

Maine Medical Center Neighborhood Advisory Committee (NAC)
Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday, November 9, 2022

Time: 12:00p.m.

Location: via Zoom

Recurrence: Monthly, 2nd Wednesday

Minutes Submitted by: Missi Tracy

Minutes Edited by: NAC Members

Previous Meeting Minutes (September 2022) Status: Approved

Attendees

Anne Pringle (WPNA) co-chair

Brian Batson (MMC), co-chair

Emma Holder (PNA)

Marie Gray (PNA)

Tim McNamara (SVNA)

Moses Sabina (SVNA)

Lin Parsons (WENA)

Damon Yakovleff (LNA)

Jennifer McCarthy (MMC)

Missi Tracy (MMC)

Matt Wickenheiser (MMC)

Nell Donaldson (City of Portland)

Ann Tucker (Greater Portland Health)

1) Minutes The Minutes of October 12, 2022 were APPROVED as presented.

2) Construction Update (Provided in writing by Walter Pochebit prior to meeting)

Congress St/Malone Family Tower

- No anticipated project impacts the remainder of this month to streets, sidewalks, after hours work etc.
- Overnight Project lighting – Tim reported improved conditions however there have been several nights when bright lights not shut off. Turner construction working with electrician for improved controls...moving forward, a direct phone number has been provided to SVNA that will reach an onsite Turner contact to address any issues.
- There are over 190 workers on the site every day.
- The exterior curtain wall/glazing continue to be installed.
- 100% of the structural steel has been installed.
- Interior steel stud framing, exterior sheathing, layout and drywall is being installed.

- Mechanical and electrical infrastructure is being delivered and installed in the building on all levels.

Food Pantry/Greyhound

- Renovations completed with punch list and cleaning underway. Occupancy permit inspection scheduled.
- Food Pantry operations to commence late November/early December...exact date to be determined.
- Portland Police continue planning their Community Policing Program and operations....go live date TBD
- SJVNA has offered potential use of awarded Community Grant Funds for mural and or any other site/exterior enhancements suggested by SJVNA???...more to come.

Pizza Villa Wall Mural –

- Artist Pat Corrigan commenced work on Oct 28.... Estimates approximately three weeks to complete.

940 Congress St/Pizza Villa –

- Rear masonry wall has developed very similar structural masonry issues as did the mural side.
- Engineer & contractor have set up staging to investigate and report any recommended maintenance/repairs....anticipate report(s) week of November 7
- In the meantime, the staging etc. remains in place for protection until next steps are determined.

Recuperative Care 934 Congress Street- Complete

Discussion Summary: There were no questions in regard to the Construction Update and it was moved and voted to accept them as written.

3) Maine Med Update

Discussion Summary: It was noted that the crane which had been present at the Malone Family Tower site had been removed successfully. The hospital continues to be at record capacity, with ICU beds for the pediatric population in high demand. There is also a need for Behavioral Health beds, with as much as half the ED beds at times being occupied by patients awaiting placement. Another contributing factor of the high census is the unavailability of nursing home beds, resulting in patients having long waits for discharge. These issues are common across the United States and Maine Med is looking at creative new strategies to manage the crisis.

4. Recuperative Care Center Update

Discussion Summary: The new Recuperative Care Center was described as having a health center on the 1st floor with dormitory-style beds on the 2nd floor. It is intended for patients who no longer need hospital level care but have continuing short-term medical needs and need stable

housing for the duration. Residents voluntarily enroll for 2-6 weeks and must be stable enough to get down to the Health Center on the 1st floor. It has been extremely successful since opening in September. Staff continue to be hired. There was a question in regard to the amount of garbage being generated as it is being piled on top of the dumpster. The possibility of others not associated with the Care Center leaving trash there is being investigated and solutions sought. The request was made that delivery people be asked to pull into the parking lot instead of parking in the street.

Action to be taken: Ann will be invited back to update the group quarterly.

5) **Old Business**

- **Pizza Villa Mural** – The mural is about 75% completed it was thought. Appreciation was expressed to Tim McNamara and the St John valley Neighborhood Association for making it possible.
- **Neighborhood Parking Management** – A subcommittee has reviewed the prior MMC parking policy and the proposed one. Some suggestions had been submitted and it is hoped that the NAC will be able to review and comment before it goes forward. Opinions were expressed that this problem will be ongoing as the city continues to become more crowded.

6) **New Business**

Discussion summary: A concern was raised about security issues in the area around Maine Med. It was noted that the police department had high praise for their relationship with the MMC Director of Security, Jamie Grant. Members of the group would like to collaborate with MMC Security and the Portland Police Department to address recurring issues. It was noted that there are several properties available surrounding the 22 Bramhall campus that this could be an opportunity to get creative as related to creating a healthy neighborhood. Several ideas were offered.

Action to be taken: Tim will look into who is listing the available properties to obtain more information.

7) **Adjourn**

Next meeting: December 14 @ 12pm

Submitted by: Missi Tracy

On date: November 9, 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

ZOOM LINK:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/92222935067?pwd=aFNsMnZUdlE3cGRyanBhNGxjU2M0QT09>

Meeting ID: 922 2293 5067

Passcode: 818601

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