

SENA Board of Directors

July 2020 Meeting

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Attachments

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Board Member Attendance:

Present: Cherylyne Vaz, Nathan Shepherd, Emily Resseger, Adam Vander Poel, Dave Austin, Megan Drake-Pereyra, Maria Conley, Diana Person Solomon

Absent:

Staff: Candace Miller Lopez, Emerson Sample

7:05 Approval of consent agenda items - [Board Motion](#)

- Agenda for current meeting
- Minutes June 2020 meeting
- May & June Financials

7:10 Guests & Elected Officials

Andrew Johnson:

Charter Commission: If things move along quickly, we should have a vote on that this year.

Powderhorn Sanctuary:

Lots of work going on around helping individuals who are experiencing homelessness. He has pages and pages of work to communicate about that, and he does not want to try to summarize it up, so he will send those documents those who ask for it.

Powderhorn sanctuary is probably too large at this point. Smaller sanctuaries work better. Right now the Park Board has opened up the park buildings for people to be able to take showers, and collect needles, and other sanitation needs.

Building around Franklin and Cedar: No timeline yet, but we have partners working together to get hotel rooms for individuals experiencing homelessness right now. Finding funding and getting buildings put up to house people who are experiencing homelessness can take years. That process has been exacerbated by the pandemic. It's a huge challenge in general, and the vacancies are very low right now. In a lot of cases, there is not space available for those people.

Please send me an email if you have any more questions!

Rachel Sarto: I am a part of a group of neighbors who are talking about what would be useful in terms of mutual care, and we've been talking a lot about the history of this city. We looked at who is Miles Standish, and we thought we might not want to be lifting this person up. And we thought that this could be a good thing to explore for our neighborhood, and possibly change the name to someone with a connection to the Minnesota, Minneapolis, and our neighborhood.

Ananda: I would like to learn more about what type of work it would take to gather information to explore this name change. I am also interested in the format of these neighborhood association meetings, and how we can work to do this work.

Cherylyne: Have you talked to any native neighbors about what they are thinking about this? I know that when people started organizing around the name change to Bde Maka Ska, they asked early on for input from activists at Little Earth, the American Indian Center on Franklin, and tribal leaders.

Ananda: Yes. If that was a project moving forward, we would want to figure out how to make the first move, and whether that is exploring and investigating first, or asking for native input first. Secondly, if we get asked what else are we doing to truly honor indigenous people, then that would be a good place to start, and could be a good question.

Emily: I would think it would be a good idea to get a formal decision from the board next August so that we could allow for us to put more resources into this project.

Rachel: Yes, and if we want to get this going, I would be happy to do that but am not attached to it.

Adam: That is an awesome idea, and it would be great work for us to do. I would also like to point out we do have space on the board and you are more than welcome to join if that's interesting for you.

Emliy: Sounds good! Candace, would you like to respond to Ananda's question about what SENA is doing to organize the smaller neighborhood groups who have been organizing in the neighborhood recently?

Candace: Sure. SENA has been working with MPD to organize and communicate with block leaders from the MPD program, and we are also getting an Americorps member this month to do work to figure out who all we have in the neighborhood organizing around recent events.

7:30 Operations and Financials

Megan Drake Pereyra does a review:

- Review of June Financial Disposition
- PPP loan status update

Candace: we have about 8 more weeks of expenses covered by the PPP.

- 2019 Tax filing - [Board Motion](#)

Candace: Taxes are due Wednesday

- Request to pay Studio34 by credit card - [Board Motion](#)

Candace: This does not change our costs, and this cost was approved last year.

- Board Membership & Election

Candace: 9 open spots on the board for next month. We

7:45 NRP 2020 Plan Modification -Public vote (Zoom Poll)

- Survey Monkey Update

Candace: 51 survey monkey responses. The split is roughly: 65% in Ericsson, 35% in Standish. Of the 51, 49 people said they had enough information to vote at that time. Of the 51, 42 voted "yes", 5 voted "no", 1 voted "not enough information," and 3 didn't answer.

- Discussion and Public comments

Nathan: These are funds that were repaid from home loans in the past. They were deposited with the city as they were paid back, and that money basically just sits there. It stays in the same category unless we do a plan modification.

Candace: When the money gets paid back, it turns into a program income fund, sort of like a savings account. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the response to George Floyd's murder, the City is likely to take some funds from the neighborhood association.

- Public Vote

73% Yes to 27% no (11 total votes)

8:10 Staff & Board Reports

- WRBA

Outreach, board recruitment.

- T-shirt Sales

95 T-shirts sold, about \$1,600 in revenue. Revenue will be used to support local businesses and an effort with Southside United Neighborhoods to stabilize our community.

- Website updates

Nathan: We can make the board meeting link easier to find, that's no problem.

- Outreach & Communications

- LCC Elected Officials bi-weekly meetings
- Board Letter to Elected Officials
- Executive Committee Meetings

Nathan: The executive committee is a group that has been meeting once per week including Candace, the board president ...(OTHERS) to make sure that we are doing our best to support Emerson and Candace as they are doing their work. There has been a huge influx of interest in the work that neighborhood associations can and should be doing to support neighbors during this time, and we are doing what we can to make sure they have all the help they can get.

- Board Job Description

- Neighborhood Community Relations Meetings

8:30 Adjourn

Board Action Items:

- **Motion to approve consent items:**
 - **June 2020 board meeting minutes**
 - **Agenda**
 - **Financial Statements**

 - Forwarded: **Emily Resseger**
 - Second: **Cheryllyne Vaz**
 - Passed: **Yes - All None - None**

- **Motion to approve 2019 990 tax return:**

- Forwarded: **Emily Resseger**
- Second: **Adam Vander Poel**
- Passed: **Yes - All No - None**

- **Motion to approve paying Studio34 invoice by credit card instead of check:**

- Forwarded: **David Austin**
- Second: **Adam Vander Poel**
- Passed: **Yes - All No - None**

- **NRP Plan Modification Poll Results:**

- # of votes for: **8 in meeting (plus Survey Monkey = 50)**
- # of votes against: **3 in meeting (plus Survey Monkey = 8)**
- Passed: **Yes**

- **Motion to Adjourn:**