

1/8/20

Maine Medical Center Neighborhood Advisory MMC NAC Notes

Name	Email	Role	Attending?
1 Spencer Thibodeau	sthibodeau@portlandmaine.gov	District 2 City Councilor	By phone
2 Nell Donaldson	hcd@portlandmaine.gov	Portland Senior Planner	yes
3 Peter Hall	spruceboy@maine.rr.com	West End	yes
4 Lin Parsons	linparsons@maine.rr.com	West End	yes
5 Anne Pringle	oldmayor@maine.rr.com	Western Prom	yes
6 Alvah Davis	alvah.davis@gmail.com	Western Prom	no
7 Brett Gabor	brett.gabor@gmail.com	Libbytown	yes
8 Ed Suslovic	esuslovic@gmail.com	Libbytown	yes
9 Emma Holder	pna@parksideneighborhood.org	Parkside	yes
10 Liz Trice	liztrice@gmail.com	Parkside	yes
11 Moses Sabina	mosessabina@yahoo.com	St John Valley Neighborhood	yes
12 Tim McNamara	stjohnvalley@live.com	St John Valley Neighborhood	yes
13 Jennifer L. McCarthy	JMcCarthy@mmc.org	MH Chief Operating Officer	yes

Guests: Matt Wickenhauser

Approved previous minutes.

Ed would like to do one on ones with committee members in the next month

Proposed standing reports:

Construction management, updates, timeline, mitigation

Time sensitive and unresolved issues: transportation, neighborhood issues like graffiti, litter, noise, etc.

MMC and Neighborhood Updates

Ed would like to see a traffic/construction report be emailed to NAC a week before each meeting.

Changes to Cofaciliation model

Jennifer doesn't want to be the co-facilitator, and wants to change the Charter to remove the requirement that a MMC rep be a co-chair. Charter and IDP say different things - IDP is what MMC is governed by Charter says a co-chair should be MMC representative. The planning board adopted IDP with the understanding that the NAC would work out the details. The NAC set up a charter that was voted on a year ago.

Jen says that the IDP set up the NAC to talk about construction issues.

Anne clarifies that the IDP requires an NAC to address any and all issues with neighborhoods and MMC.

Jen commits to making sure that she doesn't replace herself with someone who can't make decisions.

Brett points out that if we want to change the charter, it should be a group discussion, not mandated by MMC.

Discussion of what co-facilitating includes: fielding agenda items, printing materials, chairing meeting. The current co-chair system was set up to create some balance in the room, so that there's listening on both sides.

Jen says this is a tough group - she wants to get out of the politics and be a resource to meet neighborhood needs. She wants to be the person that comes and hears needs and works together to solve problems. Be a full participant, just not co-chair. She can even stay longer if needed, but she needs to know ahead of time or she'll schedule 1pm meetings right after.

Ed: there's a lot of history in the room to overcome - the relationship between the hospital and the neighborhoods.

Anne: it used to be one sided - Jeff running meetings - Then we set up co-chairs to be equal - moving towards having our own chairs and Jen as resource is part of evolution.

Brett: asks jen to email the group with what she wants to do, and we'll discuss/vote any proposed charter changes at the next month. Nel will send relevant sections of IDP and charter.

Anne asks for bullets under months at work plan - we'll handle multiple items at each.

Housekeeping:

Liz will continue to take notes

Melissa will continue to reserve room, lunch, and print materials.

We will continue to meet at Maine Med.

Liz offers to meet one on one with anyone that isn't already comfortable with google drive

Healthy Communities:

The city, MMC, and the subgroup that has been working on the draft RFP for housing development required under the Healthy Neighborhoods language of the IOZ originally assumed that there would be funding associated with six units of replacement housing included in the RFP. However, MMC has indicated that they prefer that the RFP be rewritten to reflect funding for three units of replacement housing, as they are pursuing options for direct investment in housing in the neighborhood.

Tim is concerned that the money is pulled back without discussing with the group - that's a bad deal.

Lin: someone accountable needs to be at the meetings from Maine Med.

Nel: there are a lot of feelings and history, and we need to put positive energy into this.

Spencer: we should acknowledge that this group is working and people are showing up.

Traffic Issues at Congress/St John's

St. John Street was recently restriped in association with the site plan review for Dunkin' Donuts. When the MMC projects were reviewed by the City, MMC's traffic engineers modeled projected traffic assuming this lane configuration on St. John, as well as some changes in the signals at Congress/St. John and Congress/Valley. That modeling showed that the intersections should operate at acceptable levels of service for vehicles once the signal changes occur. Unfortunately, the signal at Congress/St. John can't be updated until the Congress/Valley signal is removed, and we have said that ped improvements need to be made before that can happen.

Moses heard that it happened because of the dunkin donuts, the other theory was that there have been crashes... it's a hard time believing that the backup on St John (all the way to D street) is related to pedestrian crossings.

Jen: Shuttles aren't experiencing issues because thought there are 12, there are only 4 operating at any given time.

Garage Lighting Issues:

They moved and dimmed some in the stair lighting - it should be improved or solved.

Rooftop lights have not been ordered, waiting for shields. They will neighborhood know when they are trialed, and they have motion centers.

Grants:

Reminder March 1 deadline and the full group to decide no later than our April 8 meeting, and for checks to go out no later than 30 days after that.

Future items:

Regarding property management issues - email Jen or Walter right away. There is an online place to submit issues - Matt Wickenhauser handles those.

Nel says maybe this group could figure out a more streamlined way for neighborhoods to communicate issues with MMC.

Draft 2020 Workplan

March: Grantmaking +

April: Grantmaking +

May: Healthy neighborhoods partnership - longer meeting/ MMC, Clty, and neighborhood master planning -

June: TDM update, MMC property development

July:

August: Housing

September: Population Health

October: finalize 2021 grant process and evaluate 2020 grants

November: 2021 grant process

December: TDM Update

Workplan Items 2020

- Transportation Demand Management Plan Update June & December (1-3 slides, 5- 10 min)
- Report on Financial contributions of MMC/MH to community 2x/year (1-3 slides, 5-10 min)
- Florence house litter and bad behavior: Spencer will set up meeting with City Manager and Preble Street to come meet with a few of us on a Thursday morning with Moses, Tim, Liz and Brett. Nell will get more information on enforcement actions.
- Holt Hall Storefronts returned to neighborhood; Dennis noted; can Dennis give us more of a timeline and process by which this can happen?
- Parking: How to make parking available for residents and businesses?

- Neighborhood survey - both online and door to door. What do people like, what are they afraid of, what would they like to see?
- Caring Community Grants (Time in March & April)
- Healthy Neighborhood Partnership - Nell has report
- Maine Health Anchor Institutions (Nell says there are people working on this in primary care and other clinical capacities) - ask Jennifer to pull people together (including Beth Wilson) to give us a report on that. How can we make sure that MMC investments are the best to improve overall population health?
- Redevelopment of MMC properties, presentation by Complete City group on vision for parking lot
- Construction impacts of removal of employee garage.
- Ed wants to sit down with each neighborhood and mmc to hear what each group hopes for from the group and process.

Goal is to have a plan that we follow starting in March.