

SENA Board of Directors Public Meeting Agenda

January 12, 2026 | 6:30 pm | Lake Hiawatha Rec Center (in-person)

Attachments [LINK TO FOLDER](#)

- January 2026 Agenda (this document)
- December 2025 Minutes
- December 2025 Financials

Attendance

BOARD MEMBERS (Quorum = 7)

Brynn Kasper (President), Ash Tifa (Vice President), Sheila Cracraft Fehler (Treasurer), Josh Adrian (Secretary), Bonnie Smith, Carol Dungan, David Thebus, Frederick Desjarlait, Lia Thibault, Madelyn Sundberg, Tina Lahti, Paul Jones

Present: Brynn Kasper (President), Ash Tifa (Vice President), Sheila Cracraft Fehler (Treasurer), Josh Adrian (Secretary), Carol Dungan, David Thebus, Lia Thibault, Madelyn Sundberg,, Bonnie Smith, Paul Jones

Absent, excused: Frederick Desjarlait

Absent, unexcused:

STAFF: Amanda Nicklaus

COMMUNITY MEMBERS: Hummingbird, Aurin Chowdhury, Michelle Rivero, Gomez, Jesse Goldfarb, Callie, 57 individuals

6:30 Quarterly Community Safety Meeting

- Guest addressing audience (up to 10 min each)
 - Aurin Chowdhury (City Councilmember)
 - Currently serving as community liaison, connecting with schools around the city
 - People with purple hats at school sites are resources for RR/ICE Watch
 - Talking to county commissioner for trauma resources (county is working to address ICE at HCMC)
 - Report sheriff concerns to County Commissioner
 - If you see anything violating the separation ordinance - film/document as possible and report of Aurin's office
 - Michelle Rivero (OIRA)
 - Supports individuals born outside the US achieving lives of dignity in MPLS
 - Connect with immigration legal resources to help them get consultation and representation
 - OIRA staff hotline **(has a phone number Josh should get)**

- Bi-weekly meeting sharing up-to-date immigration information - to understand exactly what the government is doing. Things like “what does National Guard on stand by” mean.
 - Jesse Goldfarb (American Immigration Lawyer Association)
 - Working to connect with city in lieu of what is happening
 - Are rapid response legal team - attorneys filing on behalf of vulnerable individuals
 - Also help to make sure individuals/businesses are prepared in case of an ICE raid
 - Inspector Gomez/MPD
 - MPD had a command center on Jan 7th, with Hennepin County Sheriffs, Metro Transit, West Metro, St. Paul, UMN and Park police - all working in conjunction
 - 29 people arrested at Canopy hotel downtown
 - Also made an arrest of someone graffiting during the Powderhorn protest
 - 1/12 - there were robo calls for school bomb threats going out (Sanford was one of these). Call came out of the Netherlands.
 - After video from Nick S, there were about 15 threats to Somali daycares - officers checked up on those businesses just to see if there were additional harassment calls or suspicious activity.
 - Roosevelt situation with ICE - MPD does not arrive because they have already left. Separate command center - if call comes in about ICE they check social media and cameras in the area to see what is going on - then they determine how to respond depending on what is going on. Most of the time, they have already left by the time police arrive.
 - Ultimately, if things go bad - ICE or marches, the police are prepared for that.
 - Callie
- Audience Questions from slips of paper
 - Is there a way to verify if a warrant is judge signed?
 - Best way to tell is at the top it will say District Court and be signed by a district judge or district clerk.. Administrative warrant will just say the agency (most common is DHS) and those are not legally binding.
 - Arrest or prosecutions for those who threatened day cares?
 - No, because they have been phone calls and those are very hard to trace, even with the help of the FBI.
 - Given that there could be 3 more years of this how can we make it more difficult for ICE to use mass surveillance tech?
 - Separation ordinance helps with this. However there are other jurisdictions that do not have these ordinance - state level or county.
 - Use encrypted search engine. Don't send sensitive information in regular chat thread.
 - Take biometrics off your phone.
 - Are observers obligated to stop if ICE pulls you over? If they give you a warning, what does that mean?

