

## SENA Board of Directors Public Meeting Minutes

Monday, December 8, 2025 | 7:00pm | Lake Hiawatha Rec Center

### Attachments [LINK TO FOLDER](#)

- December 2025 Agenda (this document)
- November 2025 Minutes

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### Attendance

#### BOARD MEMBERS (Quorum = 6)

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, Tina Lahti

**Absent, unexcused:**

STAFF: Amanda Nicklaus

COMMUNITY MEMBERS: Manuel, Atlas Defense business owner and neighbor

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**7:00 Call to Order & Roll Call (5 min)**

**7:05 Approval of consent agenda items (5 min) - [Board Motion #1](#)**

- December 2025 Agenda (this document)
- November 2025 Minutes
- November 2025 Financials

**7:10 Announcements, Guests, and Elected Officials (35 min)**

- 15 min total - Community members & guests
  - Atlas Defense (5 min)
    - Worked with Longfellow Zing, a non-city group, taht Manuel works with
      - Threat modeling and asset mapping - answering questions like “what do I do” and what are the most likely things to worry about and what assets or resources do we have to manage those situations (like what happens if the power goes out? Where can we get generators? Or what happens during a mass shooting?)
      - Can help to manage anxieties and better understand how you can take action.

- Offer courses like firearms safety, and self-defense, de-escalation training
- Atlas can fill in with what we do after an upstander training from Monarca
- Requested board to send other veterans his way to help get them involved in training
- Manuel is also looking for more places to run trainings - if we have other locations, he could use suggestions.
- Atlas is for-profit, but sliding scale for everyone. \$250-\$350 for a 90 minute session for 12 people.
- Additional guests (TBD)

### 7:45 Committee Updates (25 min)

- Exec Committee
  - Board Retreat #1 quick recap
    - Norms, Questions, building on ideas of Norms/Qs already there
    - Pt 2 on 12/10 Wed: will review where they stand, how to proceed
  - Snow Removal Grant - SENA Snow Squad, helping Neighbors in Need
    - Coordinator position posted today - [LINK HERE](#)
    - Letters of interest due to office@ by Thursday, December 11th.
    - Would like to take advantage of Councilmember Chowdury's listserv so we can reach out to more applicants.
    - Ethan from the city reached out to Amanda, and would like to be involved.
    - Could we make a snowsquad@ email to funnel communications? Ask Ethan to send any correspondence to that address.
    - Possibility next year to expand to shoveling on non-snow emergency days, but this year we will focus on snow emergencies only.
  - Web Developer Hiring
    - There are 4 applicants
    - We need to review applicants after the closure of the meeting.
- Governance Committee
  - N/A
- Fundraising Committee
  - Give to the Max Day
    - Raised about \$245
    - Could campaign longer to try and get a bigger bump on that.
- Community Engagement Committee
  - Monarca Upstander Training - Carol
    - They are looking for a location able to handle up to 400 people because of popularity. This would preclude Lucy Parsons center from working because their capacity is 150 tops.
    - Carol reached out to Roosevelt through Christian to see if we can use the auditorium.
    - Methodist Church

- Shop SENA/Photoshoot
  - Huge success!!
  - Ferris was a huge upgrade from the Hiawatha Park building. People shopped the store, neighbors learned about the board, we had walk-ins!
  - Could make sessions 10 minutes instead of 15 increasing slots
  - We raised \$460! Plus sold a t-shirt!
  - Standish Cafe could get table tents for the day of, while they're hosting brunch.
  - Nice Time and the Hair Salon as well.
  - Givebuttr proved its value as well!
- Business Week
  - Gift Card sales are officially closed! The funds are going to businesses - over \$5400!
  - Our only costs were envelopes and stamps (most envelopes required 2 stamps, and a few envelopes were so big they had to be hand delivered).
  - There are multiple businesses that did not get involved this year, and would like to be involved next year!
- 2026 Calendar
  - [Events Calendar](#)
  - **Motion to approve 2026 Events Calendar** (5 min) - **Board Motion #2**
    - Forwarded: Madelyn
    - Second: Ash
    - Passed: YES
  - Needs to be added to the distro calendar
  - Possible January 2027 event to be added
  - Paul wants to play at the events with his band
    - Could we have a porch fest at some point?
    - Band at Farmers Market?
    - Band at Garage Sale day?
- Communications Committee
- Development Committee
  - Inclusive Engagement Workshops - next workshop:
    - Fri, Dec 19 • 1:00 PM – 2:30 PM, New date: African American Community and Effective Engagement learning lab, 10th Floor Training Room, Public Service Building, 505 4th Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN 55415
    - Immigrant and refugee workshop still not rescheduled.
      - Information for immigrant and refugee communities:
        - <https://www2.minneapolismn.gov/government/departments/ncr/immigrants-refugees/>
  - Art wrap updates - No responses yet. Reaching out to NCR for support. Probably not going to be part of this years spending. Wrap has to be applied in temps above 50 Degrees F.
  - Responded to MPRB notification of maintenance area expansion.
- Website Working Group

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### 8:10 Operations and Financials (10 min)

- Sheila
  -  Spending spreadsheet for year end 2025.xlsx
  - **Motion to approve up to \$3000 on video conferencing equipment - Board Motion #3**
    - Forwarded: Madelyn
    - Second: Ash
    - Passed: YES
  - Spending Spreadsheet for year-end - discussion of items
    - There will be more items in another week or so, but the graphics for yard signs need to be figured out. Lia and Paul to work on the visuals.
  - **Motion to approve SENA Neighborhood Budget for the fiscal year 2026 - Board Motion #4**
    - Forwarded: Madelyn
    - Second: Josh
    - Passed: YES
- Josh
  - Online vote passed on November 24, 2025: Motion to approve the signing of a letter of support for East Phillips Neighborhood Institute's efforts to purchase the Roof Depot site from the city. - **Board Motion #5**
    - Forwarded: Ash Tifa
    - Second: Carol Dungan
    - Passed: Yes

### 8:20 Additional Discussions/Recap (10 min)

- Safety Committee - do we want to add?
  - Not enough time to discuss, but would like to discuss at the next meeting or even the board retreat.
- Hennepin County FORTIFY grant?
- <https://www.hennepin.us/business/work-with-henn-co/climate-resilience-funding-opportunities>

### 8:30 Adjourn

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#### Board Actions & Decisions:

1. Motion to approve consent items:
  - a. December 2025 Agenda (this document)
  - b. November 2025 Minutes

c. November 2025 Financials

Forwarded: Ash Tifa

Second: Sheila

Passed: Yes

2. Motion to approve 2026 Events Calendar

Forwarded: Madelyn

Second: Ash

Passed: YES

3. Motion to approve up to \$3000 on video conferencing equipment

Forwarded: Madelyn

Second: Ash

Passed: YES

4. Motion to approve SENA 2026 Operational Budget

Forwarded: Madelyn

Second: Josh

Passed: YES

5. Online vote passed on November 24, 2025: Motion to approve the signing of a letter of support for East Phillips Neighborhood Institute's efforts to purchase the Roof Depot site from the city.

Forwarded: Ash Tifa

Second: Carol Dungan

Passed: Yes

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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