

Fulton Neighborhood Association Board of Directors
Minutes of Wednesday, September 10 2025, 6:30 pm
FNA Meeting held in Pershing Park Rec Center and google meet

Board Members Present: Ray Klahr, Sophie Su, Blake Ward, Kristen Simmons-Ingle, Jim Donnelly and Melanie Kanow (in person) John Bender and Jill Lock (online)

Guests: Sasha Jensen (staff)

FNA Board Meeting called to order at 6:30p.m.

Treasurer's Report: Sasha went over the July financials.

Minutes from July and August 2025 Board meetings: Jim moved to approve the July and August board meeting minutes. Kristen seconded and it was approved unanimously.

City Contract update: Sasha talked about the city grant process for next year's funding. There are a number of policies and documents that the board needs to review as part of that process. They are in a folder in the meeting materials. Sasha will also email them out after this meeting. Please review them by September 30 and reply to Sasha once you have done so.

Ray and Kirsten presented the Equitable Engagement plan they put together for the city 2026 funding. A discussion took place about Renter Engagement. To help accomplish this work we would like to start a renter engagement work group. Melaie and Blake said they would like to be a part of that group. Blake moved to approve the Equitable Engagement plan. Melanice seconded and it was approved unanimously

2026 Budget Process: Sasha talked about the 2026 budget with a reminder that suggestions or input on the budget are due to Jane by September 30. She will then present a draft budget at our November board meeting.

Neighborhood Funding Survey Results: Sasha presented the results from our neighborhood funding survey. The board will keep the results in mind when we look into next year's budget and long term spending plans.

Annunciation and Blood Drive Update: Sasha has been working with our community to communicate and support events after the Annunciation Tragedy. She is working with other Southwest Neighborhoods to host a blood drive. We received enough pledges to move forward and are working on the details. The tentative date is 10/27.

Fulton Farmers Market Signs on the 50th an Xeres: Sophie asked how we remove the signs since the Fulton Farmers Market no longer exists. Sasha has learned the signs were a joint purchase with the SW Business Association and FNA. Sasha will reach out to the Ward 13 office to see if they can help guide us in how to remove the sign.

Donation Request from Minneapolis Public Schools: Kristen presented a request from Lake Harriet Elementary Lower Campus to help fund Climb Theater coming into the school to do a play based on themes of values: empathy, manners, perseverance, ownership, well-being, equity, and regulation. After a discussion Ray moved to fund the entire cost of the play for \$1000. Melanie seconded and it was approved unanimously. Sasha will work on finding where the funding can come from.

Event updates:

- **Chili Cook off:** It was a fun event but not planning to do it next year. The board will think of ideas for a possible replacement
- **Small Grant Community Sing:** The event was a success
- **Community Dinners:** Great season. We had 8 dinners, all sponsored. We had a large number of volunteers. Next year we want to cap our attendance goal to 150 and expand menu items like the Hanna Bltro food truck. The committee will submit a larger budget. A discussion took place about burn out and the variation in attendance from week to week.
- **Fall Festival:** Happening this Saturday!! Lots of details and work to do day of the event.
- **Annual Meeting:** Scheduled for Nico's Tacos on October 8. A postcard is going out to the neighborhood and we will complete planning after the festival.
- **League of Women Voters Ward 13 Forum at Pershing Park:** Sasha is working on details with the other neighborhood sponsors.

Meeting adjourned at 7:52pm

Minutes Submitted by Sasha Jensen, FNA Coordinator.