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|  |  | **BRYN MAWR NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION**  **Board Meeting Minutes**  **Wednesday, March 13, 2024**  **6:30– 8:00 PM**  **Hybrid Meeting** |

**Board and Staff**

Brian Treece – Vice President

Liv Nielsen – Area 1 Co-Rep

Addie Arnold - Area 2 Co-Rep

Allison Batzli– Area 3 Co-Rep

Mark Henry - Area 3 Co-Rep. OL

Beth Franzen - Area 4 Co-Rep

Colleen Dhennin - Area 5 Co-Rep

Beth Turnbull - Area 5 Co-Rep

Katy Kessler - Area 5 Co-Rep

Haven Stephens - Area 6 Co-Rep

Drew Quirk– Area 6 Co-Rep

Stephen Harvey – Area 7 Co-Rep

Jay Peterson – Emeritus

Barry Schade – Emeritus

Lynda Shaheen – Communication/Development Coordinator

Patty Wycoff – Event Coordinator

**Guests:**

McKenzie Erickson (OL), Pete Thomas, Michelle Navarro, Angela Banks, Alec Werning, Meredith Gingold, Menno Schukking (Mpls Public Works), Abdullahi Abukar (Mpls Public Works), Rod Miller (OL), Benjamin (OL), Michael Martens, Mike Tieleman, Wendy Jerome

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OL – online

1. Call to Order at 6:32 PM.
2. Agenda approval moved by Beth Turnbull, seconded by Liv Nielsen. Motion carried.
3. Minutes from 2/14 moved by Beth Franzen, seconded by Beth Turnbull. Motion carried.
4. Update on Cedar Lake Road Bridge – Minneapolis Public Works: Menno Schukking, Abdullahi Abukar,

The Cedar Lake Rd bridge connecting Bryn Mawr and Harrison is a wooden bridge from 1941. It was closed suddenly in April 2022 for structural issues. The city intended to replace it in 2023, but construction cost inflation prevented this. (Had to prioritize projects already underway.) Bridge reopened in Sep 2023 with strict weight and traffic limitations. It’s currently budgeted for replacement in 2027, but Public Works is pursuing additional Federal funds to construct it earlier, potentially summer 2025.

Public Works is meeting with neighborhood associations now, city bicycle and pedestrian advisory committee in April, City Council in May. **Open house on** **March 26** atBryn Mawr Presbyterian Church, 4:30-6:30, to share bridge draft concept and vote on rail designs.

Proposed improvements: Railroad is requiring bridge deck to be raised 4 feet and 10-ft tall railing over tracks. Slopes will be extended to meet ADA requirements. Add concrete barrier to separate pedestrians and cyclists from vehicles. Lighting likely to be 30-ft poles (rather than 15-ft) because more secure from copper thieves. Cut-out for peds and cyclists at Luce Line junction at Morgan.

1. City of Minneapolis -Councilperson Katie Cashman. No report.
2. Crime Prevention Specialist Report – Brian Treece summarized: some property crimes, items stolen from vehicles
3. Treasurer Report– Roberta Jordan. Brian Treece summarized: Working on taxes and 990. Bank accounts reconciled.
4. Communications and Development Coordinator Report - Lynda Shaheen.

**Communications**

I have had several contacts from WOTW about joining the email list, attending a meeting, where to vote, and joining the board.  It's exciting to have people reach out.

Coffee with Katie Cashman March 28, 5-6:30pm at Big Hill Books (basement). Patty Wycoff will represent BMNA at the event. Details [here](https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.bighillbooks.com%2Fevents%2Fcoffee-with-katie&data=05%7C02%7C%7C69a4aff3f9d24620120f08dc4380a63a%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638459467043854284%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=6%2FnFhoJXyZ48rHKGZG8a9cDv6WMp0HbV8vZhmaPQMa8%3D&reserved=0). Councilmember Cashman will attend our July and October meetings in addition to some of our events.

