

MNA BOARD MEETING MINUTES— March 2021

Zoom Meeting: Wednesday, March 3, 2021 6:30 pm –8:00 pm

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

Welcome (Terry): Terry welcomed all.

INVITED GUESTS

- **Update on Neighborhood Safety Issues; CSW Activities (Lucas Hale not present): Sheray gave update on CSW:**
 - Sheray and her CSW partner have been working on several cases with officers. They met with victims and offenders in two cases and walked the neighborhood with police officers last weekend. The new police chief is on board with what they are doing.
- **City Alder Update (Christian Albouras):**
 - Gave thanks to Sheray for her work. He has reached out to City staff regarding the COVID-19 rent funding to speed disbursement of funds to MHP and other contracted organizations.
 - Gave update on city-proposed housing ordinance zoning changes to remove barriers for approval of small/medium housing development. There are questions and concerns about this proposal. Specific concerns expressed: will this be a step toward accessory dwelling units on single family lots and how the city determines which areas to fast-track for approval. Per Christian, the impact on District 20 is pretty light. He will continue to advocate for public neighborhood meetings on all developments.
 - Body cameras for police: Christian feels that it is the right direction for the city. A committee will give recommendations to the council and then they will decide.
 - Oversight Board: Thanked Sheray for her service. An independent monitor is being hired.
 - New police chief: Christian hopes to have the new chief speak to our neighborhood soon so that the Chief can get to know our community.

STANDING BUSINESS

- **February 2021 Minutes:** No comments. Approved.
- **Treasurer’s Report (Lisa S.):** Fairly light month. Lisa said that two memberships were added right before the Bingo event. No other comments.

OLD BUSINESS

- **MHP Activities (Sheray):** She is keeping a spreadsheet of all of her activities. She will be starting at the library tomorrow to help neighbors fill out TRC rent assistance applications. She is waiting on funds to be distributed from the City Eviction Prevention Grant (Covid funds). She will soon be applying for the American Family Basic Needs Grant.
- **Safety Committee Report (Rebecca/Kristen):**
 - Rebecca will be submitting an article about the committee in the next Meadoword.
 - Kristin stated that Chief Barnes (new police chief) was at their last meeting. She really likes his leadership and openness.

- Crime report: Krista said that there was not much crime in February due to the extreme cold. Very few problems in Meadowood.
- Lisa V. asked how the pandemic is affecting the mental health of kids that are not in school. Sheray said that kids have definitely been affected, causing more domestic issues with their parents. Lots of families are under stress.
- **Updating Online Directory (Gene):** He will be doing this in April. **Action:** Everyone needs to make sure that their respective area is updated with new memberships on the database. It needs to be as accurate as possible.
- **Review of Virtual Bingo Game and suggestions for future Bingo events (Terry):**
 - Debriefing: Some felt that it was not nearly as good as in person. The purpose of this event is to interact and get to know your neighbors. Hard to do this on Zoom. Several people had technical issues with their computers. Some had trouble putting their names and addresses in the Chat box.
 - Terry reported that 96 cards were claimed. More than 50 people participated. Prizes were all delivered to homes. Gene suggested that maybe next year we could combine the Zoom option with in-person as well.
 - Terry reported that in the past we've never had kids at Bingo, but more participated this year when on line. In the future, we may consider inviting kids as well. Sara suggested splitting up with kids in a separate room with kids' prizes.
- **Discussion of MNA donation to local organization (follow up from December):** Mike E. not here to present his findings. Will table this until next month.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Make Music Madison**—does the City have suggestions for this? (Sara): Sara hasn't received any news from the city about plans for MMM this year, but she said that she would check in and let us know next time. Terry commented that MMM would be an easy festival to socially distance outside. Lisa V. said that she would also double check with a staff person (Lisa works for the city).
- **Meadowood Community Garden Information (Terry):** She has contacted the person in charge of the Meadowood garden and garden plots are being reserved right now. It was quite popular last year during the pandemic. She just wanted to make sure that everyone is aware about reserving garden space.
- **April/May 2021 Newsletter Articles due (Mark):** He will send out a notice for articles next Monday. He would like to encourage the Board to send out emails in your area, inviting neighbors to make submissions such as interviewing their neighbors or writing about themselves. Terry thought it would be nice for Mark to write up a blurb about some specific ideas about what would be nice for submission. For example, Gene and Diane could write about raising chickens or Mark foraging for berries to make wine. Sharing our interests. **Action:** Mark will draft a blurb and send it to Rebecca. She will use the Google group to send out the message to neighbors directly.
- **Meeting adjourned at 8 PM.** Lisa V. made a motion and Maggie seconded.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice Bauman