**West Maka Ska Neighborhood Council Meeting (in person at the Bakken and by Zoom) Minutes**

**May 9, 2023**

**Presided by:** Melanie Fehlberg, vice-chair

**Board members in attendance:** Melanie Fehlberg, Bob Gordon, Leyden Victoria Iraheta Santos, Lynette Davis, David Stougaard, Dylan Ohm, Richard Logan

**Absent:** Allan Campbell, Tim Knight, John Bordwell

**Coordinator:** Michelle Sass

Melanie called the meeting to order at 6:05 PM

* Confirmation of e-Vote council **approved** and sent to Bancroft Neighborhood on 4/28/23: WMSNC supports the Bancroft Neighborhood in their letter to the state re: Roof Depot

**Approval of April minutes:** Melanie moved approval. Dave seconded. **Minutes were approved.**

**Speaker**: Linea Palmisano, Minneapolis City Council Vice-President

* Traffic Updates: Reconstructed traffic signal with improvements. ADA approved transitions at all corners. Expanded medians. Michelle to give more thorough construction updates later in meeting.
* Safety Updates: Yesterday 5-6 arrested for incidents at East Bde Maka Ska. Court date extension for more investigative work for charges. Current intervention includes patrolling more visible
  + Perpetrator goals include quick cash via phone apps or in person
  + Goal to avoid perpetrators, and call MPD to be effective
* Lynette: two incidents in neighborhood, one at Rose and Zenith intersection with attempted car robbery and another homeowner found someone going through his car
  + Linea to ask 5th precinct regarding incident, follow up with our council
    - Confusion if police report was filed, maybe the dot was not in the right spot
  + Had group of 4 people doing crime, also hit Sloane Beauty Bar
  + Need police report filed to be on crime map, not just a verbal 911 call
* Per Brian O’Hara, string of people caught yesterday and are in custody.
  + Unsure if related to same crimes in 13rd ward, had incident in Tangletown too
  + Police were at their house, they trace them down and investigate where they will be next, does not always end in a car chase
  + FBI didn’t have body cams
* Climate Equity Plan: Take the survey through June 5: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/mplsclimateequityplan>

**Treasurer’s Report**: No new updates. No payments pending (other than Michelle’s April timecard). Dave moved to approve financials; Lynette seconded. **Motion Approved.**

Dave to serve as treasurer until October annual meeting at the latest. Still in need of replacement treasurer.

Coordinator Updates:

* Social media insights: 3360 impressions from Instagram promotion for Earth Day Event, leading to 58 profile views, and 12 new followers

**Construction Updates:** Michelle shared screen to show email received from Ben Brasser, Professional Engineer with City of Minneapolis Department of Public Works. **See Attachment 1.**

Committee Updates:

* Communications, Outreach, and Events (COE)/Equitable Engagement (EE)
  + Monthly neighborhood cleanup, next date May 27: 930am meetup outside Caribou. Melanie to help lead, Bob to co-lead.
    - Suggestion to bring more T-shirts and canvas bags to volunteer event
  + April Earth Day Spring Event recap: event went well. Flyers worked.
    - Highlights: Picked right event at right time Learned about community: people want to be active
  + Habitat for Humanity recap: Volunteer event occurred on April 27, went well. Several board members in attendance and staff from Bakken Museum.
  + Idea to partner with Adopt-A-Drain and do giveaways for those keeping our drains clear
* Greenspace
  + Tangletown updates: hear by July
  + Park Board put in two trees last year, now newly planted 8 more in that space
    - Unsure what that does to the design process from Tangletown
* Safety
  + Continued need for a City Emergency Planning session
  + Concerns surrounding trains going 20-25mph versus 10mph
  + Bushes in neighborhood were trimmed, no longer poke people in eye walking by
  + Whistles were distributed at Earth Day Spring Bash
  + We need to continue our collaboration with CIDNA
  + A lot of safety topics reviewed with Linea earlier in meeting

Approval of NCR Report: Michelle presented report that was completed and submitted to NCR on our 2022 accomplishments. Motion moved by Richard, seconded by Bob, **document approved.**

Mural update: Carrie Christensen with City of Minneapolis confirmed via emails that she received Michelle’s updates regarding council questions and follow up after last month’s meeting.

* Photo and additional information were sent to Carrie sharing roughly 25’ of open space in mural not blocked by cars
* Michelle to share any updates with board as she gets them from Carrie

Sponsorship agreement with Bakken: Twelve shows. We got 120 tickets. First event is June. Melanie to start slack conversation on how to promote free tickets for neighborhood residents.

Next meeting on June 13th meeting to be held at the Be at Axon Green in the Community room. Address is 3144 Chowen Ave S.

Request for ADA Compliance team to come to June meeting. Michelle to invite speakers. Question for department include is “smart” traffic lights technology being utilized for changing lights at intersections and increase flow. Additional question includes how are they working to widen sidewalks including near 3150 Excelsior Blvd, and coordinate with Metro Transit.

Meeting was temporarily recorded for minute-taking purposes.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:11pm.

(See attachment below)

Attachment 1.

* The contractor began work on Thursday 5/4
* The work is planned to be completed in three phases, with each phase taking 3-4 weeks.
* Work is beginning on the west corners of the Lake/Dean/Bde Maka Ska pkwy intersection, and the east corners of the Lake/Thomas intersection
* Traffic control is set up to maintain two lanes on Lake Street and keep the side streets open at all times. Pedestrian access will be maintained throughout the project.
* We are aware there was unexpectedly slow traffic on Friday 5/5 during the late afternoon. This was largely due to a stalled vehicle in one of the eastbound lanes on Lake Street – and is not expected to be a regular occurrence of this magnitude

The project is focused on the Lake Street intersections with Dean/Bde Maka Ska Pkwy and Thomas Ave, and will be constructing the following highlights:

* Reconstructed traffic signals with improved overhead signal visibility
* ADA-compliant curb ramps at all corners
* Accessible Pedestrian Signals
* Enhanced (green) median along W Lake Street between Dean/Bde Maka Ska Pkwy and Thomas Ave
* Expanded median area for crossing Lake Street on Parkway trail route
* One new crosswalk across Lake Street at each intersection, so pedestrians can cross Lake Street on either side of either street
* New left turn lane into Bde Maka Ska parking lot across from Thomas Ave
* LED intersection lighting at both intersections