



## **Kingfield Neighborhood Association**

### **Board Meeting May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2020 7:00 PM, Zoom Room**

**Members in attendance:** *Chris DesRoches, Sarah Tschida, Alice Johnson, BJ Titus, David Robbins, Dave Searl, Chris Hong, Becky Dankowski, Mike Skinner, Jerome Rankine, Derek Holt, Kristina Brenner-Adam, Aidan Keefe*

**Members absent:** *None*

**Others in attendance:** *Sarah Lines-Robinson (Executive Director), Tim Hansen (guest) and Victoria Pena (guest and presenter)*

**Meeting Chair:** *Chris DesRoches*

**Meeting Secretary:** *BJ Titus*

**Confirmed quorum:** *Confirmed quorum at 7:02*

### **Call to Order**

Dave Searl moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Derek Holt, all were in favor, The agenda was approved.

### **Executive Team Elections**

President—David Robbins nominated Chris DesRoches, Dave Searl seconded, All were in favor, no abstentions

Vice President—Sarah Tschida was nominated by Chris DesRoches, Alice Johnson seconded, All were in favor, no abstentions

Treasurer—Alice Johnson was nominated by Chris DesRoches, Sarah Tschida seconded, All were in favor, no abstentions

Secretary—BJ Titus was nominated by Chris DesRoches, Mike Skinner seconded the motion, All were in favor, no abstentions

## **Committee + Working Group: Report Out**

### **Executive Committee (DesRoches)**

A.)Re-instituting Executive Team Meetings

Executive Committee will be meeting monthly going forward (a process that occurred in the past , that DesRoches would like to maintain.

B.)Neighborhoods 2020

[https://drive.google.com/open?id=1cBoWAb6R3\\_-YjVFzTqN\\_PihwOMGppuM2](https://drive.google.com/open?id=1cBoWAb6R3_-YjVFzTqN_PihwOMGppuM2)

Members of KFNA joined a virtual Ward 8 meeting with VP Councilwoman Jenkins. Decisions have been delayed on Neighborhoods 2020 because of COVID-19. Anyone who is interested in being a part of this discussion, please let DesRoches know your interest.

#### C.) Building Bridges Event

The Building Bridges Task Force (a joint-neighborhood group) had a virtual meeting with VP Councilwoman Jenkins. about the next Building Bridges Event. It has not been decided what this event will look like this year. It may be partially online, partially presence on the bridge. DesRoches urged that it is important to have a piece of it on the bridge itself as the effects of the 35W interstate dividing our committees. Possibly late August timeline for the event.

#### **Redevelopment (DesRoches)**

##### A.) Affordable housing and Redevelopment next steps

2040 gave us a framework for development and housing, KFNA has an opportunity to do great work. Let DesRoches know if you want to join this committee. Tschida was happy that so many new Board members were interested in affordable housing. KFNA had submitted a grant for a landlord program for people affected by COVID-19. The funding from the city was not approved so we are investigating how NRP and CPP money that neighborhoods already have can be used. With this funding, you cannot pay landlords, nor pay tenants, only make improvement. 4 people have committed to attending the CFPA meeting on Friday on redevelopment and will report back to the Board.

#### **Kingfield Safe Streets (Hong and Tschida)**

Safe Streets Working Group has been meeting for a number of months and the group has maxed out at around 25 participants in meetings. The Working Group has a combination of Board members and community members. Safe Streets has requested to become a formal committee within KFNA. There are certain benefits of being a committee, for example, the weight that a committee of a Neighborhood Association as opposed to a group of community members acting separately. Chris DesRoches made a motion to make Safe Streets a formal committee, Sarah Tschida seconded the motion, All were in favor of the motion.

The (now) committee meets the first Sunday of the month and have divided into 5 issue areas.

1. Grand Avenue
2. 1st Avenue + MPLS's "Stay Healthy Streets"
3. Whittier/Lyndale Bikeway
4. Lower speed limits
5. MPRB Parkway Closures + Lake Harriet

The City has seen the Safer Streets Committee (SSC) as a partner and an important stakeholder in neighborhood issues. SSC had a meeting with the city about the 1<sup>st</sup> Street mill and overlay project. 1<sup>st</sup> Ave in Kingfield has become a stay healthy street loop. It was included because of the attention brought up by SSC. They will be meeting with the city tomorrow to talk about how to get the word out, how to get feedback, how to reach out to business as SSC has done such a good job. The Healthy Street Loops are currently temporary. There have also been new signs for the No Parking on the odd side of 1st and the No Parking ordinance is now everyday, not just Monday through Friday.

