

**FRNNG Board Minutes**  
**January 20, 2021**  
**ZOOM Meeting, 6:30pm -8:00pm**

**Presen:** Francesco Marraffa, Michele Johnson (via telephone), Laura Dale, Pat Borzi, Kenna Shearman, Nate Lansing, Deborah Spiesz

**Staff :** Stearline Rucker

**Guest:** Jeremy Schroeder Ward 11, Steve Date Social Media Mgr, and Rausmann resident

**Open Forum:** Ward 11 Councilperson Jermey Schroeder opened with the budget for each community neighborhood associations are estimated between \$25k and \$75K. This budget is scheduled for final vote by July 1, 2021. Councilperson Schroeder stated that there have been racial disruptions in FRNNG neighborhoods. Hale School Hale held a Zoom Open House and a individual injected Hate Speech. The Ed Soleman Park had racial writings on the snow banks.

The vaccine roll out in twin cities has been positive. Councilperson Schroeder announced that all first responders in long term care facilities along with its residents did receive the first shot. The second quarter for the vaccine will be continued for first responders, people over 65 years of age.

Councilperson announced that there will be a **Second Public Safety Town Hall Meeting** that will be scheduled for two hours for all Minneapolis residents regarding the safety of the communities. Please watch for the public announcements via the newspaper, and City of Minneapolis website.

Councilperson Schroeder acknowledged that there have been many crimes in Minneapolis. However, the public safety (Police) continues to work to solve and prevent crimes.

**President Franseco Marraffa** opened the meeting with reflections from each board member about the year 2020. Many members express that the year has been very difficult, and there hopes are looking toward a vaccine and little normalizes before COVID 19.

President stated that some of the surrounding neighborhood associations are looking forward to mergers with FRNNG.

**The \$1.00 Campaign was very successful.** The campaign raised over \$7,000.00 against a goal of \$2500.00. President thanked the board for the online vote to award Anne's Tailoring

Shop \$1,000.00 for her retirement. Anne Tailoring was car jack, keys stolen due to crime against her business during the early month of January 2021.

The president announced that **Education Chair Kenna Shearman** has a tool called “ **Special Equity Impact Analysis**” to be used for all committee chairs when assessing policies, programs and practicing for planning and programming. Kenna agreed to email all FRNNG committee chairs with a copy of this planning tool.

President Marraffa talked about suspending Robert Rules of Order in an attempt to get board members more involved in the discussions. The **Business voucher program** is off to a slow start. However FRNNG is gaining traction from some of businesses in the **Bloomington business node**.

President asked for a motion to purchase ten more Little Libraries due to the success of the program. **Motion** made by Laura Dale and second by Deborah Spiesz. **Motion passed**.

President called for committee reports:

**Communications committee Chair Pat Borzi** accused FRNNG President Francesco Marraffa of violating Board protocol by meeting by telephone with Close to Home newsletter editor Jeannie Piekos without Borzi on the call, in an attempt to kill three stories scheduled for the upcoming newsletter. Borzi said Marraffa’s request violated the terms of Piekos’ contract as well as her job description. Reading from the editor’s job description, Borzi said the editor and communications committee, not the Board president, has final say on newsletter content. The conversation between Borzi and Marraffa became heated.

FRNNG board program director Stearline Rucker stopped the conversation between Marraffa and Borzi and requested that Borzi email his version of events and copies of Piekos’ contract and description to all FRNNG board members and staff, so the Board could respond to his major concerns. The board meeting adjourned at 8:05pm.

**The next Zoom Meeting is schedule for February 17, 2021 at 6:30pm**

Michele Johnson  
FRNNG Secretary