

# MNA BOARD MEETING MINUTES— September 2021

Zoom Meeting: Wednesday, September 1, 2021 6:30 pm –7:55 pm

Maggie Dugan– 1	A	Terry Evanson--9	X	<b>GUESTS:</b>	
Miguel & Sammy Benson – 2	A	Maureen Murphy --10	X	Christian Albouras	X
Mike Edmonds – 3	X	Jacob Kriegisch– 11	X	Matt Veldran—County Board	A
Tony Smick – 4	A	Arik Grundahl--12	A	Lucas Hale—Neighborhood Officer	X
Lisa Kaas – 5	X	Sheray Wallace--13	X	Alyssa Souza—Neighborhood Liaison Officer	X
Lisa Veldran – 6	X	Lisa Schulz, Treasurer	X	Aurelius Leslie	X
Heidi Wiley – 7	X	Kristin McCool—At Large	X	Leslie Jemison	X
Janice/ Mark Bauman – 8	X	(X= present, A= absent)		Sally Yaeger	X

## WELCOME

- Terry welcomed all attendees and introduced Lisa Kaas, a new board member to the group. Lisa K. will be the representative for Area 5.

## INVITED GUESTS

- **Police Report (Officer Hale/Souza):**
  - Lucas reported that police continue to follow the summer strategic plan. Quite a few property burglaries/stolen cars on West side. We all need to shut our garage doors, lock car and home doors, and keep garage door openers in the house at night.
  - City Budget: 5% reduction proposed in the police budget (roughly 35 positions). Lucas is asking for our support to oppose this because of all the negative issues with a reduction in staffing. Sheray suggested that the board send a letter to the mayor, voicing our concern. Board discussed this issue and agreed that we should send a letter. **Action:** Terry will draft it.
- **County Board Update (Matt Veldran):** not present.
- **Alder Update (Christian Albouras):**
  - The mayor has released the Capitol Budget and will release the Operating Budget on Oct. 5.
  - Reindahl Park (homeless encampment): Too much is going on there with housing and security. It is disruptive and there are health safety issues. This needs to be addressed, but not criminalized. Another possible encampment place for the homeless is on Dairy Drive.
  - Police body cameras: priority item, but not before budget is out. Political hot button. This won't come before city council until early next year. Should have minimal impact on the budget—somehow shift resources. Mike E. suggests that cameras or IT infrastructure should not be in police budget. It's a non-police item with police oversight.
  - Large item pickup: cumbersome, but city doesn't want to budge on the change in pick up. Sheray says that many residents don't have knowledge on how to schedule a pick up.
  - Terry asked about drafting a letter to the mayor from the board to not cut police budget and staff. Christian supports this. Lisa V. recommended getting the letter out in the next week and sending copies to Chief Barnes and all the alders.

## STANDING BUSINESS

- **August 2021 Minutes:** No comments. Approved. Janice thanked Maggie Dugan for doing the minutes for two months during her absence.
- **Treasurer's Report (Lisa S.):** Budget balances were emailed. Lisa says that there is nothing more to report. No questions from board. Accepted as written.

## OLD BUSINESS

- **MNA Picnic (Terry):**
  - Thanked the board members for helping with the picnic. 60 people came which was a good number, considering the pandemic. Sheray attended, so members were able to meet her in person.
  - Board Elections (Mike E.): Mike reported no write-ins. Everybody on the board was reelected—including area representatives and board positions.
- **MHP Activities (Sheray):** Thanked the Board for all their help and support.
  - School donations: Gave out 40 bookbags and lots of supplies. Everyone was very grateful.
  - MHP is working hard to prevent evictions. Sheray is working closely with a law team at the university to address legal aspects to prevent evictions and homelessness.
  - Funding: Lisa V. reports that it appears that our proposal (CORE 2 city grant) for Sheray went through last night (it was in the mayor's blog).
  - Community Supper in December: Sheray would like people to adopt a family to buy presents for. Both Maureen and Lisa K. volunteered to help with the community supper and gift giving. Sheray will use a form with a wish list from families and will work on a list by October.
- **Safety Committee Report (Kristen M.):**
  - Coffee with a Cop: There are several of these in Madison. Open to anyone. Every Thurs. at 9 am. Locations vary, but usually at a park. Officers have a wealth of knowledge. Kristin encourages members of board to attend. Ask her for information on the meeting locations.
- **Fall Membership Drive—Review of Membership Drive Materials/Meeting in Person:**
  - Since there are several new members on the board, Terry gave a review of how to conduct the membership drive. Resources are all on the Google Drive or you can come up with your own method. Shared screen. We all have a link to the drive. The folder is called Membership Drive Documents—step by step process. Finish by end of November before it gets too cold. Update info into database. Better response if you talk to neighbors face to face. Back of gray membership card has address for online directory (updated every six months).
  - Board Meetings: Terry reserved the room for 10/6 and 11/3 at the library for MNA meetings. Wear masks.

## NEW BUSINESS

- **Fall or Winter Retreat (Terry):** Discussion about fall retreat which is usually done every two years in November instead of a board meeting that month. Usually lasts two hours. There is a link to previous documents on the drive. We should be thinking about whether we should have a fall retreat this year or after Christmas in January. We'll discuss this again at the next meeting. Maureen suggested having it later so that we can get Covid booster shots.
- **September 2021 Newsletter Distribution (Mark):** The fall edition goes out to everybody regardless of whether they are a member or not. All get a hard copy, but you can send them both if that is what they want. It is a longer issue—8 pages with lots going on. Lisa S. has already picked up the newsletters from the printer and they can be picked up from her home on Lynndale Road.
- **Adjourn:** Meeting ended at 7:55 pm.