

Maine Medical Center Neighborhood Advisory Committee (NAC)

Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday, October 12, 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 MacNamara (SJVNA)

Moses Sabina (SJVNA)

Lin Parsons (WENA)

Peter Hall (WENA)

Damon Yakovleff (LNA)

Walter Pochebit (MMC)

Al Green (MMC)

Missi Tracy (MMC)

Matt Wickenheiser (MMC)

Nell Donaldson (City of Portland)

Victoria Pelletier (District 2 City Councilor)

1) **Minutes** The Minutes of September 14, 2022 were APPROVED as presented.

2) **MMC Strategic Plan, MMC 2022 Annual Plan**

Discussion Summary: Al Green provided an excellent presentation as to how MaineHealth formulates its strategic plan. He explained the partners involved and the basic timeline, as well as the tools and data considered during its composition. A few observations and questions were offered during the presentation, but after Al had to leave due to time constraints, the comment was made that the method and the plan itself had little if anything to do with the Neighborhoods. Statements were made to the effect that the MMC Strategic and Annual Plans don't speak to the mission of the Neighborhood Advisory Committee and say nothing about the effects on their neighbors. While the suggestion was made that the NAC should be invited to be part of the ad-hoc committees in the later stages, others contended that MaineHealth's thought process needed to be changed to include the neighbors from the beginning. Brian complimented the group on their excellent feedback and Anne stated that she would follow up on it.

Action to be taken: Anne Pringle will follow up in regard to the group's desire for greater inclusion in MaineHealth's assessment of the communities' needs and the planning on how to meet them.

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

Congress St/Malone Family Tower

- **Congress Street closure, St John to Weymouth** – 2 Day closure targeted early to mid-November for the removal of the Project tower crane. Removal requires a large “assist” crane that will need to be set up in Congress Street. The team continues meetings with the city and the targeted dates dependent on weather will be determined in the next 7-10 days. We will keep this group advised and Matt W. /MMC, is assisting with internal and external communication plans as soon as dates are finalized.
- There are over 181 workers on the site every day.
- The exterior curtain wall/glazing continue to be installed.
- Over 87% of the structural steel has been installed and Turner is on target to complete steel erection in October.
- 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 targeted to be completed by the end of this month.
- Food Pantry operations to commence in November...exact date to be determined.
- Portland Police have finalized their interior finishes/colors and continue planning their Community Policing Program and operations.
- 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 –

- Tim McNamara/SJVNA reported Mural subcommittee has selected Pat Corrigan. Tim also shared proposed mural depicting three interwoven trees.
- MH Legal completing Contract and insurance requirements. Pat Corrigan will perform all work from a mobile construction lift...anticipates approximately 3 weeks from start to finish.

Recuperative Care 934 Congress Street- Complete

Discussion Summary: Tim reported receiving complaints in regard to lights being left on in the new construction, noting that it is happening repeatedly. He inquired whether there was a better way to prevent this and why it continued to happen. Walter explained that it was a problem with a timer malfunctioning, and that he anticipates the need for the lights to end shortly due to progress being made. It was noted that the reoccurrences of the issue seems to indicate that no one involved with the construction found it of any concern. Brian asked about a point person to contact when this happened and Walter responded that he would be the appropriate one.

The question of why staging has been in place on the back side of Pizza Villa for a month with no visible action was also raised. The MaineHealth Property Management department would be the most knowledgeable on that issue, but it was thought there was a question on whether some masonry repair was needed.

It was articulated that Pat is ready to go with the mural on the Pizza Villa wall, but is being delayed by the unavailability of mobile lifts.

Anne asked if anyone had a chance to tour the new Recuperative Care Center, and a couple people present replied in the affirmative. Anne stated that she was very impressed with it and asked for others' reactions. Emma responded that she was concerned about the lack of outdoor space and recreational facilities for a population used to more freedom of movement. She wondered about the possibility of community volunteers being utilized to accompany residents on outside walks. Brian reflected that a representative from the center had offered to attend an NAC meeting after it had been in operation for a quarter, to give an update. He felt that it would be a good time to make that suggestion. Tim agreed with this sentiment and suggested that they invite a representative to join the group on a regular basis. He added that representatives from other entities, such as the food pantry, Preble Street etc. could also be asked to do so, perhaps quarterly. Although it was pointed out that the Recuperative Center won't have had many residents by the November meeting, Tim expressed great interest in understanding the nuts and bolts of the logistics involved in the running of it and wished to pursue for the November meeting.

Action to be taken: Tim will invite (Anne?) to attend the November NAC meeting to report and answer questions, sending some questions in advance so she is prepared.

3) Maine Med Update

Discussion Summary: No update was available as Jennifer was having time off.

Action to be taken: none

5) Old Business

- **Pizza Villa Mural** – discussed above
- **Neighborhood Parking Management** – Brian shared that a copy of the old policy and draft of the new policy had been obtained and he welcomed comments on them.
- **Food Pantry Tour for NAC members** – There is potential for a December opening. One member questioned whether the police unit was on the same timeline as the Food Pantry. Walter replied that the building itself is, but that he was unsure of the police plans. Tim commented that he had sent a list of supplies to Dan Hondo but hadn't gotten a reply yet. Nell mentioned that she had talked to Dan and felt that Tim was on the right track.
- **Helicopter Sound Management Plan** – A proposal had been sent to Al regarding how takeoffs and landings should be calculated; an arrival and departure constituting 2 events. It was noted that in the recent report sent out, the count of flights were listed as 65 in and one out, which was confusing, as each landing should have a corresponding "out". Matt clarified his understanding that these numbers referred to patients, with 65 coming in by helicopter and one leaving for another facility by helicopter. Reasserting that there can't be an "in" without an "out", the recommendation was made that Lifelight report that as 130 flights, which corresponds to common usage at airports.

6) New Business

Discussion summary: Due to time constraints, no new business was raised.

Action to be taken: none

7) Adjourn

Next meeting: November 9 @ 12pm

Submitted by: Missi Tracy

On date: October 12, 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

One tap mobile

+13126266799,,92222935067# US (Chicago)

+19294362866,,92222935067# US (New York)