

**Minutes of February 10, 2021**  
**FNA Meeting held on Zoom**

**Board Members Present:** Chris Black, Andrea Davila, Ray Klahr, Jane Kohlen, Jill Lock, and Steve Young

**Guests:** Ruth Olson, Linda and Mike Thompson and CM Linea Palmisano

**Meeting called to order at 7:07 p.m.** There were no revisions or additions to the agenda.

**Minutes:** Minutes from the Jan. 13, 2021 FNA meeting were reviewed. Jane moved to approve the Minutes; Steve seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote. Andrea mentioned that she might know someone who would spearhead another round of utility box wraps; Ruth will provide her with additional information.

**Treasurer's Report:** Chris reviewed the January Treasurer's report. A correction in accounts was made and more rebates paid out.

**Ward 13 Update:** Council Member Palmisano discussed:

- COVID-19 vaccination distribution will ramp up significantly in the next 6 weeks with a move toward local sites. The 32 community vaccination clinics held in Minneapolis administered 3,000 shots; many teachers have received the vaccine. The next group to get the vaccine (1b) will be BIPOC and vulnerable populations with a focus on underrepresented groups. The Minnesota Health Department rollout of vaccines has been very frustrating and they are finding that the big health systems (Allina, Health Partners, etc.) are more effective. Efforts are being made to bridge cultural barriers in some community groups.
- 50th & France: The General Sports building has been sold and the development of the property may include the Ewing Ave municipal lot as a way to assemble multiple properties and use them in different ways. The 2040 plan calls for removal of all city-owned surface parking lots. The Ewing lot has been previously proposed for an affordable housing site. There was much concern expressed about the lack of parking in the area and the negative effects on local business.
- The Pinehurst Building has been sold. There are no immediate plans for major changes.
- A developer has purchased 6 or 7 rental properties just north of Caribou Coffee on France Ave. CM Palmisano has spoken with the development group but there is not, yet, a proposed plan.
- There has been no further planning done for the other two France Ave Developments (51st and 53rd.)
- Andrea Brennan has been the temporary Director of CPED and has been put forward to be the permanent Director.
- There are several charter amendments in process: government restructuring, rent control and policing among others.
- There is a recent documentary about women officers in MPD.

**Small Grants:** The Small Grants Committee (Chris, Andrea, Kirk and Ruth) have reviewed all submissions and recommend:

\$500 to Kids in the Kitchen

\$650 to The Body Organization (\$400 up front with an additional \$250 if needed)

\$750 to 4800 Chowen block

\$2,500 to Lake Harriet Community School Equity Team

Yoga Fit also applied for funding for community yoga, but at the full commercial rate. The Board agreed to offer \$800 for a series of six classes to be held this summer outside at the park; Chris will follow-up with Yoga Fit to see if that is acceptable to them. Ray moved to approve \$5,200 in Small Grants; Steve seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

The Finance Committee also recommends consideration of a Business Relief Grant Program to help local Fulton businesses (or those who have donated to the Silent Auction) during the downturn of the pandemic. The recommendation is to use funds from Friends of Fulton as that account has been partially built by donations from small businesses to the Silent Auction. It was agreed to prioritize minority-owned businesses and that we would ask to see financial documents to identify those businesses most in need. The Finance Committee will propose guidelines to the Board by 2/17 and have a supplemental Board meeting on 2/24 for any further discussion.

Lastly, the Finance Committee also recommends looking at the Streetscape strategy and identifying more current priorities for use of those funds on a long term basis. Discussion was held about a donation to the West Broadway rebuilding efforts (after the racial uprising this summer). Jane moved to donate \$5,000 to the effort; Chris seconded the motion. Motion passed by unanimous vote. The funds will come from the Streetscape contract.

**Coordinator's Update:**

- Andrea will consider being the featured Board Member bio for the next newsletter.
- Ruth will send a reminder about Welcome Packet supply pick-up on 2/13.
- Distance Learning Rebates: The deadline has now passed. We provided \$11,571.15 in rebates to 51 Fulton residents.

**FNA Committees:** Ray reminded Committee Chairs to update their Charters.

- Finance will meet as necessary at 7:30 on the first Wednesday of the month; Andrea and Kirk will join Chris and Ruth.
- Community Engagement will start discussing alternate engagement plans for the summer.
- Racial Equity is solidifying its Mission Statement and identifying actions.

**New Business:** Steve recommends that FNA come up with a stated position on the redevelopment of the Ewing Ave parking lot. With the broader changeover happening on France and the 2040 Plan recommendations, FNA needs to be on the record. The needs of the businesses and the need for affordable housing are not mutually exclusive and both can be accomplished with a good plan.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:15p.m.

Minutes prepared by Ruth Olson, Neighborhood Coordinator

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

Signed:

*Andrea Davila*

Andrea Davila, Secretary