

# East Bde Maka Ska Neighborhood Association

## Board Meeting

Thursday, June 15, 2023, 7–9 pm

St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church - Fireside Room

Virtual Option - WiFi Access Available On-Site

**Present:** Thang Holt, Adam Olson, Bobbie Keller, Kari Krautbauer, Tim Fontaine, Molly Downey, Harry Savage (Board); Cuyler (staff); Jennifer Waisanen (MPD); resident

### 1. Welcome - Zoom Ground Rules, Ice Breaker: Thang Holt, President 7:00pm

- a. "Mute" yourself when not speaking
- b. Wait to be called on before speaking, until open forum

### 2. Approve Last Month's Minutes: 7:05pm

*Thang proposes approval, Adam motions, Bobbie seconds.*

### 3. Community Safety Update: 7:10pm

*Jennifer Waisanen, Crime Prevention Specialist, MPD 5th Precinct*

- Jennifer (J): 2022 to 2023, crime stats are similar: 87 reported crimes 2023 (vs 76 2022). Rise in robberies and car thefts; MPD Dashboard provides these stats (available in [Safety Resources](#)). Generally reported crimes do rise as the weather warms.
  - With respect to car thefts, if someone's car was taken at gunpoint, where would that be logged?
    - J: It would be a robbery, with a subset of Carjacking. No carjackings Jan–June 2023.
  - These are just based on reported accounts?
    - J: Correct. Sometimes folks call 911 on shots fired or a break-in, but if they didn't actually report it, if a police report weren't generated it doesn't show up here. Internal stats on 911 calls solely (vs physical reports).
  - J: Last breakdown was for last 30 days: 2 robberies, 2 theft motor vehicles, package theft...
    - Robberies both on 3100 block of Holmes Ave - not related according to descriptions
      - 1. May 26: 4 victims walking home from bar, were approached by suspect demanding money and belongings (active, still open; intoxicated persons)
      - 2. May 28: Resident counting money on porch after Bremer ATM (active, still under investigation)
  - Do these stats pick up arson?
    - J: Yes. No update on 34th & Parkway arson, still under investigation. No update on Holmes Ave fire either - but it isn't listed in our reports. It isn't categorized as a crime. If it was categorized as a crime, it would be here.
  - Do we know the racial background of criminals?
    - J: No, I do not have those numbers. It's a spectrum of all backgrounds. Of these 4 auto thefts, 2 are Kias, 1 Nissan, 1 truck (keys left in the last two). Recent uptick in young teens, aged 12–15.
  - Effort in how to handle these cases once caught, other than letting them back out?
    - J: Mary Moriarty just came out with [a briefing](#) about how to process these younger teens so fewer recommit (a lot of repeat offenders)
    - Resident: Part of plan is getting groups of parents to talk to them, as prevention.
    - J: Starting next week, we'll have an embedded social worker at 5th Precinct. Other precincts have had them but this will be our first, we're excited for the help.
  - Insp Blackwell and Lt Frye had talked about having MPD do safety assessments...
    - J: Yes, I can coordinate folks to come out to do safety walkthroughs, talk about crime-vulnerable points (lighting, trees, garages, etc).
  - How does EBMS compare to other neighborhoods right now?

- J: Crime is higher in high-density areas like LHENA, Whittier. Stevens Square is a hot spot right now, but more drug-related crime.
- Any update on MPD presence with BMS Pavilion opening, events, Uptown Theater.
  - J: Increased presence around lakes and parks. Best way to get police presence is, currently, 911 calls. We focus policing based on 911 calls, need residents to be calling in and making reports on carjackings, break-ins. Reporting crime is something the community can do to combat crime.
- If there's damages to something (garage, car), who do I call? Not an emergency...
  - J: If it's happening now (suspicious activity), call 911. If it's after the fact, call 311 to make a report online / over the phone.
  - Resident: We heard at the last meeting that 311 and 911 don't communicate with each other...
  - J: Untrue. But calling 311 reaches us 1-2 days later.

#### 4. Reports: 7:30pm

##### a. President's Report: Thang Holt, President

###### ■ Slalom Branding Workshop Update

- Workshop was last Thursday, thanks to all who came! They're working on 1st drafts right now, there will be a feedback loop happening in July. Special thanks to Kari for the Slalom connection.

###### ■ 501c3 Status Update

- Mission Guardian submitted end of last week. From past experience, there should be followup in the next 60-90 days.

