Minneapolis businesses and donate them to the Silent Auction effort. This will support local small businesses who need help right now. FNA will also purchase gift cards to Fulton-based businesses to fill in the auction. FNA will keep the proceeds of the auction, but it is anticipated that those funds will only offset what we put in and we hope to break even. Ray moved for FNA to purchase up to \$1,000 in gift cards for the auction; John seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote. Chris will research software support for an online auction.
2. We will also partner with the Fulton Farmers Market on a give-away at the market on festival day, Sept. 12. For adults, we will give away up to 25 t-shirts, 25 mugs and stickers (we will try to space out the shirts and mugs throughout the day). We will also purchase some racial justice children’s books for a youth give-away, possibly partnering with Wild Rumpus. Jane moved to spend up the \$250 in books; Chris seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Coordinator’s Update:

- The comment period for Neighborhoods 2020 has been extended again until Sept. 30. FNA will decline sending comment.
- The homeless encampments at MPRB properties has not expanded to Pershing Park, and they will not be allowed there due to proximity to a school.
- Ray and Michael will attend virtual anti-racism conversations with Dangerboat productions and report back to the board if they think it would be a good program for FNA to sponsor for neighborhood residents.
- The FNA Annual Meeting in October will need to be virtual; we will consider upgrading our Zoom membership for a month so we can host a webinar meeting with more controls. We will invite our elected representatives and ask for a written update from Lt. Huffman. We will also honor Friends of Fulton recipients and use the “poll” function of Zoom for our election. Ruth will promote all of this in the next newsletter. All Board Members are encouraged to recruit candidates for the FNA Board.

New Business:

Welcome Kits: We have been unable to offer Welcome Kit supplies to block leaders since the park closed in early March. Ruth will arrange to pick up the supplies and Jane will offer them at her house on a couple of weekend mornings.

Minneapolis Public Schools: Michael noted that MPS has announced that they will begin the year with 100% distance learning. Few details are known at this time and it is not known how long distance learning will last.

Get Well Gift: FNA will send Carol a get well gift.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Ruth Olson, Neighborhood Coordinator

Approved by FNA Board: _____

Signed: _____

Ray Klahr, Secretary