

DMNA Council Meeting Minutes for 12/2/20

6:45 pm, Zoom remote call

IN ATTENDANCE

Marcia Diamond, Daryl Sherman, Carole Kantor, Megan Garvey, Marie Trest, Darin Harris, Dennis Trest, David Hoffert, Lisa Grueneberg, Diego Saenz, Catherine Jagoe, Marc Gartler, Shawn Schey, Jason Bittner, Sandy Stark, Rachel Fields, Kathy Engebretsen, Josh Napravnik, Billy Daniels, Dave Leeper, Ann Clark, Ann Sydnor, Bob Block, Tom Huber, Tag Evers

PROCEDURAL

- Call to Order: 6:46 p.m.
- Approval of Agenda: Rachel added an update from Catherine about the Vilas Park Master Plan and whether DMNA should endorse a position statement recently put out by the Vilas Neighborhood Association. Carole made a motion to approve the agenda and Diego seconded. The agenda was approved.
- Minutes: There was one clarification about the Children's Park Master Plan that was added to the November minutes: "To be clear, DMNA is not being asked to fund the entire project. The Parks Division is considering funding this project, and it may be more likely for the project to be approved if DMNA pledges to contribute." Sandy made a motion to approve the minutes and Marc seconded. Minutes approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Dennis reviewed income and expenses for November. Not much activity this month. Additional membership dues were received, and the postage for the winter Hornblower was paid. Ann Clark made a motion to accept the report and Sandy seconded. The report was accepted.

ALDER'S REPORT

- No report this month as Alder Evers joined the meeting late.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The written report submitted by Rachel has been copied below with updates by the secretary, if any, in *italics* based on the verbal report given during the meeting.

I have a few Edgewood updates to share at our meeting, but the most pressing and relevant is that Edgewood's appeal was referred to a future meeting of the Common Council last night, 12/1, after discussion of banning surveillance technology in Madison took until 11 PM.

AGENDA ITEMS

- DMNA support of Tenant Resource Center housing fund (Marie + ARC): The Anti-Racism Committee (ARC) is working with the Tenant Resource Center (TRC) on a Housing Crisis Fund, administered by TRC, to prevent imminent evictions. Neighbor Jan O'Neil's mother's Giving Fund has provided \$10K, and there is an effort to raise \$11K more (<https://www.tenantresourcecenter.org/dmnahousingcrisis>). The ARC asked Council to support the effort by having DMNA publicize it and help to raise funds. There was a question whether DMNA itself will donate to this fund? Dave L. volunteered that the Social Justice Committee has a \$300 budget and would consider donating \$200 of it for this. There was concern that members in the past have not wanted DMNA to spend money on charitable contributions as they would rather choose their own charities to donate to. It was countered that this is a unique emergency. Ann Clark made a motion that DMNA donate \$400 (\$200 from the Social Justice Committee budget and \$200 from the undesignated 2018/19 capital funds) and that the ARC be authorized to raise additional funds from the neighborhood. David Hoffert seconded the motion. Discussion followed. There was a friendly amendment to increase the contribution from the 2018/19 capital funds to \$300, for a total of \$500. The motion with the amendment passed with all in favor. Marie then reported that a small group of neighborhood residents has been organizing The Monroe Street Antiracism Project. A mural will be painted on boards and attached to Neuhauser Pharmacy. Details to be determined. Muralist Emily Balsley is coordinating technical details, including finding a (BIPOC (black, indigenous, and people of color) artist. Here's the fundraising page: <https://www.gofundme.com/f/the-monroe-street-antiracism-project>. The ARC requested approval to support the mural non-monetarily. Dave Leeper made a motion that Council supports the ARC's support of the mural on racism and authorizes Lisa to communicate this to the neighborhood informationally and also to request financial support. David seconded the motion. The motion passed.

