
DMNA Council Meeting Minutes for 02/02/22

6:45 pm, Zoom remote call

IN ATTENDANCE

Diego Saenz, Shawn Schey, Dennis Trest, Catherine Jagoe, Tom Huber, Jason Mascitti, Carole Kantor, Lisa Grueneberg, Ann Manning, Annie Balch, Josh Napravnik, Ann Clark, Dave Leeper, Melissa Huggins of Urban Assets, Mike Cechvala (Transportation Planner), Constance Bell, Marcia Diamond, Michael Schneider, Billy Daniels, Daryl Sherman, Kathy Engebretsen.

PROCEDURAL

- Call to Order: 6:45 p.m.
- Approval of Agenda: there was a unanimous vote to approve the agenda.
- Minutes: there was a unanimous vote to approve the January 5th meeting minutes.

PRESENTATION ON MADISON TRANSIT NETWORK REDESIGN

Mike Cechvala, a transportation planner with the City of Madison, and Melissa Huggins of Urban Assets, a consultant on the project, gave a presentation on the redesign of the bus and BRT network presently under way. After considering the alternatives the City opted for a design that will increase ridership by providing more frequent service on fewer streets with longer, straighter routes, while also providing better coverage to communities beyond the Beltline. Service along Monroe St would be doubled, with buses every 15 minutes instead of the current 30, including on weekends. The new network will be implemented in summer 2023; in the coming months there will be several informational meetings and public input is solicited, either via the website: www.MyMetroBus.com/Redesign or by email to metroredesign@cityofmadison.com.

ALDER'S REPORT

- The Common Council on February 1st got an update on the Housing Forward Program. They are considering whether to propose an \$80 increase to property tax bills to fund the issuing of bonds to help finance the construction of affordable housing.
- Lake Monona Waterfront Committee will be appointed soon to look at redesigning the waterfront in concert with the reconstruction of John Nolen Drive in 2024-25.
- Landmarks Ordinance Committee will have the first of three public meetings on February 3rd to solicit input on their ideas for updating the ordinance.

- Lake Wingra Heritage Plan working group has held two meetings with Ho-Chunk elders to seek their input on the preservation of effigy mounds and other issues of concern to the indigenous community.
- Tag is on an Ad Hoc working group with Alder Abbas and the Mayor's Office, to draft mandatory energy-efficiency benchmarks for large commercial buildings, to reduce carbon emissions, e.g., in HVAC systems.
- Tag also continues to collaborate on the Sustainability Plan update.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Dennis reviewed DMNA's income and expenses for January. Income included \$2.87 interest from Money Market; a \$216.00 donation to the Water Quality community event; and \$144.11 in membership dues. Expenses were \$565.00 (Water Quality work); and a \$5,000 reimbursement to Wingra School (thanks to a City of Madison grant) for contract work done for the Water Quality project. Current DMNA Membership Total: 755. The treasurer's report was accepted by unanimous vote.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- Teri Venker will be the speaker at the Annual Meeting, which will be held on April 24th. Diego has received updated quotes on printing the directory and the budget assigned (\$3,500) covers them so the 2022 directory project is proceeding.

SNOW SCULPTURE COMPETITION

Billy Daniels of the Social Committee noted that the snow sculpture competition now includes five neighborhoods. Prizes will be gift cards to local businesses. The Social Committee plans to contribute \$150 to the prize fund out of their Social Budget.

SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE UPDATE

Dave Leeper noted the committee has switched from meeting monthly to quarterly, with the next scheduled meeting being the last Wednesday in April. However, if anyone needs their input for something sooner, they can contact either Dave or Lissa Koop who will hold an ad hoc meeting as needed.

The Social Committee continues to be concerned with encouraging more low-income housing in our neighborhood. Char Thompson looked into the feasibility of converting the old fire station to affordable housing units, but it proved to be too problematic.

Daryl moved to adjourn. Shawn seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 8:11 p.m.