The Grand Ave plan is moving forward. We should be receiving a more finalized plan at the end of May.

Final iteration of parkway closures around Lake Harriet are currently in effect. We are not sure how long the closures will remain in effect. Safe Streets has been pushing to keep these spaces open for people for the time being.

### **Outreach and Inclusion Committee (Titus and Tschida)**

The Outreach and Inclusion Committee has been having one on one meeting with new board members to learn a bit about new members and their hidden skills. Currently this committee is closed to community members as we were working out the details of the committee. Future iterations of this may include community members. Please let any of the OIC committee know if you would like to join.

### **General KFNA Updates**

Little Free Libraries Map <https://bit.ly/KingfieldLittleFreeLibraryMap>

MLK Tree Map and Engagement <https://bit.ly/KingfieldCommuniTree>

Has an online map, This project was created for the 50<sup>th</sup> Earth Day Celebration .You can visit the trees and write them an email, they will write you back. Tree are ready to be written to. Two of the trees are Park Board members, one of the tree is a teenager in the neighborhood.

Interview Series Zoom site for 5:30 PM each Wednesday:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84199714928?pwd=T2wxclBNMy9kdjhqbHplemdBZzg5Zz09>

Youtube Channel for watching past episodes: [Episode 1](#)

15 minute videos of Who Are the People in Your Neighborhood created by Board Member Jerome Rankine. It is a good way to get to know the neighborhood. Thus far, the interviews have been great and great to connect to people all over the neighborhood. Rankine has committed to 6 episodes.

### **Events and Community Engagement Policy**

Presentation (Staff), Discussion + Motion (See item in May Board Folder)

KFNA is looking to develop a policy/practice to move forward with events and meetings for the next 5 months. This policy will provide guidance to the neighborhood on how to hold events and think outside of the normal event holding activities. It is important for KFNA to be active in the summer and being involved in the community. The board will create a plan on what is best moving forward when it comes to events, but still being safe and making people comfortable with our plan moving forward. Board members are welcome to make comments on the policy.

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1znynMcis2dcX63AHvC-wcZoB1skk57Fd/view?usp=sharing>

### **Garage Mural Project Proposal**

Victoria Pena was the guest on Who Are The People In Your Neighborhood this week, former board member and is interested in working on the mural project for alley garages. A similar project was done 8 years ago, past murals have held up well and help keep graffiti off of garages in the neighborhood. Victoria spoke about the youth that she is currently working with as well. She works with 11 different sites/alt schools. Normally students are involved in STEP UP or other such programs, but those programs are closed down for the summer. We want to keep these students plugged in for the summer and the project is a way to do so. Local artist will work with 3-4 students to do a workshop on fundamentals. Students will be 17-20 yr olds. Each student who do a garage will learn how to do the

project from start to finish, they could then bring the workshop/skills to their neighborhood to repeat. The local artist would will do phase one in mid to late June start date. The artist (and youth) would love to continue the program if there is interest. Youth would be trained. Victoria would supervise. Negotiations would happen with the homeowners of what the murals would look like. 30 would be a manageable number for this summer. 1<sup>st</sup> step would be to for the board to approve the funds, 2<sup>nd</sup> step would be promoting it to the neighborhood. We would develop the template that other neighborhoods could use. The goal would be get the youth skills. **There was a motion to approve the funds by Chris DesRoches, seconded by Mike Skinner. All were in favor, none opposed.**

**Proposed KFNA Board Position & Action:**

See full resolution, background, questions, and resources in May Board Packet:

*Proposed KFNA Board Action #1: Motion to approve the following resolution:*

KFNA acknowledges its role in addressing individual and structural racism

**There was a motion to approve by Chris DesRoches, seconded by Mike Skinner, 12 voted in favor (DesRoches, Tschida, Johnson, Titus, Searl, Hong, Dankowski, Skinner, Rankine, Holt, Brenner-Adam, Keefe), one abstained (Robbins)**

*Proposed KFNA Board Action #2: Motion to approve the following resolution:*

KFNA resolves to dedicate staff and board time to addressing individual and structural racism

**There was a motion to approve by Chris DesRoches, seconded by Mike Skinner, 12 voted in favor (DesRoches, Tschida, Johnson, Titus, Searl, Hong, Dankowski, Skinner, Rankine, Holt, Brenner-Adam, Keefe), one abstained (Robbins)**

There will be a subgroup of board members to work more on this:

1. Sarah Tschida
2. Kristina Brenner-Adam
3. Chris DesRoches
4. Jerome Rankine
5. Dave Searl

**The meeting was adjourned at 9:03 PM.**