###### ■ Annual Meeting Update

- Hoping to do a fun, event-based Annual Meeting where we can fundraise
- It will cost more, but the plan is to make much more in fundraising, have food and bev
- Granada Theater has availability the 1st / 3rd Thursday
- Nothing signed or agreed to, but wanted to surface this for Board feedback now:
  - If we want to catch families, think about what's fun for kids as part of the Granada experience. Also something that might reach renters in the area, who may not read our newsletter. We had a good turnout for ice cream. Other neighborhoods have a fun park event in conjunction with annuals.
    - Pro bono?: Charging just for her cost (staff + food for 5-8pm).
  - Thanks for looking at Granada! Hope we can calendar and promote sooner than later. Think about a raffle...
  - Frame it as a big fundraiser and we'll make some/any money. All past annual meetings have been traditional annual meetings.
  - Make sure we can give transparency around that.

##### b. Staff Report: Cuyler Dinegan, Coordinator

- **Grant application** was submitted for NCR's Collaboration & Shared Resources Fund, thanks again to Ben for surfacing it had reopened, and for Tim's thoughtful revisions!
- **Working on Super Sale registration** process now, will connect to a GoogleMap so folks can access / navigate live
- **Newsletter and community safety updates** continue to perform well. Home security grants had a bump from being featured in May (\$1000 in requests).
  - Any update in business interviews?
    - Bobbie: I haven't talked with Lee yet.

##### c. Treasurer's Report: Adam Olson, Treasurer

- Routine past month, other than 3 home security grant checks being cashed.
- Overall, bigger picture budget-wise: We're ok, other than problems with general funding

##### d. Committee Updates

###### ■ NRP Committee

- **Discussion of distributing unallocated NRP funds before the City claws them back**
  - City's assessment period has been Jan-June/July, then possibly clawing back—important thing is to allocate now to avoid claw-back, requires 21-day notice then a community to (online) vote
  - We re-allocated \$25K toward general funds this winter (salary, operations),

\$50K+ still need to allocate

- We have 6 buckets, that we'd need to allocate to. In our Mar–Apr Priorities Survey we asked for ideas from residents for spending
  - Park improvements came up repeatedly; Fire burned the house at 34th & Pkwy, MPRB is acquiring it, they need assistance funding a park there
  - All happening during concerns with public safety
- New park provides opportunity for well-lit gathering space which deters crime and attracts neighbors. Don't think we need to present replacing NRP plan if it simply isn't feasible to do before funding would be clawed back.
  - “These are our buckets. We are proposing X due to Y. Time is urgent, so we plan to triple the Home Security bucket to \$20K, and work with MPRB to make these parks the best, safest park we can for EBMS.”
  - Think it's a good idea to get a Safety Team proposal in to MPD, who can then utilize our Home Security Rebate
    - Policy element included to motivate blocks to work together on a joint application vs. single household application.
    - Would possibly connect neighbors unfamiliar with each other
- Need 21-day notice (of vote), will follow-up notice when voting opens
- Resident: I think now's a great time to improve the parks with Pavilion finishing, more people coming in - reviving the Tot Lot, new park.
- **Adam asks approval from Board to ask NRP/Exec to provide 21-day notice of neighborhood vote, and create ballot for neighborhood based on NRP Proposal.**
  - Tim motions, Bobbie seconds all ayes, motion passes.

■ **Livability Committee**

**Meeting next Monday, 7–8:30pm** via Zoom, will include Safety Team updates/discussion

■ **Social & Engagement Committee - on break for Summer until Anja returns**

1. June Event Recap
2. July Event(s)
3. August+ Event(s) - Aug–Oct monthly Sail Bde Maka Ska (Thang will follow up)

**5. New Business: 8:00pm**

- a. **Database Management System (CRM)** - Overview & Introduction
  - Track donations from residents
  - Safety comms through app (\$5K for a secure)
- b. **Intentional Efforts to Make Funds for Surveillance Accessible to All**
  - How do renters access this?
  - Tim: Use this as a *tool* to organize folks around safety assessments
  - Multiple tenants need to coordinate one submission to qualify for some kind of discount?
- c. **Opening Up Submissions for 2023-2024 Board** - Options for Current Board Members

**6. Adjourn: 9:00pm**

***Around The Neighborhood:***

- *Grand Opening of Uptown Ties & Daisy's Bar & Rooftop - June 17th at 2pm (Ticketed Event)* ○  
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/uptown-is-back-bar-crawl-tickets-615951616867>
- *Grand Opening of Uptown Theatre*
- *34th & East Bde Maka Ska Pkwy - Property In Process of Being Secured by Parks & Rec*

*We invite and encourage participation by all. If you require an accommodation to participate or access documents, please contact*

*us at least 5 days in advance by email or 612-584-9260. Or contact MN Relay Services at 1-800-627-3529, or contact 7-1-1.*