



LEWELLING NDA MINUTES

December 13, 2023

Hybrid Meeting at Kairos Church of Christ and via Zoom

Attending: Chair Camden McKone; Vice-Chair Stephan Lashbrook; Secretary Lisa Lashbrook; Treasurer Howie Oakes; Dave Stratton; Nick D'Alonzo; Tony Campos; Virginia Seitz; Maitri Dirmeyer; Mattie Dulka; Mary Barteaux

Attending via Zoom: Ellen Campos

Guest: Police Captain Tony Cereghino; three firefighters from Fire District 1

Camden opened the meeting and welcomed everyone. Introductions were completed. Howie moved, Stephan seconded to accept the November minutes, noting the correction that Ellen had been the one to raise the concern about the lack of visibility of the centerline stripes on SE 43rd Avenue during inclement weather, not Virginia. Motion passed without dissent.

Captain Cereghino briefly reported on recent recruitment activity by the Department, with new hires now filling positions. He emphasized that the City's new traffic officer has a long history of issuing citations. People will soon see him on the streets.

The Captain said that the Department was recently put in a stressful situation when someone released from Providence hospital died while being transported to another facility. He said that an investigation will be completed by the Portland Police Department and the two Milwaukie officers will be on administrative leave until that investigation is complete. This led to multiple questions, including, "Doesn't the hospital have some liability for releasing a patient who was nearly dead?"

Captain Cereghino then reported on recent "human trafficking" arrests where Milwaukie officers have been working with other law enforcement agencies. In



each of these situations, the officers have arrested adults who have been using the internet to lure minors into sexual situations. More arrests are anticipated.

Three firefighters from Fire District 1 attended the meeting. They thanked those in the NDA for their support of the recent tax levy which has enabled the District to hire additional firefighters. They noted the continuing increases in calls to the District, generally totaling more than 2,500 calls each month, with more than 75% of those being calls for emergency medical care. In response to a question, it was noted that, when someone calls 9 - 1 - 1 to request an ambulance, the Fire District responds with a truck. It was explained that the District can generally reach the victims before an ambulance can get there and all District firefighters are certified Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs).

Milwaukie's Assistant Finance Director, Michael Osbourne, gave a report on the City's "Peoples Annual Finance Report" (PAFR). He provided copies of the report to everyone in the room and he summarized it from page to page. Mr. Osbourne said that the City will soon be preparing a new two-year budget, which will have to be finalized and adopted by June 30, 2024. He encouraged people to contact him directly if they have questions about the PAFR or the City's budget process.

Stephan reported that PSAC had not met in November and would not be meeting in December.

Howie reported that the NDA checking account now has \$2,447, which should be sufficient to make purchases for Winter Solstice.

Nick reported that Philip will not be actively involved with transportation issues for the next couple of months because he recently had open-heart surgery.

Nick said that we expect to be working with the City Engineer, Jen Garbely, in January to complete a grant application to ODOT in order to implement the Safe Routes plan for Lewelling Elementary School. It appears that the State will be raising the maximum grant amount from \$2,000,000 to \$3,000,000 and reduc



ing the amount reserved for cost overruns from 40% to 30%. That means that additional funds should be available to Milwaukie and may be sufficient to include sidewalks along the east side of SE Stanley.

Nick and Stephan talked about the letters of support that will be needed with the application. It was decided that the NDA should pen a "draft" letter that the City Council may want to submit to ODOT. Stephan suggested that the NDA also provide its own letter for Camden's signature, and he noted that other letters may also be needed.

Lisa and Howie reported on preparations for the annual Winter Solstice event, scheduled for December 16. Lisa reminded everyone that more volunteers will probably be needed, but many different people have already come forward. A conversation followed about the best number of hot dogs, pies and cookies to acquire. Mary already purchased a large number of cookies, and it was agreed that they should be incorporated into the packages that will be purchased by the NDA. Tony reiterated that he is willing to drive around picking up coffee, hot chocolate and other donated items on the 16th.

Stephan moved, Tony seconded, to adjourn the meeting. Hearing no objection, Camden adjourned the meeting at 7:45 p.m.

The next regular NDA meeting is scheduled for January 10, 2024, at Kairos United Church of Christ.