

CPNA Annual Meeting Minutes for Monday June 17, 2019

6:30 – Potluck Picnic

Attendees: Jane McCarney, Patty and Duane Van Vickle, Arnie and Sharon Neil, Darielle Dannen, Al Grande, Al Rusniak, Rose and Dave Campbell, Fire and Amber, TJ Thul, Libby Felepe, Peter and Elizabeth, Matt and Maia, Dan and Linda Karst, Pat Johnson, Cheryl Johnson, Chris Meyer, Margo McCreary, Liz and Bobby Wielinski, Dorothy Hughes, Katie McCarthy, Diane Loeffler, Mike Braton, Brandon Lorge, Christian Fuchs, Tibesso Defasse, Maurice Hudson, Peter Saargmany, Joy Johnson, Taylor Lamberty, Chuck Nuckles, Cass Markovich, Yusuf Mohamed, Kalfume Abduilani, Norma Hill, Vickie and Niels Jensen, Sue and Dan Bebenek, Troy Rognrud, Dumisani and Kaylee Thompson, Melody Devine, Kevin Reich, Greg Willson, and Carol Makkyla,

7:08– Call to Order by Melody Devine Co-Chair

Approval of the Agenda*moved by Bobby, 2nd Sue, approved

Guest Speakers

Jenny Arneson School Board Director

Spoke about the Edison BBQ, just finished up graduations, 200 at Edison, Starting a comprehensive design for the schools to make sure not just the school part of a child's life, but the whole. NE families are choosing at a high rate to NOT go to MPS schools. Jenny is having some conversations in her back yard and at Maeve's Café to talk about what NE families want to see in their schools.

Brenda Yaritz CEE (CPNA Loan Program)

4% loan up to \$10,000 for exterior and energy improvements and also an emergency loan program. CEE also offers other loan programs so check us out.

Kevin Reich Ward 1 Council Member

2020 plan is still under way for how the city will work with neighborhoods going forward. There might be changes in boundaries, more options for partnerships. How best we can care for our communities. How to better implement the objectives of both the city and the neighborhoods. Central AV medians are regulated under MNDOT but trying to get them pinned down is the current hurdle. They did some experiments that didn't work but they want to partner with the neighborhood on some options. (Kevin has given Liz the contact information). The MWMO will be doing some work on the golf course for eliminating the water issues of the area. We will all be at a CPNA meeting this fall. University and 27th the Eastside Maintenance Facility building is coming along well. Platinum LEED, Arts District artwork, connecting gardens and trails and best practices for Stormwater. Still at loggerheads with CP regarding their land and what they can do with it...they want a free hand...the city is not okay with that (since the annual meeting CP Rail finally let the roundhouse get so bad it had to be demolished, More NE history gone)

Irene Fernando Hennepin County Commissioner

The county has a 2 1/2 billion dollar budget each year, responsible for many things that touch our lives. Irene is advocating for the marginalized, making sure all voices are present, it is the state that gives the county much of our authority. We are the 35th largest county in the nation so we are leaders and also have some hurdles to overcome.

Chris Meyer Park Commissioner

The Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board administers all the parks in the city and Chris represents everything east of the Mississippi. The Eastside master plan was just completed and a big part of it in this neighborhood is the reforming of Lake Sandy. He does realize there is a drive to get a fountain for the dog park. It would cost about \$80 million to connect to the water main. He is working to get some access to water outside of the driving range building, so close but not in the dog park.

Chris announced his opposition to the parking lot next to the mosque at St Anthony Parkway and Central. He will try to get a garden in that space ASAP. It is however not yet settled. Please contact more commissioners than just Chris. There was also a proposal to build a Somali Museum. That location is for green space along the river. It could be possibility when they rebuild the Brian Coyle rec center or elsewhere. No major changes at Architect Triangle, and plans to add a small dog portion to the dog park. Questions from the crowd: Any chance the parkway will be fixed. A: It is scheduled for 2024. The parkways are part of net debt bonding. The city is not including them in the 20 years roads portion of the 20year plan. He suggests talking to the CM and the Mayor. Q: what can we do to get the speeds down on the parkways, and get the trucks off of them. A: Looking at speed bumps and possibly speed cameras and on Stinson to add a bike lane that slows the traffic. Q: can something be added to keep people from driving through the crosswalk for dog parks. A: We can see about getting something more, but it would be nice to have an organization that can be contacted about the dog park. (Liz will get Chris the link to the dog park FB page).

Kari Dziejcz State Senator and Diane Loeffler State Representative

D) This was a budget year and they must have a balanced budget every 2 years. This year there were some improvements. Rep Loeffler chairs property tax committee in the DFL controlled House. They were able to get money for the cities and counties and part of that is to be used for stabilizing property taxes. Did get through \$10 per year to keep MERF inline which is a Minneapolis pension fund that affects our property tax levels. We also got some money for Hall's Island to fix some issues.

K) Schools have many requirements and we put more money into the unfunded portions of the Special Ed funds for the schools in Minnesota which makes a big difference here in Minneapolis. Sen Dziejcz is in the Rep. controlled Senate

Because of the split legislature there were some compromises and because of this many House bills did NOT even get a reading in the Senate.

Our constitution requires single issue bills but for years they have put related issues into Omnibus bills. People have sued and the judiciary usually gives it a pass.

Question from the crowd: Will the legislature making some requirements for reporting for all the money the educational people keep asking for and receiving? A: There were goals added to higher ed and some metrics are coming for lower ed in the future. They want to put these in place to deal with the large GAPS between people of color and others. Hoping to try to find what supports will actually work.

