

SENA Board of Directors

June 2020 Meeting

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SENA Board Meeting

June 8, 2020 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM

Location: Zoom

7:00 Call to order

7:05 Welcome

- Introductions - **Not everyone introduced to save time**

7:10 Approval of consent agenda items - Board Motion to move up the staff reports. Passed.

- Agenda for current meeting
- Minutes May 2020 meeting

7:20 Guests & Elected Officials

Andrew Johnson - This has been the most consequential month in Minneapolis history.

The City Council action yesterday was a commitment to start the process to develop a plan and commit to alternatives to the Minneapolis Police Department. I (Andrew) have seen a lot of reforms made to the MPD throughout many years and those solutions haven't worked. MPD is under investigation from the Minnesota Department of Civil Rights. In all likelihood, this is something that will go onto the ballot in 2021 if it requires a charter change. Lots of people have seen the headlines and assumed that that means that all of a sudden the city will descend into anarchy and complete chaos, which is not the case.

Questions and Comments for Andrew:

Melissa: What do you know about whether the police department is currently under civilian control?

Andrew: That is a good question. There needs to be better flow of information into the city council. All the info I have been able to get is from my pounding on doors and making phone calls.

Liz Brenner: I have a question about the collective bargaining agreement with MPD. Who is at that table? I understand that Bob Kroll represents the police union. Who else would be at that table?

Andrew: Bob Kroll is not at that table, there are no elected officials at the table.... Laura Davis is a negotiator.

Scott: When does the current contract expire?

Andrew: It already has, though its sort of like a lease. It will continue under its old rules until we create a new contract.

Matt Bankston: I love what I have seen from the council with defund. What else is the city council doing to implement change in the meantime?

Andrew: Yes we are working on those things.

Simona: What do we know about the funding of neighborhood associations in the city council?

Andrew: As we talk about the future of community safety, I think there is a big role for neighborhood associations to play in that. There are so many different aspects that go into community safety, that I would recommend neighborhood associations think about all the work that they want to take on.

Nathan: I feel like we're well positioned to do that work.

Andrew: Yes, Hoops and Hot Dogs is a great example of SENA doing great work in that way.

Dave: What's happening with the rebuilding of the city, and how will marginalized folks be served as business owners who experienced big losses?

Andrew: We have a lot of great advocates for small business owners in the local and state legislatures.

Candace: One of the big reasons that Lake St. business owners chose Lake St to open their businesses was that it was very affordable for commercial spaces. That's one of the things we need to be addressing as we rebuild that area is the cost of construction and the availability of affordable commercial spaces.

More Conversation:

Melissa Hysing:

- 1) I have met a lot of my neighbors recently and have created a template and an email which has been quite helpful for developing relationships with neighbors. If you're interested in having those resources, I'm happy to share.
- 2) I personally feel like Mike Freeman's inability to do his job was a major reason for why all this happened. So, I have a petition page to recall mike freeman, and if you're interested in doing that on your own block, please connect with me.

Kara: I felt left out of the meeting behind Sibley Park, and I'm wondering about what we can do to amplify our information beyond Facebook and NextDoor.

Nathan: We have talked about working together to get all of us more organized, and it should be a priority to us.

Emily: Yes, maybe our persistence on working with the block captains with the police has not been helpful and we should do our own work on that.

7:40 NRP 2020 Plan Modification -Public vote (Zoom Poll) Voted to Table the vote until next month.

Nathan: It seems like our purpose has seen a lot of changes over the years, and we have seen our role turn into - as Melissa told me years ago - focus on maximizing democracy. It's hard to talk about all the work that staff time takes up. There are a lot of tiny steps that it takes to set up some of these bigger actions that might not be as easy to talk about as signing a \$10,000 check.

Candace: I want to fill you all in on what my last two weeks have looked like. I have been called into a lot of meetings these last two weeks with people like State Senator Patricia Torres-Ray, Representative Ilhan Omar, Tina Smith and Amy Klobuchar. We have seen the potential for our work totally shift in the last month, and we have to take advantage of our leverage.

Sarah: What is the deal with the PPP?

Candace: We didn't already have that money coming in, though it was projected income.

Danielle: What if we invest our money to get more income?

Candace: We have a lot more money out there that is generating income over time for the organization.

Emily: It does not earn interest sitting where it is.

- Discussion and Public comments

- Plan alternative if the plan modification does not pass

8:10 Staff Reports

- WRBA Board search
 - Emerson: I have reached my capacity in working with the WRBA and we have decided to launch into our development of the WRBA board. Relationship building is going well, and so is social media following development.
 - Mike Oster: I would like to see a new neighbor welcome packet.
 - Kelly: That has been a project of ours for a long time. We have run into a lot of roadblocks over the years. I used to work at SENA and it was something that I was not able to complete.
 - Emily: Yes, it is hard to follow move in dates vs sale dates.
 - Adam: Thank you for bringing that to our attention. I'm sorry it seems like you must have missed our regular mailings. This is something we're working to make happen.
- T-shirt Campaign
- Emergency Food Shelf
- Meetings with elected officials
- Folwell School request for support - [Board Motion](#) - [Motion Carries](#)
 - Seeing assistance with purchasing 100 thumb drives and 100 t-shirts for graduating 8th graders.

8:30 Adjourn

Board Action Items:

- **Motion to approve consent items:**
 - **May 2020 board meeting minutes**
 - **Agenda**

 - Forwarded:
 - Second:
 - Passed: Yes No

- **Motion to approve request from Folwell School for \$575 to purchase items for graduating 8th Graders:**
 - Forwarded:
 - Second:
 - Passed: Yes No