

Minutes of July 14, 2021
FNA Meeting held on Zoom

Board Members Present: Andrea Davila, Ray Klahr, Jane Kohnen, Carolina Li, Jill Lock, Michael Wagner, Kirk Weber and Steve Young

Guests: CM Linea Palmisano, Nick Bluhm, Dennis Kenny, Tanya Martinez and Ruth Olson

Meeting called to order at 7:06 p.m. There were no additions or revisions to the agenda. Introductions were held.

Minutes: Minutes from the June 9, 2021 FNA meeting were reviewed. Steve moved to approve the Minutes; Michael seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Treasurer's Report: Ruth briefly reviewed the June Treasurer's report. Payments were made for security rebates and regular monthly expenses.

Pershing Park Update: Matthew Lassegard introduced himself as the Interim Pershing Park Director; he will be at Pershing at least through November. The Pershing Recreation Center will now be open Noon-9 p.m., Monday-Friday. The building is not open to the public, but rather will be open for registered participants in programs (such as pre-school, dance, yoga, etc.) Upcoming events were discussed. The building is slated to open fully on Sept. 7; hopefully the Welcome Kit supplies can be moved back to the park at that time. Matthew is aware of the ongoing issues at the basketball court.

Ward 13 Update: Council Member Linea Palmisano reported:

- She is glad to see some on-site supervision at Pershing. She has spoken with Al Bangoura (Minneapolis Parks Superintendent) and has been communicating that the southwest recreation centers need to re-open and that there are a lot of deferred maintenance issues that will need to be addressed. Southwest Super Summer Program is heavily using the fields on weekdays for their programming. This helps make the park feel more engaged and welcoming.
- The proposed development at 49th & France went before the Planning Commission Committee of the Whole to present their basic plans. They did not receive positive feedback from the committee because they are asking for a lot of variances for a large/bulk building. They have not, yet, submitted a formal land-use application and will need to modify their proposal when they submit.
- The 5011-5015 France Ave development has their hearing with the full Planning Commission on 7/19. They are doing a lot of legwork ahead of time such as making plans to bury utility lines, create staging areas, etc.
- The 2040 Plan has created clear rules to administer the zoning code more evenly. This means there have been less variance requests. Also, due to COVID and lumber prices, there has been a 50% reduction in building permits.
- The Tenants Opportunity to Purchase Act (TOPA) will come before the City Council. This proposal would allow tenants the first chance to buy their rental property if it goes for sale. CM Palmisano believes this would greatly slow down the process and fears that the program would not create the race equity outcomes that they are seeking.

Vice President, Secretary and Board Openings: Jane moved to appoint Andrea as Vice President and Kirk as Secretary; Steve seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote. There are still three board seats open.

Coordinator's Update:

- The hearing for the 5011-5015 France Ave development is 7/19.
- Summer Events:
 - Popsicle/Ice Cream Bars and Story Stroll on 7/15
 - Ice Cream Social and Story Stroll on 7/29. Andrea, Jill, Michael and Kirk will all help scoop ice cream. Jane may be able to help with set-up. Gloves and masks will be required for servers because of open containers.
 - Cookies and Story Stroll on 8/19.
- Fall Festival on 9/11: researching food trucks, bands and entertainment; need to make a "go/no go" decision. Ruth has been unable to secure kid entertainment to replace bounce houses and games. It is difficult to pull off the event this year with trying to balance COVID-19 limitations and our inability to charge for activities.
 - Try to find a puppet show.
 - Ask Reid Wixon if the marching band is operating.
 - Jane and Michael will work on some sort of 9/11 remembrance activity.
- The Fulton/Lynnhurst garage sales will be on 9/18.
- Elections Education: the southwest neighborhoods are working together on:
 - Ward 13 Forum. Linden Hills is coordinating this and invites other Ward 13 neighborhoods to co-sponsor. A motion to approve \$100 toward the cost of live streaming the Forum was approved.
 - District 6 Park Board Candidate Forum: hopefully in late September.
 - Charter amendment education- Kingfield and others are working on this.

FNA Committees:

- Racial Equity: will sponsor three Story Strolls in July/August and will staff a table at the Farmers Market a couple more times.
- Community Engagement is working on the festival and smaller events.
- The Environmental Committee has staffed a table at the Farmers Market once and plans to do more. Jill will reach out to John Dillery.
- Streetscape/Traffic/Transportation and Business (STTAB): Michael will lead a neighborhood walking tour of the western part of the neighborhood on July 17; meet at Dunn Brothers at 10 a.m.

Old Business: Jill will re-write a letter to MPRB thanking them for partially re-opening Pershing Rec Center, but also asking for it to be fully opened as it is a public resource.

New Business:

- Tanya Martinez is new to the neighborhood and wanted to better understand what FNA does and the structure of neighborhoods in the city. FNA receives a small amount of funds and works on communications, community building, creating a two-way path of information with the city and programming.
- Nick Bluhm expressed concern about the ongoing management of the Fulton Farmers Market.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Ruth Olson, Neighborhood Coordinator

Approved by FNA Board President: _____

- Signed: **Kirk Weber 7.26.21 (electronically signed)**

Kirk Weber, Secretary