### West Maka Ska Neighborhood Council Minutes: February 2021

Monthly Board Meeting, 6PM, February 9, 2021

Monthly Meeting Minutes: Done virtually via Zoom

**Called to order**: 6:00pm

**Presided by**: Allan Campbell, Chair

**Note taker**: Michelle Sass

**In attendance**: Allan Campbell, Richard Logan, Paul Legler, Lynette Davis, Victoria Hoshal, Dave Stougaard, Tim Knight and Ann Webster

**Absent:** Martha Yunker and John Bordwell

**Guest Speakers:** Linea Palmisano, City councilmember; Lisa Mears from Bridge for Youth; Jack Whitehurst with NCR

**Welcome from the chair and announcements:**

* Approval of January minutes: Motion by Richard, second by Victoria, **approved**
* Treasurer's Report and review of finances
  + $5500 spent on mask campaign, budgeted up to $8k. Total media cost around $2k
* 10 members on board, authorized to have 11 members

**Guest Speaker: Linea Palmisano, City Councilmember**

* Police charter amendments moving forward at break neck speed
* Rent control charter changes being discussed, under state law
* Taking public comments in February
* Public hearing tomorrow for facial recognition software ban in the city
  + Comments by participants:
    - Will there be limitations on where it would be used within the city
    - How can we have checks and balances with someone overseeing the software
    - Idea to have a sunset date on the ban, to be revisited later when there may be improvements in the system

**Committee Reports**

* Communications
  + Report on Face Mask Campaign – Update by Victoria
    - Reviewed report 12/25-1/29 for social media campaign
      * 156,000 unique reaches saw the ad; 2200 clicks; 646 new visitors to the website
      * We increased visibility and awareness of the council
    - Plan to send postcards to mailing list
      * What is the focus: mask + aerosol spreading “Don’t Swap Breath”
        + Gentle reminder: future is in sight, be hopeful
        + Budget allots for 1 postcard at this time
    - October approved up to $8k
    - Currently campaign goes to 55416 zip code, most granular view we can take
  + Plans for WMSNC Rebranding- report by Victoria
    - Work closely together for website re-design and re-brand
    - Timing: goal to get RFP out by Friday, and have all responses by Feb 26
    - Plan: Narrow down to two finalists, then present to board at March meeting
    - Decide on an agency by March 17, and tentative kick off March 22
    - If we take donations or sell on website, then would need e-commerce added
    - Currently we have 5 agencies to reach out to, including current vendor Dojo and LTR who did mask campaign and have a design team with beautiful work. Also considering Fast Horse Agency
    - Goal for a total of 10 RFPs, then expect get 6-8 responses then good group
    - Motion by Lynette to move forward, second by Victoria, **sending out RFP approved**
* Greenspace - Update from Lynette
  + Lynette to wait to hear from Martha and Paul on next steps for bird and bee garden.
  + Goal by February
  + Buckthorn: no updates until spring
* Safety
  + Allocation of remaining $5K for commercial neighborhood rebuilding. No action taken.

**Guest Speaker: Lisa Mears from Bridge for Youth**

* $10,000 grant was given by the board a few years ago to help launch Rita’s House
* 2018 Rita’s House: response to provide intentional living community for 18–21-year-olds, working on life goals to ultimately get them to move out to market rate rent, intermediate step
* Marlene’s Place: transitional living, 16-20 pregnant or parenting youth, in need of transitional living for 12-18 months
* Gloria’s Place: New program for minor age youth, 15-17 ages who are pregnant or parenting, emergency shelter, only emergency shelter, can be there for 30 days then transition to safe housing-newest program
* Resilience House: emergency shelter ages 10-17, for homeless youth, up to 30 days
* Street outreach – mobile outreach initiative, approved to purchase a bus with food supply
* With COVID, biggest need has been around mental health, and more stress in the home, increase in crime
* Not in the red. Applied for PPP loan, community has been generous, CARES fund to support staff

**Guest Speaker: Jack Whitehurst, with NCR**

* Neighborhoods 2020 and funding: things are up in the air
* City council has approved guidelines for 4 programs
  + 1. Neighborhood network funding – prorated 25k, will have 12.5k available for ½ year base funding
  + 2. Equitable Engagement funding
    - WMSNC has a lot of renters
  + 3. Partnership Fund
    - Smaller diverse organization, allocated at neighborhood level to partner with neighborhood groups
  + 4.Collaboration and Shared Resources Fund
  + As of now, plan to roll over any un-used Community Participation Funds (CPP) as of July 1st
  + WMSNC Funding:
    - $5k not contracted, decide what to do with that
    - Evaluate CPP contract – have roughly 80k in funds, any that are not used, will be rolled over January 1, 2022 and rolled into new program into engagement
      * Some conversation to extend first 6 months into the fall, not approved
  + Potential to partner with other neighborhoods for renter strategies
  + Jack covers 17 neighborhoods

Miscellaneous Topics:

* Current plan for neighborhood Movie night if we don’t put in suggestions: Aladdin on July 2
  + E-mail Michelle by Friday with any current selection ideas for movies or days
* Richard now part of committee for Minneapolis’ Neighborhood Day initiative

7:52 – Adjourn (motion by Allan, second by Richard)

Submitted by Michelle Sass, coordinator

**Next Council Meeting –** Monthly Meeting March 9• 6:00pm • (to be held on Zoom)