

Maine Medical Center Neighborhood Advisory Committee (NAC)
Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday, April 13, 2022

Time: 12:00p.m.

Location: via Zoom

Recurrence: Monthly, 2nd Wednesday

Minutes Submitted by: Samantha Ward

Minutes Edited by: NAC Members

Previous Meeting Minutes (March 9, 2022) Status: Approved

Attendees

Anne Pringle (WPNA) co-chair

Alvah Davis (WPNA)

Emma Holder (PNA)

Timothy Karu (PNA)

Tim McNamara (SJVNA)

Moses Sabina (SJVNA)

Lin Parsons (WENA)

Peter Hall (WENA)

Damon Yakovleff (LNA)

Jennifer McCarthy (MMC)

Dominic Gagnon (MMC)

Al Green (MMC)

Samantha Ward (MMC)

Kathryn Cope (MMC)

Naomi Schucker (MMC)

Matt Wickenheiser (MMC)

Nell Donaldson (CoP)

Victoria Pelletier (District 2 City Councilor)

Minutes The Minutes of March 9, 2022 were APPROVED as presented.

1) Construction Update (Dominic Gagnon)

Congress St/Malone Family Tower- Decking beginning on the third level above basement; closing on Gilman from A to Congress April 25th-29th, then May 2nd- 6th. These will be full-day closings because of the difficulty of moving the crane. No traffic or parking will be allowed, except on the weekend. Notification being sent by marketing; everything else is status quo.

Discussion Summary: Questions about hours of closure, whether parking will be allowed (answers noted above).

Action to be taken: Notice to be posted on MMC website, Construction Update.

2) MaineHealth Wellness Initiatives

Discussion Summary: Jennifer provided an update on location of Food Pantry. Cost is extremely high; working on trying to shave some away costs, might not be the best location for the Community Resource Officer.. ADA compliance issues as well. Designers issuing revised plan so costing can be estimated. Tim raised concern about the history of the project. Further discussion to follow offline.

Naomi Schucker shared slides on: food insecurity screening, goals of the project, partnerships with Good Shepherd, research into hospital-based food pantry development, and Food as Medicine pilot. The Pantry will be open first to MMC clients, referrals from other healthcare providers, and staff, later expanded to the community

A question was raised about how many people are expected: Naomi & team haven't yet honed in on a certain number, but Norway & Stephens serve 30 households per week, but Portland is a much bigger community. Timeline depends on construction. Hours will depend on current need.

A question was raised about whether the bathrooms would be open to the general public or just food pantry customers and staff. Issue will be discussed

Action to be taken: Tim, Anne, Nell, Dominic/Walter, and Jennifer to take conversation offline re: project history.

Any links FMI: Naomi's slides to be shared. Submit any questions to Naomi:
Naomi.Schucker@mainehealth.org

3) Update: Recuperative Care Center

Discussion summary: Kathryn Cope provided an update on the recuperative care center. Greater Portland Health will be running the center, MaineHealth is doing the construction. The Center will be for patients discharged from MMC, but without appropriate home healthcare/unstable household situation. To answer some key questions: patients cannot go in and out of the Center, except for accompanied appointments; visitors will be very limited; parking is for employees; overflow parking in the garage, with a shuttle if necessary; 24/7 staff on site and there is a safety plan. Tentative opening: Late July/Early August

Action to be taken: Submit any questions to Kathryn Cope: kathryn.cope@mainehealth.org

4) Update: Mural

Discussion summary: Tim provided an update on the Greyhound Mural. Great conceptual ideas; exploring cost and feasibility; exploring potential for a temporary installation or a projection; do not want to undertake a complicated and time-consuming process.

Action to be taken: Tim & group to continue working on mural planning. Report at next NAC meeting.

5) Update: Neighborhood Parking by Employees

Discussion summary: Moses provided an update on the street parking situation. An offline meeting went well. Shared creative ideas. MMC HR developing a plan to address the concerns.

Action to be taken: Moses waiting to hear back from MMC Human Resources. Report to NAC at next meeting.

Next meeting: May 11, 2022 @ 12pm

Submitted by: Samantha Ward

On date: April 13, 2022

Acronym List:

CoP- City of Portland

LNA – Libbytown Neighborhood Association

MMC – Maine Medical Center

NAC – Neighborhood Advisory Committee

PNA- Parkside Neighborhood Association

SJVNA – Saint John Valley Neighborhood Association

SNF- Skilled Nursing Facility

WENA – West End Neighborhood Association

WPNA- Western Promenade Neighborhood Association