

Minutes of July 8, 2021
LYNAS Board Meeting on Zoom Videoconference

Board Members and Staff Present: Peter Nussbaum, Mike O'Brien, Clare Padgett, Paul Ragozzino, Ellen Share, Logan Warren and Ruth Olson

Guests Present: CM Linea Palmisano

Meeting called to order at 6:04 p.m. There was an addition to the agenda to discuss a social media content policy.

Minutes: Minutes from the June 10 LYNAS meeting were reviewed. A motion to approve the Minutes was carried by unanimous vote.

Treasurer's Report: Clare presented the Treasurer's Report. Most spending categories are under budget. Clare still needs to speak with US Bank about a credit card for recurring expenses. A discussion was held about how to better use a Zoom membership between general neighborhoods and the LEC.

Ward 13 Report: CM Palmisano reported:

- She has had a lot of contact from concerned neighbors near 50th & Colfax, the scene of a recent armed robbery and carjacking of two vehicles. There has been an uptick in crime and this is unacceptable. (A secondary concern was expressed about the proposed parking restrictions on Bryant and if the new layout will cause drivers to be frustrated and drive dangerously on side streets.) CM Palmisano noted that public safety is her #1 priority and she supports Mayor Frey and Chief Arradondo and an adequately staffed department. There are internal initiatives to promote more effective recruitment of qualified candidates.
- There are a lot of concerns regarding public safety in Uptown due to occupation of space, arson, violence, trespassing, break-ins, blocking the road, hot rodding and shots fired. These activities are all in response to the shooting death of Winston Smith by US Marshalls. The police provide CM Palmisano with daily briefings. Several businesses have been targeted on multiple occasions and some are considering closing for good. Discussion also centered on large gatherings (e.g. the Aquatennial) and how to keep the public safe. The Uptown Art Fair has been cancelled. Arrests are being made, sometimes the same person multiple times, but they are released and go right back to the area.
- The next iteration of the Bryant Ave Reconstruction design concept has been released and will be discussed at a virtual Open House on 7/13. The proposal calls for a converging one-way at Bryant and 46th. The one-way proposal allows for more on-street parking, especially at business nodes. Most (but not all) businesses are supportive of the plan. Concern was expressed about the converging one-way and how that will divert traffic to Aldrich and Colfax. The city will use mitigation techniques to try to force the traffic on to Lyndale.

Outreach to Other Neighborhood Associations: Logan and Ellen presented a plan to begin outreach to other neighborhoods/associations. They would like to do this in a careful and thoughtful way that allows LYNAS to be an ally and not come off as trying to be a "savior". They propose starting with research and surveying of stakeholders to then guide a plan, making sure that they are not making assumptions about what other neighborhoods or groups want. They hope to focus efforts, at least in Lynnhurst, on education and a greater understanding of disparities that exist in Minneapolis. Several ideas were discussed such as adopting a school and providing supplies, using the 8/5 Lynnhurst event as a donation drive, etc. However, it was decided that we first need to do the research and identify who needs assistance and of what sort. Clare will follow-up with Washburn and Page regarding how they used the funds that LYNAS helped raise for them last year. The donation drive that LYNAS did for Haven Housing was also reviewed.

It was agreed that the first step will be to talk with CM Palmisano to get her suggestions of which of her colleagues, community leaders and cultural groups would be appropriate to interview as research. The long term goal is to start conversations, build bridges and the empowerment of local action and volunteers.

New City Requirements:

Peter has circulated a first draft of an Equitable Engagement Plan for 2022 for LYNAS. The plan focuses on trying to engage renters into participation with the association and possible Board membership. The plan calls for creating an accurate list of rental properties, an accurate mailing list and then engagement of renters through written communications and door knocking. The door knocking could be done by Board members or by well-trained paid staff. It would be nice to determine why people choose Lynnhurst, how long they plan to live here, what their long-term housing goals are, etc. We need to submit a draft plan by Sept. 1 and the city will review and comment. Board members were encouraged to review the draft and send initial feedback to Peter.

New Initiatives:

- The second Ice Cream Bars in the Park event will be on July 13. Victoria, Peter and Paul will volunteer. Paul will get the tent back from Ellen and then Ruth will store it until we are done using it for the year.
- The Lynnhurst Community Celebration and Ice Cream Social will be on Thurs., Aug. 5 in lieu of the usual Summer Festival. LYNAS will scoop and serve Sebastian Joe's ice cream and we'll have music (Ken Goldman Combo) and kid entertainment. A motion was made to offer \$400 for the musicians and that it would come from the festival budget; motion carried by unanimous vote. Board members have already starting volunteering for shifts- extra volunteers would be great. We will need to set up the stage, tent, etc. and then take them back down. Promotion has already begun.

Additional Agenda Items:

- Open Streets Lyndale will take place on Oct. 10. Discussion was held about how we might participate, the weather and the ongoing effects of the pandemic and large gatherings. LYNAS would prefer to not participate, but will consider further once Tangletown and Kenny have had a chance to discuss. It is unclear if we could do food (popcorn?) and games (disinfect between use?)
- Given that the Equitable Engagement Plan has a good start, we will not have an August meeting.
- It was agreed that it is OK to use the partial Block Leader list that we have generated to promote the Community Celebration on Aug. 5 and encourage Block Leaders to share the information with their block lists.
- The southwest neighborhoods (Wards 13, 10 and 11) are working together to schedule several Election Education opportunities. These will include candidate forums (City Council, Park Board) and Charter Amendment discussions. Linden Hills has been working on a Ward 13 Candidate Forum and plans to record and live stream it; Lynnhurst will contribute \$100.
- Beth Ashbrook will write a Neighbor Spotlight for each newsletter, but needs suggestions. Board members are encouraged to think of neighbors with an interesting background, job, hobby, etc. and forward those to Beth (e.g. Ken Goldman).
- Logan will circulate the Electronic Media Policy for comment.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Ruth Olson, Neighborhood Coordinator

Approved by LYNAS Board President: _____

Signed: _____

LYNAS Secretary