- Edgewood updates (Rachel + team): Rachel gave some context over what has been going on over the past month. The Edgewood Liaison Committee (ELC) was given permission at last month's DMNA Council meeting to give a permissible sound level to Edgewood. The ELC gave 60 decibels, which is the level that noise starts to interfere with conversation. Edgewood rejected that. Edgewood proposed the number of night games/events be limited as follows: 15 from now until Fall Semester 2021 starts, 30 during the 2021/22 school year, and 40 during the 2022/23 school year. The ELC rejected that. Last night at the Common Council meeting, Rachel was planning to read a statement in opposition. The issue was referred to a future Common Council meeting, either a special meeting later this month or next month's meeting. Discussion followed.

- Social Justice activities and ideas (Bob and Dave):

- Dave Leeper reported that the committee had a successful zoom presentation last month on affordable housing led by Jim O'Keefe. Around 18 people were in attendance. The committee would like to propose that there be a larger panel discussion on affordable housing in Madison at the annual meeting in 2021, if there is one. Ideas for speakers include Jim O'Keefe, Justice Castaneda from Common Wealth, and the speaker from the Urban Planning Department at UW that was lined up to speak at the 2020 annual meeting which was cancelled. Discussion followed. Rachel reported that we should have an annual meeting this year (likely by Zoom), as there will be a need for elections. Carole added that February 3rd is the deadline to advertise this in the spring issue of the Hornblower which will come out the first week of March.
- Bob gave thanks to those who are contributing to the food for kids drive that is on-going.
- Bob announced that he will be resigning as Co-chair of the committee sometime in the next year and would welcome someone to step up and take his place.

- Dave L. reported that he is continuing to research community emergency preparedness, e.g. each family having enough food and medicine on hand for two years in case of widespread and ongoing supply disruptions. He has been in corresponding with Dane County staff, and researching what other groups and communities are doing. The idea is to encourage people to prepare and maintain their own stock of supplies if they are able, and then in time of need, share freely among their family and community. Once he has more information gathered, Dave plans to ask for council approval to educate the community on this. Here is a site that people can go to learn more: <https://jembendell.com/category/deep-adaptation/>

-DMNA Council updates (Rachel): Given prior mention that there will need to elections in 2021, Rachel gave an update on recent and upcoming transitions. Michael Schneider will take on the transportation chair, effective immediately. Peter Gascoyne is stepping down as chair of the History Committee, and Lisa will take over in the interim. In April, Rachel will be stepping down as President, and Ann will be stepping down as Secretary. A nominating committee will be put together in the beginning of the year, but if you are interested or know of someone who might be interested please talk to the Exec Committee.

-Vilas Park Master Plan Update (Catherine) - There was a public input recently. It didn't go very well. Some were upset that it was billed as a public input meeting, but then Parks said they were not planning to make any updates to the plan as a result of the meetings. Serious concerns remain about the process. VNA came out with a position statement listing what they support in the plan, what they think should be changed, and what needs more information before being decided. The statement was released very recently and will be circulated for all to review. Catherine feels it is an excellent letter and agrees with all of it. She advised that we should endorse this statement or create our own within a month, since Parks hopes to finalize the plan early in 2021. Many voiced that we should endorse the VNA statement. Ann Clark moved we support the VNA statement, and Marc seconded. No further discussion. The motion passed with all in favor.

Other Business

- Social Committee Update: Rachel introduced Billy Daniels as the new Social Committee Chair. He and his wife recently moved to the neighborhood from San Francisco. Josh made a motion that Billy be the new Social Committee Chair, and Ann Clark seconded. The motion passed with all in favor. Welcome Billy!
- There is a Library Board Meeting tomorrow evening at 5:00 p.m. The board will discuss new hours for the Monroe Street Library. The proposed "COVID" hours are: Monday 10am-1pm & 2-6pm, Tuesday 10am-1pm & 2-6pm, and Friday 10am-1pm & 2-6pm. The proposed post-COVID hours are: Tuesday 10am-1pm & 2-6pm, Friday 10am-1pm & 2-6pm, and Saturday 9am-1pm & 2-5pm.
<https://madison.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=A&ID=721773&GUID=5EB599FB-C964-4B21-B9ED-6BD3569D4935>

Billy motioned to adjourn and Tom seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.