
DMNA Council Meeting Minutes for 11/4/20

6:45 pm, Zoom remote call

IN ATTENDANCE

Rachel Fields, Ann Clark, Marie Trest, Marie Nitschke, Sandy Stark, Carole Kantor, Josh Napravnik, Lisa Grueneberg, Tom Huber, David Hoffert, Dennis Trest, Diego Saenz, Jason Bittner, Kathy Engebretsen, Catherine Jagoe, Ann Sydnor, Daryl Sherman, Tracy Lewis, Peter Gascoyne, Shawn Schey, Tag Evers, Dan Prevenas

PROCEDURAL

- Call to Order: 6:46 p.m.
- Approval of Agenda: The agenda was approved.
- Minutes: Sandy made a motion to approve the minutes and Diego seconded. All in favor. Minutes approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Dennis reviewed income and expenses for October. There was a question about how the membership drive is going. We have gotten a little over half the number of memberships we had last year. There will be continued appeals until the end of the year in the hopes we will get to similar membership numbers as last year. Dennis reported that the average donation so far is \$17.62, above the requested donation of \$12. It was suggested to consider raising the dues up to \$15 for next year. Also a split single/family donation was discussed. Tom made a motion to accept the report and Diego seconded. The report was accepted with all in favor.

ALDER'S REPORT

- It is budget season. Next Tuesday the Council will begin budget discussions.
- Tag is holding office hours every Friday morning from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m.
- On Nov. 19th there will be a Public Safety summit where neighbors can share concerns and focus on solutions.
- Triangle redevelopment update: The community plan to redevelop the Triangle calls for a new road to be built from Regent St. to West Washington. The residents are opposed to this, and Tag is drafting an amendment to make the north part of the new road a path for pedestrians and bikers only.

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.

The Edgewood Liaison Committee met with Edgewood just prior to this meeting, so I will have an update to share by the meeting. The Transportation Committee met during the interim period and unanimously decided they would prefer not to merge with the Zoning Committee for the time being, while they try to find an active chair for the committee.

AGENDA ITEMS

- **Vilas Park Master Plan (Catherine)** - The process is moving forward. A new master plan draft has been developed, merging aspects of the previous three proposals. There will be a public input meeting on Monday, Nov. 16th from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. which will include a discussion of the process going forward. The hope is that the final report can be approved early 2021. An announcement was put out on DMNA News. Catherine pulled up the plan and reviewed it at a high level. One of the features is that Vilas Park Dr. will be closed to cars on the west end and be replaced by a multi-use path, in order to eliminate cut-through commuter traffic from the park. The plans also call for two playgrounds: one where the current shoe playground is located which will be expanded and have different pods for different ages and also a new playground by the beach. The entrance to the zoo will be changed to be at Campbell St. rather than Randall St. The dinosaur park playground will be removed due to its location on an effigy mound site. The Parks Commission is also going to take up whether Vilas Park Dr. should remain closed to through-traffic through this winter. It remains closed now, pending the Parks Commission's next meeting on Dec. 9th at 6:30 p.m. Thanks to Catherine for being our representative on this planning committee.
- **Children's Park Master Plan (Sandy)** - There is renewed interest in revising the master plan from the city. It would be helpful for DMNA to send a letter to the Parks saying the Council supports a new master plan and would be willing to commit financial, personal and volunteer support to it. Money is needed for the master planning process and to hire someone to write up the plan. 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. There was discussion about funds that may be available for this; Parks & Garden's existing budget and the undesignated capital funds from the 2018/19 membership drive (\$1,663) were mentioned. David Hoffert made a motion that DMNA writes a letter of support for the Children's Park master plan to include a pledge of financial support but not naming a specific amount at this time. Peter seconded. Motion passed with all in favor. Sandy will draft the letter and send it to the Executive Committee.
- **Edgewood updates (Rachel + team)** - The Edgewood Liaison committee, along with Rachel, Tag and the Vilas Neighborhood Association representatives met with Edgewood earlier today in a continued effort to find a compromise on the athletic field lights. We continue to want Edgewood to use the spring season to measure the sound of games, and then propose sound mitigation strategies. For the next meeting in two weeks, Edgewood asked DMNA to specify the level of decibels that the neighborhood would be OK with, and Edgewood will submit a proposal for number of games, which will start out reduced and then increase in subsequent years. Lengthy discussion followed. There was a good deal of concern about specifying a number. A number of people raised concerns about enforcement. Diego made a motion that we authorize the Edgewood Special Subcommittee to work with Brad Boyce and Ethan Brodsky to come up with a proposal for a permissible average sound level and a permissible peak sound level to present to Edgewood without further approval from the Council, and the Edgewood Special Subcommittee may also decide not to propose any sound levels. David Hoffert seconded. A vote was taken and the motion passed.

OTHER BUSINESS

There is still a need for a new Hornblower advertising coordinator.

Tom made a motion to adjourn and Diego seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 9:01 p.m.

