

Menomonee Falls Neighborhood Watch, Inc

[www.mfnw.org](http://www.mfnw.org)

Meeting Minutes: October 19, 2023 (By Jim Cline, Secretary MFNW)

**Executive Board Present:** President Cathy Mariscal, Vice President Brian Fritsch, Jim Cline Secretary, Officer Jay Weber and Members at Large Oksana Snyder and Tom Gawronski.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Menomonee Falls Neighborhood Watch Youth Award:** Officer Jay Weber presented the youth award. Andrew and his father Drew were recognized for their hard work removing vines and overgrowth in local parks..They are also involved in maintaining / constructing mountain bike trails for our Mountain Bike team.

**Executive Board Report:** President Cathy Mariscal asked for a motion to accept the minutes of the July 13, 2023 NW meeting. Motion was made by Marie Weber to accept the minutes and was seconded by Bonnie Lemmer. Motion was passed.

**Treasures Report:** Priya Czubkowski absent due to prior commitment.

**New Business:** The By-Laws for MFNW have been changed to as follows: The Executive Board will consist of President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary and **Five** Members at Large. The change is 2 extra Members At Large. The president shall be limited to two consecutive terms of two years each.

Elections for the following positions took place. President, Treasurer, and four Members at Large. Cathy Mariscal has served 2 terms as President. Priya Czubkowski was nominated and elected as our new President. Therefore, a new Treasurer was needed and Lisa Taylor was nominated and elected as our new Treasurer. Four new Members at Large were nominated and elected. They are: Marie Weber, Oksana Snyder, Tom Gawronski, and Cathy Mariscal. Don Greif is our other Member at Large. There were no other nominations for the positions elected.

**Old Business:** Our National Night Out event held on August 1, 2023 was a huge success. There were several thousand in attendance. The Police Memorial was held just prior to the NNO and was well attended. Treasurer Priya Czubkowski will provide a summary of the income generated from our concessions at a later date.

**Guest Speaker:** Detective Eric Palmer MFPD. He has been with the MFPD for 15 years and 5 years in the detective bureau. He was previously with the St Croix Falls PD. He spoke about internet crimes and scams against all citizens. Americans lost **\$8.8 BILLION** in scams last year! He provided the following **tips to protect yourself:**

- Be aware that you are at risk.
- Don't isolate yourself – stay involved
- No phone solicitors!!!
- Use direct deposit whenever possible.
- Never give out credit card info unless you made the call.
- Be skeptical of unsolicited offers and do your research.

### **General prevention tips**

- Check your credit reports at least once per year.
- Follow up if bills don't arrive on time.
- Purchase a shredder.
- Do not print your SSN on checks
- Do not carry your SSN in your wallet or purse.
- Keep items that contain your personal information in a safe place.

### **Prevention for computer users**

- Password protect your computer and files that contain sensitive personal data.
- Install firewall and virus protection software.
- Encrypt files that contain personal information.
- When shopping on-line, be sure you are dealing with a reputable company.
- When disposing of your computer, use a strong "wipe" utility program to remove data, or physically destroy the hard drive.

Remember the saying, "if it's too good to be true" and proceed with caution!

**Police Report:** Officer Jay Weber MFPD. There have been reports of checks being stolen from mail boxes. Stolen checks are used for information and for purposes of gaining access to accounts and cash. For the holidays, be sure packages are secure and a safe place for delivery. Retail theft will spike over the holidays as well. Keep the porch / garage lights on and garage doors closed.

**Adjournment** @ 7:30 PM. Motion by Marie Weber and seconded by Brian Fritsch