



[Type text]

[Type text]

Montavilla Neighborhood Association Board Meeting

Monday, November 11th, 2013, Montavilla United Methodist Church, 232 SE 80th St

Board Members Present: Fritz Hirsch, Stefanie Dieffenbach, Lew Scholl, Roger Warren, Steve Rice, Benjamin Kerensa, Joanna Beatty, Diana Marshall, Kelly Fedderson, Laura Spidell, Peter Maris

Neighbors and Guests: Todd Dennis

Meeting called to order at 6:33pm.

Approval of Agenda. October minute's available.

Requirement for filling MNA Vice Chair position (reminding ourselves that having an individual serving in the Vice Chair position is a requirement under our by-laws; discussion of who would like to fill this position). The role of the VP can be quite general and includes filling in for Fritz when he is absent and taking notes for Stefanie if she is absent. Kelly states that ONI standards do NOT require a NA to have a VP but she will further investigate this bylaw. Joanna states that MNA bylaws DO indicate this is a position to be filled. She will further investigate and Lew suggested we should revisit our bylaws if necessary for adjustments.

Finalize 2013-14 communications funds uses (discussion and vote to finish allocating MNA's \$1,960 in Southeast Uplift-provided funds for MNA communication activities in 2013-14). There exists around \$200 in our "Communications" fund from the last fiscal year that needs to be allocated to something. Joanna suggests we delegate it to a specific fund and use it as we need it so that we don't have to vote to move it at a later date. The next Communications Committee Meeting will be Sunday November 24th @ 10pm. This money needs to be allocated by January and the Communications Committee will discuss this at the meeting. Joanna questions what we do with individuals wanting to "donate" to the MNA... where are the donation forms, where does this money go and how to we indicate it to specific projects? Forms will be provided via Kelly. Kelly indicates that if an individual wants to donate to a specific project they must indicate so in a letter. If it's for the MNA in general it can simply be deposited and even utilized at a later date with an executive vote.

Use of MNA 2013-14 education funds – which efforts and organizations are we going to fund? \$1000 is allocated to "Education." Laura suggests we model this money to the community schools (Vestal, Bridger, Harrison Park, Creative Science and the Montavilla ECEP) as a Grant-type opportunity: set a timeline, an amount and make them "apply" in person. Ensure the applicants include how they will keep us updated and part of the process in the application.

- ✓ *Laura Spidell makes a motion to delegate \$800 to the community schools and reserve \$200 for other enrichment projects. Laura includes in this motion that each school will*



[Type text]

[Type text]

be offered up to \$200 annually. Diana seconds this motion. All are in favor, none are opposed, and none abstain. The motion passes.

SEUL Fiscal sponsorship – basic elements, requirements and processes of SEUL fiscal sponsorship, benefits of fiscal sponsorship, how MNA can draw on fiscally-sponsored funds SEUL is managing for us, how to put together a fiscal sponsorship request to SEUL. Kelly clarifying that through the fiscal process all NA's may use SEUL 501c3 status for tax deductible donations (financial and in-kind). There will be 1 application to be completed by each NA annually that needs to include all projects anticipated for a fiscal year (these can be removed, modified or added to during the year with an executive committee vote). Roger offers a project example in Ethos in regard to his previous proposal for music at our meetings and reminds us that childcare is a liability. A coordinator position needs to be created as they will brainstorm projects, apply, present to the NA, provide oversight and reimburse the account as necessary. These coordinators will attend a monthly meeting @ SEUL (3rd Monday of every month).

- ✓ *Steve makes a motion to elect Diana Marshall as Coordinator for the SEUL fiscal sponsorship application process. Lew seconds this motion. All are in favor, none are opposed, Diana abstains. The motion passes.*

Discussion about MNA meeting frequency and formats (discuss ideas for modifying frequency, format of MNA meetings and gatherings; one possibility is 90-minute, every other month for general meetings that involve more in-depth presentations from external parties, more Q&A, more interaction/discussion with the general members; “socials” would happen in the other months). Fritz would like the frequency of meetings to focus more on the Committees and their projects and less on the General meetings and Board meetings. Fritz feels a time constraint, a lack of community response and minimal socialization at our meetings. He suggests we reduce our frequency to 6 times a year for 90 minutes for Board and General Meetings as per our bylaws (no meetings in August or December). Fritz wants to replace the “missing” meeting months with quarterly social nights that are either topic focused or open.

- ✓ *Peter Maris makes a motion to delegate the Communications Committee to realign the General and Board meetings via email. Steve seconds this motion. All are in favor, none are opposed. The motion passes.*

Board member updates (board members update one another and any other meeting attendees about MNA-sponsored activities they've been working on, important news related to their area of service on the board). Kelly suggests we change our format on Board Member Updates (see handout) and brings a handout to demonstrate how printed agendas with summaries for each board member on the reverse side can help neighbors follow the meetings and encourages participation in projects and committees. Board member updates will include contact information and meeting dates. An almost “annotated” agenda.



[Type text]

[Type text]

MNA committees – how can we best use our committees (Finance, Communications, Land Use & Transportation and Public Safety) to efficiently and effectively carry out MNA work while still fully engaging and informing the general membership? This will be discussed at the Communications Committee meeting.

Laura Spidell- Laura is asking the MNA to write a letter on behalf of Vestal School to bring the SUN Afterschool Program to Vestal. She is also willing to write such letter based on a sample she already has.

- ✓ *Lew makes a motion that Laura writes an approved letter from the MNA in support of Vestal School to obtain the SUN School Afterschool Program. Lew adds that Laura will email a copy of the letter to all MNA board members for possible revisions and final approval prior to submission. Diana seconds this motion. All are in favor, none are opposed. The motion passes.*

Stefanie Dieffenbach- Stefanie asks the MNA to respond to her September proposal by financially supporting the Friends of MECEP (see September notes). Stefanie revised her request by specifically asking for \$175 to help purchase poinsettias from Al's Garden Center for the Holiday Poinsettia Sale which is December 2-5th from 9-3pm.

- ✓ *Diana makes a motion to support Friends of MECEP with \$175 to purchase 25 poinsettias from Al's Garden Center to be sold at the Holiday Bazaar, Raffle and Poinsettia sale on December 2nd-5th from 9-3am for a fundraiser. Stefanie emphasizes this will accomplish MNA's \$200 max for each school as voted on earlier. Lew seconds this motion, all are in favor and none oppose. Stefanie abstains. Motion passes.*

Meeting adjourned @ 7:40pm.

Submitted by Stefanie Dieffenbach, Secretary