- ICE can arrest you if they determine you are obstructing their investigation.
- Best practice is to listen to their orders.
- If they turn on their lights behind you - if an official has reason to believe that you are not in the US without authorization. They have the power to stop and question that individual. What you choose to communicate is your choice - review the know your rights materials.
- Your rights always apply. You always have to give consent to be searched. You always have the right to an attorney. You have the right to remain silent.
- Do not flee.
- ACLU has a page where you can report if you have been targeted by ICE as a legal observer.
- If an ICE officer asks you to prove your citizenship do you have to?
 - If you are not a citizen, you do have to present your documentation.
 - As a citizen, you are not required. However, if they think you're lying they can still pursue that information.
 - Ask if you're under arrest. IF they say no, you're free to go.
 - You can choose to remain silent, or you can say I'm exercising my right to remain silent. Don't have to sign anything. Can ask for a lawyer.
- Can MPD do anything about illegal activity that ICE perpetrates?
 - MPD has a duty to intervene if they witness excessive force. Clear, blatant excessive force.
 - Most of the time they just aren't there.
 - If an individual has a ring camera, and ICE breaks down their door - or is assaulted - MPD will take a report and send it to the city attorney to determine if it goes to county level as felony.
 - We can call 911.
 - ICE is leaving cars behind - police will tow it and mark it as an immigration incident so there isn't a tow fee. So call that in.
 - ICE was in an accident today - and fled the scene. They just leave a car with the person they hit. MPD takes motor vehicle report.
- What is legal vs illegal for observing ICE?
 - The line is if you're preventing ICE from making their arrest, then you could be considered obstructing justice.
 - Always record, as it's your first amendment right. You're free to use the whistles.
 - If they ask you to back away, keep the camera going and say out loud I'm complying and backing away.
 - The point of observing is not to prevent the arrest, but to document.
- US Citizen was detained for following ICE.

- That could be construed as obstructing. ICE could argue that because they interpret things very liberally.
- Immigrant Defense Network and Monarca offer 1.5 hr trainings
- Why was ICE allowed to tamper with the evidence at the crime scene? Did MPD secure the scene? Why didn't MPD take the evidence?
 - MPD secured the scene, and then the Chief showed up and he worked with FBI, who took the scene.
 - Because it's a federal agent involved, the FBI takes the case. If MPD does it then BCA would take it.
 - We are not sure why Border Patrol and ICE was inside the investigation tape. Those questions are being asked. Before the Chief arrived there was a lot of confusion.
 - MPD was responsible for clearing ICE once it became an active crime scene.
- Is there a difference in how ICE works with minors or adults?
 - Minors should not be placed in detention facilities.
 - Minors cannot accrue unlawful presence.
- Is there any evidence of agitators posing as activists?
 - Not that MPD is aware of.
- How did ICE get past hospital security?
 - Not sure how they got in. ICE says that there is a patient that they have custody over that patient. The hospital admin and security has asked them to leave. All seven county commissioners have asked them to leave.
 - Sheriff's office is separate office. The commissioner has the ability to trespass the officers, but she has declined to do so.
 - ICE is using anything as interpreted as an invitation - even a door cracked open is an invitation.
- If any officer can trespass an individual, why aren't we doing that now to HCMC?
 - HCMC has their own assigned officers.
- ICE is checking travellers and airport employees at MSP? What to be done here?
 - Airport is considered federal jurisdiction and property - so they can do what they will there.
- For the purpose of calling 911, are ICE officers being considered peace officers?
 - 16909 is hit and run statute - peace officers don't have a duty to stop. If ICE is not peace officer under that statute, do they have a duty to stop?
 - ICE does not fall under our own statute they have their own rules.
 - Individuals should not be afraid to call 911, it's not going to call ICE.
- Is there a Signal SENA chat?
 - No, there is not for SENA.
 - There are channels where neighbors are communicating on how to help each other.