Earth Day: Do we want to do something? Closest Park Board cleanup on 4/20 is at Wirth Trailhead. Details [here](https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.minneapolisparks.org%2Factivities-events%2Fevents%2Fearth_day_cleanup%2F&data=05%7C02%7C%7C69a4aff3f9d24620120f08dc4380a63a%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638459467043880482%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=entWWlpsRDGJuncmnwSiLPGFD93Ogm5ejfNy3N%2FLcFE%3D&reserved=0). The City also contacted me about participating in their clean sweep program. Details [here](https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fcontent.govdelivery.com%2Fattachments%2FMPLS%2F2024%2F03%2F08%2Ffile_attachments%2F2808375%2FCleanSweep%2520Packet%25202024.pdf&data=05%7C02%7C%7C69a4aff3f9d24620120f08dc4380a63a%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638459467043901300%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=KNRUtPqBscpBSwOgYq%2BcjQSySlzMAI6GCn2A1id27QU%3D&reserved=0). Drew Quirk proposed Bryn Mawr public gardens cleanup on Earth Day.

Rethinking I94 work group for 394/94 elbow: Kevin Thompson and Benjamin Lester are interested.

Annual Meeting: Will request the school cafeteria for potluck dinner, BMNA elections, review and celebration of the year.

**Development**

Yearly donation drive has started. We are off to a great start with $11,935.00 compared to $1545 from this time last year. This includes a $5000 donation. I am going to order new merchandise for Spring Fest. Working on donations for Silent Auction. Contacted all the businesses about the Facade grant. Annual report submitted to the city. Can be read [here](https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fdrive.google.com%2Ffile%2Fd%2F1YzsOP1KhiGzS34D14fD2q8RNb1mwzZBa%2Fview%3Fusp%3Dsharing&data=05%7C02%7C%7C69a4aff3f9d24620120f08dc4380a63a%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638459467043919845%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=C292VwG3brZ3O%2FmkUDeOCX2y2VfYp0vp4bW79v5B1gs%3D&reserved=0). Approval of annual report moved by Colleen Dhennin, seconded by Beth Turnbull. Passed.

1. Event Coordinator Report – Patty Wycoff.

Spring Fest, April 11. Planning is going smoothly. We have $5100 in sponsors and lots of silent auction items.  Lynda and I went to La Dona last Thursday to plan the layout of the event.

I’m printing posters for sponsors to hang in their business to promote the event and let their customers know they are a supporter. I’m delivering these on Friday. Posters include QR code for registration.

Blood Drive, April 19, 12:00-6:00 pm. At BMPC. I need volunteers 12-2 and 2-4.

Festival of Garage Sales, May 4. All garage sale registrations will be online (starting April 1) this year and moving forward.  We will have a character limit for the description of garage sales.  We are also reducing the number of printed garage sale lists for each registered sale.  Saving trees and money.  Let’s talk to WOTW to figure out how they can participate (this year or next).

La Mesa will have counter service and their patio open during the garage sale.  There will be 2 food trucks: Tasty Treats (corn and hot dogs) and Pimento Jamaican Kitchen. One will be in the gas station parking lot and the other in Mill City parking lot.  Because these are not on the street we do not need the food truck permit, but each truck will pay $100 to BMNA for their spot in these businesses.  Bryn Mawr Pizza and Cuppa Java will be serving all day from their stores. 5 food options.

Toilets are reserved but I’m not sure where they will be put.  Dr. Jay and his family are having a garage sale in his lot and the Pimento truck will be parked there.  I’m going to stop by Bleu on Friday and ask Angela how she would feel if we put them on the sidewalk in front of her place.  Any other ideas?  Driveway of Big Hill Books was suggested.

Annual Dinner, May 8. I will be out of town but will give all paper products to one of you.  

1. Bugle Report - JoEllyn Jolstad. The 20th is the deadline for articles/ads.
2. Webmaster – Jeremy Staffeld.

We successfully upgraded the Facebook Feed plugin so that now we can better display photos, articles, and video directly on the feed without having to link back to Facebook. I've been working with Carolyn Bastick to clean up the look of the feed so that it doesn't dominate the homepage but still delivers the most up-to-date information.

