

# **DOWNTOWN MINNEAPOLIS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION**

## **Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**

**Monday, November 24, 2025, via Zoom**

### **1. Call to Order**

DMNA Board President Dan Brophy called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. A quorum was present.

Board members present included Dan Brophy, Kristen Hansen, Julia Laden, Craig Simonson, Latonya Reeves, and Cindy Schulz.

DMNA Executive Director Christie Hantge was also present.

### **2. Introductions**

Board members introduced themselves. Cindy Schulz, a new board member, shared that she recently moved to downtown Minneapolis from Chicago and is excited to contribute to the Downtown community.

### **3. Approval of the Agenda**

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

### **4. Ward 3 Update**

Patrick Sadler, Policy Aide from Ward 3, provided updates including:

- Release of the Omni development design, with construction anticipated to begin in spring 2026.
- Waymo autonomous vehicles will begin testing in downtown Minneapolis, initially with safety drivers present.
- Continued City focus on homelessness and low-income housing.
- City investment of \$14 million across 14 projects citywide.
- Opening of 126 new shelter beds, expected to come online by the end of the year.

Sadler responded to a question regarding drone delivery and FAA updates, noting no new federal updates at this time.

### **5. Hennepin County Update**

Hennepin County Commissioner Marion Greene provided updates including:

- Planned repaving of Hennepin Avenue from Washington Avenue to the Hennepin Avenue Bridge in 2026, potentially including bike lanes, narrower travel lanes, and integration of the E-Line Bus Rapid Transit.
- A pedestrian ramp project on Hennepin Avenue between 3rd Street North and Nicollet Island currently in the design phase.
- Introduction of a Hennepin County Commercial Ownership Assistance Program to support small business commercial real estate ownership.
- Availability of small business professional and legal consulting support.
- A proposed \$25,000 public art investment along the Mississippi Riverfront, including installations, a floating concert, and Indigenous youth art experiences in North Loop Park and Graco Park.

Commissioner Greene also provided an overview of the Hennepin County budget process, noting that the Truth in Taxation hearing will take place on Tuesday, December 2, at 6:00 p.m. at the Hennepin County Government Center.

Discussion followed regarding the interim use permit application for an emergency shelter at 219 South 4th Street (former Lumen Hotel). Commissioner Greene committed to following up with county staff and continuing coordination with DMNA as questions arise.

## 6. Election of Officers

The Board conducted its annual election of officers:

- President: *Brophy moved to continue serving as President. Hansen moved and Schulz seconded the motion. The motion passed.*
- Vice President: *Brophy nominated Hansen to continue as Vice President. Laden seconded. The motion passed.*
- Secretary: *Brophy nominated Reeves to continue as Secretary. Hansen seconded. The motion passed.*
- Treasurer: *Brophy nominated Laden to continue as Treasurer. Hansen seconded. The motion passed.*

## 7. Consent Agenda

The consent agenda included approval of the October board minutes; the September and October financial reports; and the September and October Executive Director Reports.

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

**8. Land Use Committee Update**

Executive Director Christie Hantge reported that the Land Use Committee did not have action items requiring board approval. She noted that the committee will meet on December 1 and encouraged board attendance due to a full agenda.

**9. Safety and Security Committee Update**

President Dan Brophy noted the upcoming DMNA Property Manager Safety Forum scheduled for December 10. The one-hour forum will focus on safety issues relevant to downtown property managers.

**10. New / Old / Other Business**

**A. Conflict of Interest Policy** - Executive Director Christie Hantge reminded the board to sign and return the Conflict-of-Interest Policy.

**B. 205 Park Avenue Lease** – Hantge also noted that it has been decided that the DMNA will not renew its lease with Sherman Associates for the small space at the Vicinity. The DMNA had originally leased the space on behalf of the Minneapolis Police Department’s 1<sup>st</sup> Precinct with the intent that it would be a substation or safety center, but due to budget constraints, it never came to fruition. Council Member Rainville has been using the space over the past two summers as a location for the Somali Edlers to use the bathroom and take rest breaks during their safety walks in the Mill District. He will work directly with Sherman Associates if these safety walks continue.

**11. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:15 p.m.