

DOWNTOWN MINNEAPOLIS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
DMNA Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Monday, May 19, 2025, via Zoom

I. Call to Order

President Dan Brophy called the Board meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Other Board members in attendance were:

Steve Arnold
Zachary Brunnert
Kristen Hansen, Vice President
Julia Laden, Treasurer
Matt Monroe
Latonya Reeves, Secretary

Board member Craig Simonson was absent.

Executive Director Christie Rock Hantge was also present.

Other guests included:

Molly Burns-Hansen, Policy Aide, Ward 7
Michael Rainville, Council Member, Ward 3
Patrick Sadler, Policy Aide, Ward 3
Dianne Walsh, downtown resident

II. Consideration of Agenda

Reeves moved and Hansen seconded a motion to approve the agenda. Brophy called for discussion. The motion passed.

III. Ward 3 Update

Councilmember Michael Rainville reported on the following:

- Mill City Museum break-in was not reported to the MPD. He encouraged residents to report any questionable activity taking place in the community to 911.
- Public Safety meeting scheduled for May 29, at MacPhail Center for Music to address what happened at the Mill City Museum and to talk about safety plans for the summer.
- 2025 Scooter Program update. They are hoping to improve scooter rule enforcement this season. They have an intern that will be monitoring the downtown

community. They have also made updates on reporting violations to 311. He encouraged residents to report any problems they see.

IV. Ward 7 Update

Policy aide Molly Burns-Hansen reported on the following:

- Minneapolis Tourism Improvement District – This is a hotel-led initiative to attract more overnight visitors and drive visitor spending in the city. Funded by a 2% charge on hotel room revenue, the TID will generate approximately \$7 million annually for supplemental tourism marketing, sales and events. More information available at <https://www.minneapolis.org/tourism-improvement-district/>

V. Consent Agenda

Hansen moved and Monroe seconded a motion to approve the consent agenda which included the board meeting minutes for April 28, 2025; Financial Report for April 2025; and the Executive Director staff report for April (Invoice #124). The motion passed.

VI. Committee Reports

A. Land Use Committee. In the absence of Chair Laurie Rice, President Brophy provided a summary of the meeting:

- Reviewed and approved a Liquor license application for Smorgie’s.
- Reviewed and approved a Liquor license application for Hometowne Pizza.
- Heard an update on the Hennepin Avenue repaving project.

Laden moved and Reeves seconded a motion to approve the letters of support for the two liquor license applications. Brophy called for discussion. The motion passed.

Next meeting is Thursday, June 12.

B. Safety and Security Committee. In the absence of Chair Howard Cohen, President Brophy reported on the following:

- The MPD-DID Safety Update on April 29, at the Central Public Library, was well attended. Board Member Zachary Brunnert sought suggestions for enhancing the library entrance to create a more welcoming atmosphere for visitors. It can sometimes be intimidating due to the number of people loitering. Brophy said that they will discuss this at their next meeting.

Next meeting is Thursday, June 12.

VII. New / Old / Other Business

A. Civic Engagement Update. President Brophy reported on the DMNA Neighborhood Day event on June 3, at Gateway Park. He said the location was good because it was new and different from our other events, however, it was a bit challenging to get to due to construction around the area. He said they distributed all the remaining safety whistles and other DMNA swag. Vice President Hansen said it was good to meet residents from a different part of the neighborhood.

B. Business Engagement Update. This group met on May 1. They are discussing ways to engage with the downtown business community now that the East Town Business Partnership has officially dissolved. They identified the following ideas to start with:

- Incorporate the ETBP email list into the DMNA e-mail list for the e-newsletter.
- Develop a survey instrument to determine what the business community would like to see from the neighborhood association with the goal of getting it out in the fall.
- Invite the business community to participate in our National Night Out event on August 5, and the upcoming City Council Candidates Forums this fall.
- Look at hosting an outreach event in the fall, possibly 1st Quarter 2026, in partnership with two downtown council members.

Next meeting will take place on June 3.

C. National Night Out Update.

- **Fundraising Update.** President Brophy provided an update on the how things are progressing with fundraising. We are behind where we were at this point in 2024. We will need to work hard over the next 30 days. We need to reach out to condo associations. He is planning to attend the next HOA Group meeting and make an appeal. Brophy suggested based on fundraising so far that we should pursue a DJ for entertainment as opposed to a band. This will save a significant amount of money. He also suggested making changes to the kids' activities. He has a connection to a magician. Executive Director Hantge is working with the caterer to find a way to reduce costs. We will likely offer two food choices as opposed to three.

VIII. Updates / Reminders regarding 2025 Events

- DMNA Take a Kid Fishing event on Saturday, June 7, 2025
- DMNA Day at the Mill City Farmers Market on Saturday, June 21, 2025
- DMNA National Night Out celebration on Tuesday, August 5, 2025

- Ward 3 City Council Candidates Forum on September 18, at the River Hub at Graco Park

IX. Adjournment

There being no further business, Brophy moved, and Hansen seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting. Brophy called for discussion. The motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Signed this _____ day of _____, 2025.

Chair

Secretary