

MNA BOARD MEETING MINUTES—September 2019

Meadowood Community Center: Wednesday, September 4, 6:30 pm -7:55 pm

Elizabeth Schroeder - 1	A	Gene Masters - 10	X	GUESTS:	
Miguel Benson - 2	X	OPEN – 11		Christian Albouras	X
Mike Edmonds - 3	X	OPEN – 12		Matt Veldran—County Board	X
Tony Smick - 4	X	Sheray Wallace – 13	X	Merle Bengston- Police Liaison	X
Tyler Rehm/Sara Wagner - 5	X			Candice Butler—Walgreens Mgr.	X
Lisa Veldran - 6	X			Shirley Culp--guest	X
Lisa Schulz - 7	X			Sally Yaeger--guest	X
Janice/ Mark Bauman - 8	X	(X= present, A= absent)		Neighborhood Officer (no one at present)	A
Terry Evanson - 9	A				

- **Welcome (Mike):** Meeting began at 6:30. Mike welcomed everyone and distributed copies of minutes and agenda.
- **August Minutes:** Gene made a motion to accept the August minutes and Tony seconded the motion. Approved.
- **Treasurer’s report:** Lisa referred board to her previously sent report which contained account balances and expenses. She also reported that she had to use the MNA credit card while on a trip to pay for the Officers’ and Directors’ Liability Insurance. The credit card bill has now been paid. Minutes were approved.
- **City Council Report (Christian Albouras):**
 - The mayor’s Capital Budget of \$176 million was proposed with a focus on affordable housing and bus rapid transit issues.
 - Christian attended a meeting of the Transportation Public Policy Board because traffic safety is one of the main issues that his constituents voice to him.
 - Arranged a meeting with Captain Patton along with Terry, Mike, and Sheray. They asked the captain about why we don’t have a neighborhood officer until next year. Captain Patton said that there are not enough trained officers to fill that position. Sheray mentioned that the neighborhood has lost trust in the police since we lost the designated neighborhood officer. Police relationships not currently being built. Christian’s goal is to get a neighborhood police office. Currently we have a female police officer in the neighborhood 3 days/week. There are competing policing strategies.
 - Alders have also heard that availability of feminine hygiene products in public restrooms is needed. Sheray agreed that the need is great. She stated that sanitary pads, tampons, condoms, pampers, soap, shavers, etc. are kept in the library bathroom at Meadowood.
 - Two guests at the meeting were invited to talk about substandard property conditions in Area 11—specifically about two houses on Raymond that have junk & old vehicles which are kept out on their front yard. They are wondering what can be done legally. Christian was not aware of this issue. He asked the guests to always email or call him so he could call for an inspection. The two guests said they have already called the building inspectors. Christian said that he will get more info from them and follow up on this.
- **County Board Report (Matt Veldran):**
 - Matt stated that the county budget process is different from the city’s budget process. Budget hearings on requests from committees will be held soon. On October 1, Joe Parisi will formulate a budget.
 - Henry Vilas Zoo: Things are going well after the transition to the county from the non-profit that had been running the Vilas Zoo’s concessions and fundraising. There is also a new full time medical staff zoo keeper.
 - A new partnership with the city to clean local swimming areas and get rid of weeds.

OLD BUSINESS

- **Walgreen's on Raymond (manager Candice Butler):** Candice stated that she currently lives in Sun Prairie but would like to make more connections in this neighborhood, including volunteer work. She is constantly needing to hire more staff-- an ongoing issue. She is going to be starting onsite interviews for positions available. Candice asked about different neighborhood locations to post these openings. Sheray gave her many ideas and Sara said that she could post something on Nextdoor Meadowood. Candice said that her current main concern is to get a full staff. She is also concerned because there is no current neighborhood police officer. Mike reminded her that there is a female police officer scheduled in the neighborhood 3 days/week. He also gave Candice the phone number of Captain Patton (608-243-0503) to call with concerns. Another issue is large groups of students (sometimes 50-60 kids) coming into Walgreens to buy food before school starts. The two staff cannot ring them up fast enough, so they end up late to school. She said that she has reached out to the schools but hasn't heard back yet. Mike said that there are free breakfasts at school but many kids don't want that. This is not an easy problem to solve. Sheray suggests that the board could talk to Stephanie and Mellowood to have parents on the premises to help serve food to the kids. Mike thinks we need to have a meeting. Lisa V. talked about doing a survey to determine why they all are going to Walgreens. **Action:** Mike will call the school and maybe Candice can call school (again) as well. **Action:** Mike will call Stephanie from Commonwealth about this issue.
- **Installation of new Welcome Signs (Mike Edmonds):** Mike said that he will be taking over the task of installing the signs from Gene. Gene has already passed on the paint supplies. The posts are in good shape but will need to be primed and painted. Mike will have one JFF-assigned youth (Joining Forces for Families) help him.
- **Upcoming Meadowood Health Partnership activities (Sheray Wallace):** Activities include suicide prevention, pharmacist medication reviews, and Diabetes Day. Sheray will put future dates of community suppers on the website. She will be going to Milwaukee to do a workshop on October 16. Odana Atrium Clinic has expressed interest in wanting a partnership with MHP. Sheray thanked those who donated money for school supplies and back packs, distributed at the last community supper. She is currently looking for a documentary about mental health issues for kids.
- **2020 Membership Drive:** Mike distributed blue membership cards that Terry had prepared for area reps. He advised anyone with questions to contact Terry about the drive.
- **Fall 2019 Board Retreat (Lisa V.):** Lisa said that she had sent out a Doodle to determine the best date for the fall retreat. She encouraged everyone to complete the doodle poll.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Meadowood Newsletters (Mark):** The newsletter is a 6-pager including articles from both Christian and Matt. Newsletters are not yet printed. **Action:** Mark will hand deliver newsletters as soon as they are ready.
- **Police Report (Merle Bengston):** Merle asked if anyone has questions about the report. Mike reminded everyone to lock their car and garage. 90% of thefts are from unlocked cars. Shortage of police officers: studies indicated that we should have two patrol officers for every 1,000 of our population. Tony asked if these are vacancies that need to be filled. Merle responded that Madison graduated the largest class to fill the vacancies. There will be more openings due to retirement and attrition. Vacancies are being filled by trainees at times. We are currently short 37 officers for our population, according to Merle.
- **How do we recruit members from Area 14 and Area 15? (Mike Edmonds):** These areas are located around the commercial strip. We need people of color and people who are renting. We are not a complete neighborhood association until we have them as members. Do we need waivers for membership costs? Do we talk to landlords about paying for their tenants?
- **Directories (guest Shirley Culp):** Shirley asked when the next directory will be printed. There are currently many blanks in the directory. Mike explained that some people don't want their names listed. Referred Shirley to the back of the membership card which gives website to access directory. She said that many elderly residents do not use computers and will need a printed copy. This issue of distributing directories to those without computer access will need to be discussed and clarified by board.
- **Adjourn:** Meeting was adjourned at 7:55 pm. Motion made by Sheray and seconded by Miguel.

Respectfully submitted,
Janice Bauman, Board Secretary