

MNA BOARD MEETING MINUTES— September 2020

Zoom Meeting: Wednesday, September 3, 2020 6:30 pm –8:00 pm

Vacant – 1		Terry Evenson--9	X	GUESTS:	
Miguel & Sammy Benson – 2	A	Gene Masters/ Diane Berry-10	X	Christian Albouras	A
Mike Edmonds – 3	A	OPEN – 11		Matt Veldran—County Board	X
Tony Smick – 4	X	Arik Grundahl--12	A	Lucas Hale—Neighborhood Officer	X
Tyler Rehm/Sara Wagner – 5	X	Sheray Wallace--13	X	Timothy Patton, Captain, MPD	X
Lisa Veldran – 6	X	Lisa Schulz, Treasurer	X	Sally Yaeger	X
Heidi Wiley – 7	X				
Janice/ Mark Bauman – 8	X	(X= present, A= absent)			

Welcome (Terry): Terry welcomed everybody and invited Officer Hale and Captain Patton to give their reports first.

INVITED GUESTS

- **Update on neighborhood safety issues (Officer Lucas Hale):**
 - Concern over recent weapons violations.
 - Balsam Road shooting over the weekend. Large gatherings occurring on Balsam.
 - Increased staffing to Balsam area this weekend. Police are working with landlords and case managers to hit this on multiple fronts. Educating members of community.
- **Future Police Budgets (Captain Patton):** Talked in context of the greater city.
 - Weapons fired is as high as it has been—88% increase in the city. Uptick specifically on Balsam and Leland—an unprecedented level of gun violence. This is also a city-wide phenomenon.
 - Budget for 2021 MPD: need more police intervention projectiles and crime scene equipment.
 - All city depts. need to make a 5% cut. A cut in MPD staff will be needed. There will be a reduction in neighborhood officers and specialty teams such as Community Outreach and the Mental Health unit. They may explore other models like in Eugene, OR but these will take time to put in place.
 - Sheray and Matt V. upset because the Mental Health Unit may be eliminated. Sheray said we need to keep these officers or we won't move forward. The city contracts with Journey Mental Health, but it's not easy to get someone in for services. Lisa V. says that she thinks money will be allocated to other departments and organizations to do these services.
- **City Alder Update (Christian A.):** Not able to be present at meeting (teaching an MATC course tonight).
- **Matt Veldran (County Board update):** Reported than Dr. Deborah Birx (Federal Coronavirus Response Coordinator) was here to visit Madison. She said that we are doing well with our Covid-19 response efforts.

STANDING BUSINESS

- **June 2020 minutes:** No comments. Approved as they stand.
- **Treasurer's Report (Lisa Schulz):** Lisa having computer issues and unable to participate at this time. Treasurer's Report was clear and easy to follow.
- **Police Liaison Information (Lisa V.):**
 - Civilian Oversight Board: accepting nominations. Lisa V. would like Sheray to apply for this. The board can support her. NAACP and Urban League declined to be a part of it. We need someone from our neighborhood. The board needs people of color. Sheray said she would never have gotten this far if it wasn't for Lisa/Matt Veldran. Terry will write a letter of recommendation for Sheray's placement on the Civilian Oversight Board.
 - Lisa V. said that there is a website to give anonymous tips about crime. We need to do more to get this info out to our neighbors about this website. People need to close their garages. The police are also tracking Next Door for data such as bikes stolen.

OLD BUSINESS

- **MHP Activities (Sheray):**
 - Sheray is keeping a spreadsheet including names and addresses of whom she delivers items to. Lisa S. keeps track of Sheray's grant money. Sheray is planning on sharing her spreadsheet with the board at the end of the year.
 - Sheray reports that she is very busy with eviction prevention, needs of undocumented people in the LatinX community, requests for gift cards to help families buy diapers, laundry soap, etc., parents needing to work and not able to oversee their children doing virtual learning. Some families are losing internet connections. Covid -19 has had a huge impact. Terry wrote a short article about Sheray's work in the newsletter.
- **Communication w/ Meadowood Residents: Can we be a better conduit of info? (Terry):**
 - Should we have Zoom meetings to communicate with residents? Webinars? Should we invite speakers such as Captain Patton? We could use Christian's Zoom account.
 - Lisa V. says the Good Neighbor Program will be eliminated in the next budget.
 - Sheray said we have two Meadowood neighborhoods (homeowners & apartments). She thinks we need to step in & set up 4-6 tables outside for voter registration rather than Zoom meetings. Sheray says that the current voting situation is very confusing.
Action: Terry asked Sheray to set a date of when to do this. **Action:** Lisa V. will talk with the city clerk's office. Tony S. suggested having a drop off box in the park to drop off ballots. Volunteers can help to co-sign ballots (witnesses).
 - Terry says we absolutely need to update the MNA website. Arik has been too busy to do this. Gene volunteered to look at the MNA website and see if he can help. **Action:** Terry will give him the password information.
 - Start sending electronic newsletter through mail chimp instead of PDF. Gene says that Diane is a professional mail chimp writer. **Action:** Mark will contact Diane and work with her for the Nov/Dec. newsletter.
- **2021 Membership Drive (Terry):**
 - Terry welcomes ideas from board members regarding outreach.
 - Membership info was sent out to everyone on the board. Terry provided info about how to go online to mail in money and registration. She wants to know if anyone needs help assembling the printed membership packet. Sally Yaeger will distribute membership packets to Area 11. We won't need to talk to residents—just drop packet at every home.
 - Terry will help board members with copying, labels, envelopes, etc. if they need it.
- **Updates (Terry):**
 - Construction beginning at 5802 Raymond Road. Area is completely fenced in. The target for completion is Spring 2021.
 - Treatment of ash tree in Meadowood Park is completed. It's good for another 2 years.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Distribution of Meadowood (Mark):** A reminder that the Sept/Oct. issue gets distributed to everyone. Everyone gets a hard copy as well as a PDF (if they have requested it). Mark printed 1,000 copies. It's a longer newsletter. Thanks to Terry for writing several good articles. Mark will be sending out the PDF copy attachment tonight.
- **Meeting adjourned** at 8:00 pm.