

**ViNA Meeting
December 10, 2008
www.victoryneighborhood.org**

The meeting was held at St. John Missionary Baptist Church and called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Chair Matt Massman. One item was added to the agenda. The amended agenda and the minutes from the October 22, 2008 meeting were approved by consensus.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Sustainability. Board member and committee chair Gary Mortensen reported that the committee is working on a fund raising letter to inform residents of what ViNA does and asking for donations.

Environment. Board member and committee chair Diane Spector reported on a proposal for a neighborhood (rain) garden party.

Events. Board member and chair Ann Kaari reported on the Holiday on 44th event which went very well. However, in order to sustain this event many more and new volunteers will be needed..

Livability. Board member and committee chair Kris Brogan reported that the second perpetrator on the Ganley kidnap case today pleaded guilty and was sentenced to 21 years.

HOLIDAY LIGHTS CONTEST

Chair Matt Massman reported that the annual holiday lights contest will be held this month. Nineteen properties have been nominated so far. Nominated properties will receive a post card informing them of the judging days so they will be sure to have the lights on during that period.

LIQUOR LICENSE LEGISLATION

Chair Massman noted that a neighborhood resident, Rich Goldsmith, has proposed that legislation be considered enabling consideration of full liquor licenses at certain locations in the neighborhood, such as Sauced and Papa's Pizza, should those owners apply for such a license. Rich was unable to attend this meeting, but sent a written statement summarizing his reasons for this proposal, which was to provide opportunities for residents of the neighborhood to stay in the neighborhood and patronize local businesses. City staffer Linda Roberts from Minneapolis Licensing spoke to the process businesses must go through to obtain a full liquor license, including background and financial checks and public hearings. For this type of license, the business must demonstrate on a continuing basis that their sales receipts are 70% food sales and 30% liquor sales. She cited Café Maude at 54th and Penn as an example of this type of neighborhood restaurant with a full liquor license.

Residents of the neighborhood immediately adjacent to Papas Pizza and Sauced were specially invited to this meeting to obtain information and voice their concerns about this proposal. It was stressed that nothing has been formally proposed, that at this point everyone was simply gauging interest in the idea. The owners of both the establishments were in attendance and both stated that they were interested in knowing what the neighborhood wanted. Because it is an investment to go through the liquor license process and to serve alcohol, they would only consider applying for such a license if there was neighborhood support.

One Penn Avenue resident voiced opposition to the proposal, concerned about the potential behavior of inebriated persons walking or driving through the neighborhood. Others were generally interested in seeing the proposed legislation presented for consideration. The Penn Avenue resident expressed trust in the owners of the establishments to operate in a responsible fashion.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Minneapolis Idling Ordinance. Administrator Debbie Nelson reported that the idling ordinance is now in effect and it is now against the law to idle more than three minutes.

North Housing and Home Improvement Fair. Debbie reported that this annual event will be held at North High school on March 21, 2009.

Metro Transit Route 19R. Matt reported that there have been some ongoing concerns about the reroute of Route 19R, and that Metro Transit will hold a public meeting on the issue on January 22 or 29, 2009. An announcement will be mailed by Metro Transit to residents in the area with more meeting details.

Crime Prevention. An announcement was made from the floor regarding a rash of break-ins in the neighborhood. Everyone was reminded to be alert and to take precautions.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Diane Spector, Secretary
January 26, 2009