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# *DMNA Council Meeting Minutes for 06/01/22*

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6:45 pm, Zoom remote call

## **IN ATTENDANCE**

Diego Saenz, Catherine Jagoe, Dennis Trest, Tag Evers, Shawn Schey, Carole Kantor, Daryl Sherman, Tom Huber, Marie Trest, Marcia Diamond, Ann Manning, Sandy Stark, Michael Schneider, Lisa Grueneberg, Josh Napravnik, Marie Nitschke

## **PROCEDURAL**

- Call to Order: 6:46 p.m.
- There was a unanimous vote to approve the agenda with an additional item from Carole.
- There was a unanimous vote to approve the May 4 meeting minutes.

## **ALDER'S REPORT**

Some Greenbush neighborhood residents are pushing back on Metro Transit Network's redesign plan which would add a bus stop at the Vilas Zoo next year. This stop was recommended in the Vilas Park Master Plan.

Glen Golf Park will be opening next month, tentatively July 1. The golf course is not a dog park, but people are walking their dogs in there unleashed.

Vilas Park Drive will become closed to through traffic on June 17. From then on, between the historic bridge and the park shelter, no motor vehicles will be permitted, only pedestrians and cyclists. However, new, two-way automobile access to the park shelter from the east *will* be permitted. This change will prioritize park users rather than cut-through traffic. Map available at <https://dmna.org/images/temp/VilasParkDrive2022.png>

Food Scraps Recycling available at south side farmers' market this summer at 1602 South Park St, Tuesdays 2-6pm only. Last year it was complicated by people including non-compostable materials.

Edgewood lawsuit update: City attorneys sent in their brief making clear that Edgewood in April 2015 at the Liaison Committee meeting stipulated that the upgrade to their field would be for practice purposes only. The brief includes Tag and Mike Elliott's depositions. City attorneys believe they have a good case.

## **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Dennis reviewed DMNA's income and expenses for May. We are well underspent this year so that puts us in a good position for the next fiscal year. The current membership total is 765.

Committee budget submissions for next year need to be given to Dennis by June 29 so we can discuss them in our July meeting, since the fiscal year starts August 1.

Re the Good Neighbor Gathering: DMNA agreed in October 2019 to act as GNG's fiscal agent for a year, after which GNG would handle their own finances. In the interim, the pandemic pushed that transition back indefinitely. Dennis is not a CPA and is just a volunteer. It is a lot of extra work for him to handle the GNG finances, and he would like to hand it over to them, as the current arrangement is not sustainable. He also noted that the GNG event is on our insurance, so DMNA is the liable party.

Diego said he had talked to Jan O'Neill about this and she sounded overwhelmed by the prospect. Carole suggested Tag may be helpful to us in implementing this transition. Tom asked if DMNA Council needs to send the GNG Committee a letter. Diego said we could bring this up at the next D13 Alliance meeting verbally.

Daryl stated that it needs to go on record that DMNA is no longer the fiscal agent for the GNG and that fiscal responsibility has shifted to GNG. Daryl moved we separate our two accounts and have a clear statement and permanent record of the separation of the two groups to protect ourselves. Seconded by Shawn. Tom suggested we place a timeline, so the changeover would happen in January 2023. The GNG would have three full months to set up a 501c3 organization. They should be set up to take over their own affairs by no later than December 31, 2022. Shawn said we should notify them of our decision, so they have time to prepare. They ought to be doing the paperwork now.

The motion passed.

The Treasurer's Report was accepted by unanimous vote.

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Brandon Weddig is a potential new Social Chair who has contacted Diego. Brandon was not able to join us today, but he is interested in the position and seems a great fit. We will hope to take a vote on this at a future meeting.

## **AGENDA ITEMS**

**Urgent *Hornblower* status report** by Carole Kantor. Continued operation of the *Hornblower* is now at the juncture of four simultaneous transitions. (1) New ad coordinator (2) Need a new layout designer as Bridget is retiring. Tag has sent the name of a possible replacement (3) Our commercial printer has been bought, and they did not process the *Hornblower* last week, causing a crisis. Carole is uncertain about the printer's reliability and would like us to consider others. (4) Replacement editor for the *Hornblower* needed. Carole will continue as editor through summer 2024 (eight more issues) but needs someone working with her for the next two years to be able to take over. She needs the Council to help find a replacement. She is currently working with a potential co-editor.

Discussion:

Sandy has sent Carole contact information for a designer and printer. Diego suggested we might have more success in breaking the editor position down into separate roles. Carole raised the possibility of restructuring the editor position into one held by two people. Maybe we need a separate dedicated

meeting to re-evaluate the use of print format for the *Hornblower*? Some people still appreciate having a hard copy, however.

**Advanced consideration of upcoming *Hornblower* Budget:** Carole can't attend the July meeting. This year, the *Hornblower* generated 20% more than its projected revenue, \$1,600 dollars extra, so Carole did not have to use the subsidy requested from DMNA. Carole projects next year's revenue at 90% of what we got in the fiscal year now closing. The estimated cost per dues-paying member that would come from DMNA is \$2 per member in this budget, with \$9,000 dollars of ad revenue. Carole will be requesting \$1,513 from DMNA funds, with details explained. All based on estimates of next year's costs from the current printer.

Dennis says a primary function of DMNA's existence is communication with the neighborhood, so the HB is an essential task for our organization. It's also a historical record of the neighborhood. He has no concerns about being able to cover this amount as requested in our next budget.

Diego complimented Carole on her fundraising and everything she does so ably.

**Report on transit-oriented development (TOD),** by Josh Napravnik. Many cities are now practicing this pedestrian-oriented, compact, mixed-use development centered on quality public transit. The goal is to incentivize types of development that allow people to be less reliant on automobiles to get around. The City is exploring ways to encourage TOD along the future east-west BRT line and by providing more frequent bus service along Monroe St. Strip malls and drive-throughs will be discouraged. Zoning rules will change to encourage more population density. In areas of single-family zoning, a home could be converted to a duplex and there could also be an ADU on the lot, although the owner would have to reside on the property. In theory, you could have three families living on one lot. Setbacks will remain the same. Our neighborhood is primarily TRC2. Duplexes on Arbor Drive might become three-story buildings and some three-story buildings in the commercial districts would be four-story maximum. TOD will come before the Plan Commission on June 23, and then go to the Common Council in September or October. If we want to live in a less car-centric city, we need to incentivize bus use and encourage developers to create fewer parking stalls.

Discussion:

Shawn suggested putting an article about this in the *Hornblower* (August 1 is the next editorial deadline). Josh doesn't feel DMNA needs to make a statement; we should just let the city move forward with this. Diego thinks we should make a positive statement about TOD to the city so we don't only contact them when we are protesting something. Josh wonders if a statement would alienate residents who support keeping the neighborhood single-family zoning only? Sandy suggested that maybe we could ask our Alder to take the lead on a public forum to help educate residents.

Sandy moved to adjourn. Tom seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

*Minutes respectfully submitted by Catherine Jagoe.*