

Maine Medical Center Neighborhood Advisory Committee (NAC)
DRAFT Meeting Minutes

Date: January 12, 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 (December 8, 2021) Status: Tabled.

Attendees

Brian Batson (MMC) co-chair

Alvah Davis (WPNA)

Anne Pringle (WPNA) co-chair

Emma Holder (PNA)

Tim McNamara (SJVNA)

Moses Sabina (SJVNA)

Lin Parsons (WENA)

Peter Hall (WENA)

Damon Yakovleff (LNA)

Jennifer McCarthy (MMC)

Walter Pochebit (MMC)

Samantha Ward (MMC)

Victoria Pelletier (District 2 City Councilor)

Matt Wickenheiser (MMC)

Al Green (MaineHealth)

Minutes The Minutes of December 8, 2021 were TABLED as presented. Tim McNamara to propose language relating to a topic he raised at the December meeting.

1) Construction Update (*was provided in writing prior to meeting*)

- Master Facility Plan, (Congress Street). 2nd large tower crane arrives Friday January 14 and erected onsite Jan 14 and 15. Unlike last month's tower crane, there will be only minimal impacts to Congress St and or other travel ways. This crane does not require smaller "assist cranes" and travel lanes on Congress

will not be impacted, (no lane closures anticipated). There are no other January Project activities scheduled that may impact neighborhoods.

- Pizza Villa Wall – Building permit submitted early December...no feedback from city.
- Greyhound Building/ Food Pantry – Building Permit application still under city review. City asked for additional design/scope information on HVAC, electrical, plumbing. That information being submitted by MMC architects. No other feedback
- Greater Portland Housing/Recuperative Care Center - Renovation work continues, demolition work 95% complete, interior framing underway, mechanical/electrical rough-in underway. Scheduled completion targeted for July.

Discussion Summary: Questions were asked about whether MMC/MH is still moving forward with food pantry in the Greyhound building and is the policing office still included? Yes, but there is a holdup with City approval. Contractor is ready to mobilize within 3-4 weeks of permit approval. The work will take about eight weeks. Greyhound wall/mural is in process with the City as well. SJVNA to be involved in wall/mural decisions. Creative Portland has been contacted and might have some helpful suggestions. Recuperative Care Center offline meeting was held, following the December NAC meeting, and went well, with SJVNA to be involved in further planning discussions.

Action to be taken: Involve SJVNA in discussions about mural process and design. Involve SJVNA in ongoing planning discussions about RCC.

2) MMC Update

Discussion Summary: Jennifer gave an update on MMC census and COVID numbers. People seeking confirmatory testing are overwhelming hospital EDs and urgent care facilities. Postponement of elective surgeries will have significant financial implications. Federal funding has been helpful in prior pandemic years, but not clear if more money will be forthcoming.

Action to be taken: Various neighborhood associations offered to share locations for confirmatory Covid testing. Translation of this information must be secured – by whom? Councilor Pelletier and others will reach out to the immigrant communities, in particular.

FMI: Link to sites offering Covid testing:
<https://book.curative.com/search#9/43.661/-70.2549>

3) Institutional Overlay Zone (9.22.17) Requirement for NAC

Wording from the IOZ, IDP and NAC Charter was provided prior to meeting, with emphasis added;

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Discussion summary: Key concepts set forth in these documents are: engagement, communication, collaboration, and partnership. Establishing a working relationship that reflects these goals is a work in progress. Establishing mutual trust, transparency, and clarity are key objectives for 2022. Basic questions: “When is the best time for MMC to bring something forward to the NAC? Should an affected neighborhood be contacted first or the NAC?” Jennifer noted that confidentiality agreements and the need for Board review and approval can sometimes affect when it is possible to share information. Opinions were offered on when information should be shared. It was emphasized that the least amount of surprise is helpful. Going first to the individual neighborhoods to foster agreement could be time-saving at the NAC meetings.

Action to be taken: NAC members to bring forward to Jennifer examples of information desired.

4) Overview and Purpose of the NAC

Wording was provided prior to meeting, with emphasis added:

Discussion summary: Concern was voiced on information not been shared in the past on a timely basis from MMC. Differing expectations of neighborhood associations and MMC need to be reconciled through on-going communication. Jennifer provided examples of how/when MMC has shared information in a timely manner; Jennifer also offered that the NAC should bring any ideas forward for future discussion.

Action to be taken: Prior to the next meeting, bring forward to Jennifer any issues for further discussion, either offline or in the full NAC.

5) 2022 Work Plan- Submitted Items (examples)

An Annual NAC Work Plan was suggested, with some examples given.

Discussion summary: Jennifer offered that she and Al can present some broad “happenings” to the NAC at each meeting.

Ideas:

- MaineHealth “Wellness Initiatives”, underway and in discussion
- MMC Strategic Plan and 2022 Annual Plan
- Annual IDP Review
- Healthy Neighborhoods Program RFP
- Caring Community Grant Process
- Annual TDM Report, including parking challenges—tentatively due in Spring
- Helicopter Update

Action to be taken: Additional ideas should be brought forward to Anne and Brian for discussion at the February meeting. Keep Councilor Pelletier in the loop on parking conversations.

6) New Business None noted.

Next meeting: February 9, 2022 @ 12pm

Submitted by: Samantha Ward

On date: January 12, 2022

Zoom Link:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/96265248325>

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