There is still an issue with posts saying "content isn't available right now". It appears this happens only with events posts pulled from Facebook, so I am looking into using the filter system on the upgraded plugin to clean these up.

I have also been working with Drew Quirk and Carolyn Bastick to update the gardens pages by giving them access to edit the pages themselves and troubleshooting some bugs we found along the way.

My goal for the next month is to make sure the registration forms and interactive map page is ready for the upcoming Festival of Garage Sales.

1. Committee Reports (as needed)

* Schools –Colleen Dhennin. PTA plant sale: Plants from Glacial Ridge. Order online, Apr 1-21. Go to brynmawrpta.org, fundraisers tab. Big decisions being made about schools very soon. Colleen will schedule a meeting for interested neighbors and parents. Email Colleen.dhennin@bmna.org if you want to attend. We’ll invite at-large school board representative and regular Ward 4 rep to the annual meeting dinner to explain what’s happening.
* Active Transportation- Josh Nichols.

Marion Green (Henn Co Commissioner) will attend our April committee meeting. We have compiled a slide show and map of Bryn Mawr’s current bicycle infrastructure for her.

We will be leading a Bryn Mawr Bikes ride with Piecycle on April 6th. Piecycle is a local cycling club that rides to different locations to get pie.

We will be publishing a new survey in April to gauge our neighborhood’s interest and willingness for traffic calming on Penn Ave S and Wayzata Blvd/Cedar Lake Rd.

* Racial Justice – Steve Harvey. Film series co-sponsored with Active Transportation was successful. 60 people attended, including reps from Cycle Sisters and Major Taylor bike clubs. Next event we’re planning is another Dakota sacred sites tour.
* Parks – Chris Etz/Barry Schade. No report
* Gateway Project – Karen Frederickson/Dennis Juillerat. No report
* Gardens – Drew Quirk. Thanks to Dennie Juillerat and Steve Jensen, the Bryn Mawr Hedge trimming has begun. Need help to clean up trimming. Jump in if passing by. Trying to boost garden involvement with revamped FB page, BMNA website, Bugle articles, and yard signs to advertise when we need volunteers. Registered with Park Board for stewardship and renewed MN Horticultural Society membership (helps with providing lower-cost plants). Garden Tour not happening this year. Hope to bring it back in 2025. Plenty of interest, just not enough help. Partnering with Active Transportation Committee to do a Pedal to Petals ride, highlighting blvd gardens. Also, need money to pay for water.

* Finance/Membership – Jessica Wiley. No report
* Elections - Brian Treece May 8. Areas 2, 4, 6, 8, 9 up for (re)election. Contact Brian if you’re interested in serving.
* Communications - Jay Peterson. Neighbor with website experience is helping with BMNA site. Drop-down menus and homepage are up for revision first. (Then page by page through the site.)
* Community Projects - Brian Treece summarized. Eight submissions. Apr 4 committee meeting for initial funding.
* Façade Grant – Addie Arnold. Many interested businesses. Reviewing applications in next few weeks, make decisions beginning of June.

* Events – Brian Treece. No report.

1. Other Standing Reports (as needed)

* ROC/Basset Creek Valley Update
* SWLRT Update
* Wirth on the Woods

1. Discussion Items, New Business, Updates and Announcements

Liv Nielsen is Ward 7 volunteer coordinator for People’s Climate and Equity Plan. Partnering this year with UnidosMN to focus on pilot programs about decarbonizing homes.

Thank you to Anthony Ramirez for his service on the BMNA Board.

To get on neighborhood email list sign up on BMNA.org. Or contact Lynda Shaheen.

Invite Elizabeth Shaffer Park Board Commissioner to our annual meeting.

1. Adjourned at 7:54 p.m.

NEXT BOARD MEETING:  **Wednesday, April 10, 2024**

**Upcoming Events: Spring Fest, April 11. Blood drive, April 19.**