- US Postal Service worker got a letter and MPLS postal workers should be carrying an ID that allows them to move freely even if there is an emergency declaration or curfew.
 - Need to connect with that individual after.
- Gomez said if things go south - what does he mean?
 - If the protests get out of hand, they have a plan to keep everyone safe in that case.
- How many ICE officers in minnesota? 2000
 - Able bodied MPD - 560.
- What is being done at city and state level to help? ICE is moving through quickly, you might not always be there, but can't you try.
 - The litigation is a big piece of it. The judicial branch has been one of the only checks. It slowed things down in Chicago.
- We really need everyone to connect into neighborhood networks. The biggest difference since 2020 and now - City of Minneapolis was violating the rights of it's own citizens. Thing burned. This is different because it's an outside force that has invaded us. We have to protect each other because if we don't, no one else will.
 - Separation ordinance keeps police from helping ICE, but Gomez says that keeps them from showing up.
- What to do to help?
 - Grocery deliveries, rapid response, safe ride, get connected.
 - Go to Lake Street and support the restaurants from there.
 - Tell everyone out of town to come in to town and help out. Tip big!
 - Join SENA to help out.
 - Support the neighborhood school - show up to pick up drop off hours.

8:00 Call to Order & Roll Call (5 min)

8:05 Approval of consent agenda items (5 min) - [Board Motion #1](#)

- January 2026 Agenda (this document)
- December 2025 Minutes
- SENA December Management Report
 - Forwarded Brynn
 - SEconded Tina
 - Passed yes

8:10 Announcements, Guests and Elected Officials (10 min)

- Reading of SENA Official Statement regarding events of January 7, 2026

8:20 Committee Updates (20 min)

- Proposal to create Safety Committee - [Board Motion #2](#) (10 min)

- Commitment - at least 1 in-person meeting per month
- Purpose - support quarterly community safety meetings (guests, topics, etc.), ideate on community partnerships and new programs SENA should consider
- Minimum 3 community member participants; committee will suspend if minimum is not met
 - Forward brynn
 - Second ash
 - Passed: YES
- Community Engagement/Events Committee (5 min)
 - Board members to accept invites for 2026 events and plan to attend each
 - Upcoming - Feb 7; Winter Warmer partnership with MPRB, details to follow
- Snow Squad (10 min)
 - Updates from Hummingbird (via Zoom)
 - 2 successful snow events since the squad started up
 - Helped around 12 neighbors
 - Far more volunteers right now than onboarded neighbors - one of the biggest hurdles is getting waivers from volunteers and neighbors in need. This is a requirement from the city, so we must have it.
 - If you know someone who needs help with their sidewalks - connect them. Definitely can be helpful if you're able to aid in getting the waivers signed. SENA can also get paper waivers to those individuals. It is just for public sidewalks. Things like making sure the garbage cans are cleared or the walkway up to the house are done just on the basis of the volunteers who are helping determining they want to engage.
 - Any feedback we get from volunteers or neighbors in need is crucial for rolling this out, so please make sure to take down any feedback - we will send this back to the city.
 - If you are interested, please reach out.
 - Questions
 - Bonnie asked who is a neighbor in need?
 - For individuals of lower mobility, or anyone over the age of 65, some kind of disability.
 - Caveats - if you're in a rental situation, we have to check whether the landlord or individual is responsible. Snow squad can help with that.
 - If you had back surgery, and you need help this season - it's good to sign up anyways!
 - For every snowfall event half an inch or more, more than just snow emergencies.
 - What it is not - a backup service. It needs to be connected and consistent through a full season.

- We have funds to offer gloves, coats, shovels, and ice choppers. We have had 1 shovel, and 1 chopper requested and delivered.
 - Carol asked - if you consider yourself a neighbor in need, do you have to prove your eligibility?
 - We are not currently checking those apart from the renters situation seeing if the landlord is responsible for shovelling. Otherwise we'll take it on.
 - If you're not a neighbor in need now, but you break your ankle in February can you still reach out?
 - Yes, still reach out!
- Website Working Group (5 min)
 - Report from work contractor completed work by 2025 year end

8:40 Operations and Financials (10 min)

