

**Minutes of August 11, 2021
FNA Meeting held on Zoom**

Board Members Present: Chris Black, Ray Klahr, Jane Kohnen, Carolina Li and Michael Wagner

Guests: CM Linea Palmisano, Ernie Lewis, Nikki Nethercot-Niermann and Ruth Olson

Meeting called to order at 7:05 p.m. There were no additions or revisions to the agenda. Introductions were held.

Minutes: Minutes from the July 14, 2021 FNA meeting were reviewed. Michael moved to approve the Minutes; Chris seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Treasurer's Report: Chris reviewed the July Treasurer's report. One of the business support grant payments was returned as uncashed; Chris will follow-up. Payments were made for security rebates, newsletter, events and regular monthly expenses.

Pershing Park Update: Matthew Lassegard was unable to attend due to a last-minute meeting. He sent a written report indicating that the recreation center will be opening to the public starting on Sept. 8 and will be open seven days each week -- Monday through Friday 2pm-9pm, Saturday and Sunday 12pm-6pm. Masks are required for everyone inside of the building. They are currently in the process of hiring staff to cover these hours and all programming needs.

Ward 13 Update: Council Member Linea Palmisano reported:

- She is glad to hear that Pershing Rec Center will be reopening. It appears that the behavioral issues are continuing; FNA is looking into purchasing cameras.
- Fulton neighbor Ernie Lewis inquired about a street resurfacing project and the need for Abbott Ave between 47th and 48th to be fully reconstructed. That particular block is part of a longer term flood mitigation project.
- 54th St. between France and Zenith has been partially reconstructed- they are waiting on Edina to work on the other half of the street. There are massive potholes on the Minneapolis side; CM Palmisano will speak with Public Works.
- Public safety continues to be of concern in Ward 13, with several high profile car jackings and assaults. These appear to be random, opportunistic crimes. Willard Hay neighborhood has the highest concentration of carjackings. Crime in general is down from last month, but up a little bit year-to-date. CM Palmisano is working with State Rep. Jamie Long to respond to the hot rodding issues in Uptown.
- There is an After Action Review underway regarding how the city responded to the civil unrest after the murder of George Floyd. The review is looking at how the city could have done better. It is being done by a neutral facilitator and focusing on civil rights and stakeholder perspectives. A final report will include actionable items.
- There are possibly as many as four ballot questions in regard to the Minneapolis Charter. The council is still working out ballot language and CM Palmisano will share it once it is definitive.

Board Openings: There are currently three Board openings. Michael moved to appoint Nikki Nethercot-Niermann to the FNA Board; Jane seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote. Nikki is a 17-year resident of Fulton and has been an active volunteer at the schools and with FNA.

Draft Equitable Engagement Plan: Ray, Kristin Ingle-Simmons and Ruth have worked on a draft engagement plan, as required by the city and due by Sept. 1. Ray reviewed the plan which proposes how FNA will work to better engage historically underrepresented groups in the neighborhood. Jane moved to approve the EEP plan and submit it to the city with some formatting changes for consistency in reporting percentages of groups; Michael seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Coordinator's Update:

- The hearing for the 5011-5015 France Ave development was on 7/19 and was approved by the Planning Commission. The condo association across the street appealed and there was an appeal hearing on 8/10 by the Business, Inspections, Housing and Zoning Committee of the City Council. The committee denied the appeal.
- The summer events have gone well and have had a good turnout. One community engagement/racial equity event remaining:
 - Cookies and Story Stroll on 8/19.
- Fall Festival on 9/11: moving forward with planning a COVID-safe event. We will have the bike parade, a 9/11 remembrance, music, food trucks, silent auction, simple kid entertainment, yard games and Bingo. Volunteers will be needed. Invite Ward 13 and District 6 candidates to table.
- The Fulton/Lynnhurst garage sales will be on 9/18.
- Elections Education: the southwest neighborhoods are working together on:
 - Ward 13 Forum: tentatively scheduled for early October.
 - District 6 Park Board Candidate Forum: Likely on 9/28. Jane moved to approve up to \$75 toward the cost of the event; Nikki seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.
 - Charter amendment education- Kingfield and others are working on this. There will be a website, printed literature, tabling at community events and two forums.

FNA Committees:

- Streetscape/Traffic/Transportation and Business (STTAB): Michael led a neighborhood walking tour of the western part of the neighborhood on July 17; two neighbors joined in.

Old Business: none

New Business: none

Meeting Adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Ruth Olson, Neighborhood Coordinator

Approved by FNA Board President: _____

- Signed: *Kirk Weber (electronically signed 8/23/21)*

Kirk Weber, Secretary