Minneapolis and Hennepin county are still sending more tax dollars to the state then they are getting back.

People should not be dying because they cannot get their medications. The Republicans in the Senate are getting a big blowback on this. It is in your doctor's best interest to prescribe the

expensive stuff and the pharmacists can now tell you if it is cheaper to pay cash vs using your insurance. It is also becoming easier to find the discounts and coupons.

Old Business

Draft CPNA meeting minutes for Monday May 20, 2019 (approve)* moved by Bobby, 2nd by Joy, approved

Receive and file the June treasurer's report* moved by Bobby, 2nd Sue approved

Bridge Garden Update Liz W asks that you please bring your excess sun tolerant perennials to the overlook next Saturday at 10am so the empty and full of dead grasses and live weeds can be replaced.

New Business

State of the Neighborhood- Co Chair Melody Devine
37th AV reconstruction, postponed to 2020 to include off street bike and ped path on the north side of the road.

The RR has been less than helpful about cleaning up the clear cutting they did in the spring. Vickie is trying to work with the RR and the forestry dept at the Park Board to handle this mess.

Neighborhood funding is coming for 2020 but beyond that is in question so contact CM Reich and Mayor Frey.

The MWMO is coming to one of our fall meetings re stormwater issues

Approve the End of Year Financials for 2018 to file with the Attorney General's Office* moved by Bobby, 2nd by Sue approved

Election of CPNA board members (10) for 2019-20*

Vickie Jensen, Bobby Wielinski, Joy Johnson, Taylor Lamberty, Cass Markovich, Melody Devine, Yusuf Mohammed,
Slate moved by Niels, 2nd by Sue approved.

Gateway Redevelopment

Presentation by NEOO and MTN on the proposed bus barn on the property where the Gateway water tower stands

Denetrick Powers, director of development and D'Angelos Svenkeson CEO of NEOO, Todd, DeMaris, Bill English (Northside jobs development team) and a transportation issue expert attended the meeting to present and answer questions.

5-6 years ago the Northside jobs development team wanted to create new jobs in or near the Northside of Minneapolis to provide living wage jobs. They have other facilities (one in Fridley) but they would like to be closer to work for the Minneapolis Public Schools (MPS) schools. They do have a site in North on Lyndale and this serves the MPS schools better.

This is a local business that started with a man with a van and now has over 200 employees. It is difficult especially in winter to move the buses through the city as it is being plowed etc...

The primary purpose of this facility is to serve the students of MPS but also have other contracts with Metro Transit. This site will have offices and industrial space. The site plan is being massaged to deal with parking for both busses and employees and access to and from the site.

NEOO expects 225 Full time equivalent employees at the site. What does that mean for logistics? 110 full time (office people, mechanics and year-round drivers), 200 seasonal (school year) bus drivers.

This is the first conversation with the neighborhood. They plan to doorknock, use FB and Nextdoor and get more information from the community.

We have started a list of concerns. We need to know your priorities to direct our funds. The site currently is contaminated with Linseed Oil from an old Cargill Site. There is a substantial grade change on the site that will involve soil corrections. There are big concerns about egress to the site. To get another STOP light on University is a multi-year discussion with MNDOT so unlikely but the 35th AV site near on the on ramp may be an option.

Questions and comments from the crowd and replies....

Q: Linseed Oil, how deep? A: 6-8 ft down

Q: Where will the staff park? A: all on site, a driver parks where he moves a bus

C: Hennepin County did a disservice to this neighborhood by picking this development

Number of buses, 115-150, traffic- the majority will leave before rush hour in the morning and back by 9:00 9:30 in the morning, then leave again at 1:30 and back before evening rush hour. Most will return before but some will be for afterschool routes. There will be about 15 minutes of warm up in the morning.

The cleanest portion of the site is where the gardens are and that would be where the building would go.

Q: What is the need for the MPS district? A: MTN does 90 buses so far but MPS does contract out for most of this.

Q: Does Columbia Heights need to be included in this discussion? A: Minneapolis does not require it, but they will reach out to CH.

MTN won the process and has a purchase agreement and they plan to close on the sale this fall.

C: Right now it shows that all the traffic will be dumped out on 5th ST NE and this is not good for our community. We already have way too much industrial with the train yards etc... this is not a good fit for this neighborhood.

NEOO, What would you like to see for job creation in this neighborhood? Does this type of job draw in the neighbors for this kind of employment?

C: In Minneapolis we already have the highest rates of asthma in the state. Bike lane conditions will be affected by this quantity of traffic.

NEOO: Travel demand plan...need to have a study to determine where to move things and what types of fuel?

C: We are concerned about the cumulative affects of air pollution with buses idling and two RR yards.

C: Where you route the buses are already problematic roads especially along 37th and not being able to use the parkways.

NEOO: Compared to other sites that are available this is actually a better site than many for maneuvering buses.

Q: Buffers...along University AV? A: There is a MNDOT ROW and NEOO and MTN are planning to have buffering.

Q: Will there be fuel tanks on the site? A: Yes, both diesel and natural gas

Q: If you lose your contract what guarantees will happen with the site?

A: We will continue to operate with our other contracts, but if we leave the site there are no guarantees

C: Great to see more jobs in the community. But this is a gateway which will be a parking lot with many buses. There are 2 streets that are problematic. You need a running start to get up 5th ST in the winter. The lights are a problem for that quantity of vehicles getting through.

Ran out of time for more as tent had to come down.

9:00- Adjourn* moved by Bobby, 2nd Joy, approved.

*vote required