- Sheila
 - Management report has been put into the folder. It is the end of December report, but it's not complete yet because the accountant asked if we wanted our tax information as well. **They will change, and need to be reapproved next month.**
 - Owl4 was named Owly, and has been acquired.
 - We will need a new treasurer next year, so if there is someone with accounting experience who would like to take over that would be great!
- Josh - Board motions passed via email since December Board Meeting
 - Online vote passed on December 12, 2025: Motion to hire Bob Smith as SENA Web Developer. - **Board Motion #3**
 - Forwarded: Josh Adrian
 - Second: Ash Tifa
 - Passed: Yes
 - Online vote passed on December 28, 2025: Motion to donate half of Twin City Marathon 'In Motion' award (\$250) to Sanford Band Program - **Board Motion #4**
 - Forwarded: Sheila Cracraft Fehler
 - Second: David Thebus
 - Passed: YES
 - Online vote passed on January 7, 2026: Motion to put out a statement from the SENA board on the violence our neighborhood. - **Board Motion #5**
 - Forwarded: Brynn Kasper
 - Second: Paul Jones
 - Passed: YES
 - Online vote passed on January 8, 2026: motion (which will need a second) for the purchase of items discussed for purchase for SENA use. - **Board Motion #6**

Motion to purchase:

- a. 2 Tents for outdoor SENA events
- b. Wagon for transporting SENA things for outdoor events
- c. New SENA Garage Sale signs and sign stands
- d. New SENA magnets

Forwarded: Sheila Cracraft Fehler

Second: Bonnie Smith

Passed: YES

- Executive board - Online vote passed January 5, 2026: motion to approve transitioning SENA's organization phone number from Google Voice to OpenPhone/Quo and SimpleTexting, consistent with the proposal (Transition Proposal for SENA Phone Number_rev 2), with the understanding that use of these tools will be reviewed on a program basis and adjusted as needed. - **Board Motion #7**

Forwarded: Brynn Kasper

Second: Ash Tifa

Passed: YES

8:50 Additional time and topics (if time)

None

8:35 Adjourn

Board Actions & Decisions:

1. Motion to approve consent items - **Board Motion #1**

- e. [THIS MONTH] 2024 Agenda
- f. [LAST MONTH] 2024 Minutes
- g. [LAST MONTH] 2024 Financials

Forwarded:

Second:

Passed: YES or NO

2. Proposal to create Safety Committee - **Board Motion #2** (10 min)

- a. Commitment - at least 1 in-person meeting per month
- b. Purpose - support quarterly community safety meetings (guests, topics, etc.), ideate on community partnerships and new programs SENA should consider
- c. Minimum 3 community member participants; committee will suspend if minimum is not met

Forwarded:
Second:
Passed: Yes OR No

3. Online vote passed on December 12, 2025: Motion to hire Bob Smith as SENA Web Developer. -

Board Motion #3

Forwarded: Josh Adrian
Second: Ash Tifa
Passed: Yes

4. Online vote passed on December 28, 2025: Motion to donate half of Twin City Marathon 'In Motion' award (\$250) to Sanford Band Program - **Board Motion #4**

Forwarded: Sheila Cracraft Fehler
Second: David Thebus
Passed: YES

5. Online vote passed on January 7, 2026: Motion to put out a statement from the SENA board on the violence our neighborhood. - **Board Motion #5**

Forwarded: Brynn Kasper
Second: Paul Jones
Passed: YES

6. Online vote passed on January 8, 2026: motion (which will need a second) for the purchase of items discussed for purchase for SENA use. - **Board Motion #6**

Motion to purchase:

- a. 2 Tents for outdoor SENA events
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Forwarded: Sheila Cracraft Fehler
Second: Bonnie Smith
Passed: YES

7. Executive board - Online vote passed January 5, 2026: motion to approve transitioning SENA's organization phone number from Google Voice to OpenPhone/Quo and SimpleTexting, consistent with the proposal (Transition Proposal for SENA Phone Number_rev 2), with the understanding that use of these tools will be reviewed on a program basis and adjusted as needed. - **Board Motion #7**

Forwarded: Brynn Kasper
Second: Ash Tifa
Passed: YES

8. *HOLD for additional Board Motion*

Forwarded:

Second:

Passed: YES or NO

If Zoom meeting:

Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86040454475?pwd=R3JoZHIwRWNXSithSFNPM0pYZ2VsQT09>

NEW - old link (<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86040454475>) will require passcode to enter the meeting
passcode is: SENA