

# MNA BOARD MEETING MINUTES— February 2021

Zoom Meeting: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 6:30 pm –8:02 pm

|                            |   |                              |   |                                 |   |
|----------------------------|---|------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|---|
| Maggie Dugan– 1            | X | Terry Evenson--9             | X | <b>GUESTS:</b>                  |   |
| Miguel & Sammy Benson – 2  | A | Gene Masters/ Diane Berry-10 | X | Christian Albouras              | X |
| Mike Edmonds – 3           | X | Jacob Kriegisch– 11          | X | Matt Veldran—County Board       | A |
| Tony Smick – 4             | X | Arik Grundahl--12            | A | Lucas Hale—Neighborhood Officer | A |
| Tyler Rehm/Sara Wagner – 5 | X | Sheray Wallace--13           | A | Kristen McCool—Cpt. Adv. Grp    | X |
| Lisa Veldran – 6           | X | Lisa Schulz, Treasurer       | X |                                 |   |
| Heidi Wiley – 7            | X | Rebecca Kowalewsky—At Large  | X |                                 |   |
| Janice/ Mark Bauman – 8    | X | (X= present, A= absent)      |   |                                 |   |

**Welcome (Terry):** Terry welcomed all. Christian may be coming soon. Officer Hale is up north and won't be joining. Matt and Sheray unable to attend tonight.

## STANDING BUSINESS

- **January Minutes:** No comments. Approved.
- **Treasurer's Report (Lisa S.):** Lisa has filed our federal taxes and the 2021 financials have been filed with the state. We are looking for a retired CPA that will be able to fill out our financial forms for us in the future (we will pay). **Action:** Let Lisa or Terry know if you have any suggestions of someone qualified. This job has become very onerous for Lisa because our funds went over \$50,000 this year due to grants and donations. Filling out financial forms have become more complicated now.

## INVITED GUESTS

- **City Alder Update (Christian):**
  - Rental Assistance: Federal funds are available to help for rent—a great opportunity for District 20. MHP was chosen to be one of the organizations that will help to distribute the money. MNA is the fiscal agent for that. Christian will email Sheray and Terry in the next day or two about the amount of money allocated to MHP. Terry wondered if the contract will be with the service providers or will MNA sign a contract for Sheray's portion. Christian wasn't sure. Terry was concerned that MNA will need to be prepared for additional State and Federal reporting requirements if MNA signs a contract with the City. Ultimately, the city will decide.
  - Crisis Response Team: The previous budget allocated money for an alternative crisis response team. Not every call warrants a police response. This model is currently being piloted. The next steps are to hire new staff and train them. Terry asked where the team will be stationed: downtown or the whole city? Christian will check on that. Terry also asked about funding for continuing the CSW (Community Safety Worker) program. Christian said that he will check again with public health. Terry also hasn't heard back from them.
  - New Proposed Rezoning Ordinance Changes: The goals are to create an easier, more predictable and efficient process for small and medium-scale housing that developers can count on. They will have permitted use instead of conditional use and won't have to get permission from the planning commission. The downside is that because the process is quicker, neighbors might not have their voices heard. The city's goal is more affordable housing. We need more places like the Commonwealth building on Raymond Rd next to the strip mall. There are opportunities for more development in our district. In the future, Commonwealth may buy the 5902 Raymond building and put housing in there. Christian is asking residents and the board to think about this issue and get back to him with our thoughts and opinions.

## OLD BUSINESS

- **City proposed housing ordinance zoning changes:** See discussion above.
- **MHP Activities: Healthy Community Food Grant & Eviction Prevention Grant (Terry)**
  - *Eviction Prevention Grant:* federal money that the city awarded to a couple of consortiums. MHP is part of one of them. Sheray/Terry will hear for sure this week or the next.
  - *MHP Healthy Community Food Grant* (grant written by Mike and Terry): This grant will build on the work that Sheray is also doing by giving \$25,000 to buy gift cards for food. The award should be determined in the next month or so.
- **Safety Committee Report (Rebecca):**
  - Please complete and return the Captain's survey that Terry sent out by email.
  - If people have Google Security Cameras, they are encouraged to register them with the MPD so that the department has an idea of how many people have cameras in the neighborhood. These are helpful for police doing their research. Terry said that this should be placed in the newsletter, website, etc.
  - Kristin McCool reported that there were no neighborhood burglaries in the last month. Safety Corner recommendation: when you come home, don't place your purse right on the counter for someone to grab. Don't give bank account info to potential scammers.
- **New Google Distribution List for Meadowood Residents (Rebecca):**
  - Thanked the board for their patience. Nonprofit Google account set up. There is an unlimited number of groups. Google groups have heightened security to protect against scammers.
  - Meadowood distribution hopefully easier next time. Terry sent the Captain's survey through the Google group to test it.
- **Virtual Bingo—February 20, 7 p.m. (Terry/Board):** Assignments are covered. Terry will send out a Zoom link and Rebecca will forward. Lisa S. says that the database must be updated so that she knows who is a member.
- **Discussion of MNA donation to local organization (follow-up to January discussion):**
  - Decision to hold off on this discussion until next month.
  - In response to a suggestion to contribute to the Good Shepherd Food Pantry, Tony questioned whether that would impact the church's own contribution to the pantry. Lisa S. offered an explanation of how Good Shepherd uses their donations.

## NEW BUSINESS

- **On-line directory update (Terry/Gene):** The plan is for Gene to update the on-line directory in March. The database needs to be correct and up to date. Since the newsletter comes out in early April, we will make a note that the online directory has been updated. **Action:** We will set a specific March date at the next meeting. Gene has agreed to update the online directory.
- **Meeting adjourned at 8:02 PM.**

Respectfully submitted,

Janice Bauman