

Spring Harbor Neighborhood Association Board Meeting
7:00 PM, Tuesday, May 13, 2013
Dale Heights Church

Approved Minutes

Board members in attendance: Greg Hull, Bill Fitzpatrick, Shary Bisgard, Barb Shultz-Becker, Stan Fuka, Mary Beth Dunning, Jeanette Tierney, Jeff Schneider

Others in attendance: Alder Mark Clear, Herman Felstehausen, Amy and Nathan Susnow

Meeting called to order at 7PM

Minutes Approval

March and April meeting minutes approved with changes.

5434 Lake Mendota Drive—Amy and Nathan Susnow

The homeowners described plans to create parking for guests on the property so their guest do not have to park on Lake Mendota Drive. Work will involve removing a patio/walkway of pavers that was part of the property when they bought it and creating a new parking area. The owners said that they will apply for two permits for the work: 1) one for removing part of the walkway that extends across the property line out into Clifford Court (a public right of way). and the other for building the new parking area. The owners said that they have talked to surrounding neighbors, and the neighbors have no objections with the plans. They have also talked to the City about the history of the property and of the use of the easement.

Mark suggested that, given the history of the property, it would be good for the SHNA Planning and Development Committee to make a recommendation about the project to the Board. Shary Bisgard asked if this would set a precedent of the Board giving a “blessing” to a project. Bill Fitzpatrick pointed out the uniqueness of this project makes it unlikely that this example could be used in future as setting precedent, adding that these owners did not create this hardship. Herman Felstehausen suggested that the Board could say that it had no objection to the plans, but was showing qualified support for the project.

After the owners left, there was a discussion about the purpose of these building project presentations and the role of the Board. Jeff Schneider thinks that it is unclear that these presentations are not part of an approval process. Greg Hull said that the owners are there to field objections from Board members or from residents in their areas and that he didn't think that it was necessary to have a statement on record to clarify the Board would not be approving/disapproving plans. Shary said she liked the idea of having a statement to guide future Boards. The Board discussed possible the wording of a statement but took no action.

Newsletter

There was review of articles for summer newsletter. Dave Ropa is going to write an article about the school's greenhouse. The newsletter will be distributed by June 21. Articles due May 31.

4th of July Picnic and Parade

Jeanette Tierney will be in town and will coordinate. Barb Schultz-Becker will help her. Jeanette said that she will send out by email the list of tasks that needs to be completed for both events.

Report on first meeting of the Planning and Development Committee

Chair Herman Felstehausen reported that the general committee meeting was attended by eight of the core committee members. One of the main topics of discussion was what to do about the signage on the UW Digestive Health building. The brightness of the sign is a problem for residents of Indian Hills living directly across University Avenue. The sign is facing the back of the houses at the same level. Herman said that these residents have contacted him, asking what can be done to get sign turned off or the brightness dimmed at night. Herman said the sign cannot be dimmed, so the Committee is recommending that UW Health be asked to turn off the sign at night.

Greg asked Board members in attendance if they would support the Development Committee's recommendation. Bill Fitzpatrick made motion to accept the recommendation of committee regarding the brightness of the signage and Shary seconded the motion. Motion passed. Adler Clear will contact UW Hospital and Clinics and request that they turn off the sign at the close of business hours.

Repair of the Indian Hills Sign

Herman said he has talked to carpenter who can repair the sign. There was some discussion about the ownership of sign. This is a grey area because of the age of the sign. Greg said that the City wants to establish ownership, but that neighborhood would be responsible for repairs.

Spring Harbor Neighborhood Sign

There was a brief discussion about placement of the repaired sign. It can be put back in the same place, but because of the University Avenue roadwork, the orientation has to be changed (placed parallel to road). Shary suggested the city put at Capital and University where it could be placed perpendicular to the road. Mark Clear suggested that the Board recommend 2-3 possible locations to the City. Greg said to email suggested locations to him by end of the week.

Turn Lanes/ street crossings at University Avenue and Flambeau Road

Herman showed a diagram of how the turn lanes and the street crossings will be configured on University Avenue at Flambeau Road after the Good N Loud site is re-

developed. Herman said that Traffic Engineering highly recommended making the stretch of curb near the Flambeau Road stop sign a no-parking zone and that change will be made.

Pedestrian-bike connection

Herman showed a diagram of a possible design for putting an opening in the fence creating a pedestrian-bike connection from the Trillium area and to the bike path that runs through University Crossing. This project will need the cooperation of the Trillium management.

Friends of Merrill Spring Meeting

Bill reported on a meeting that a group of interested residents had with a landscape architect from Earthly Designs based in Minneapolis to discuss ideas for some restoration work that needs to be done on Merrill Spring. The meeting was hosted by Faith Fitzpatrick at her house. The architect recommended creating a master plan that would serve as a vision for how the spring should look and be protected. One suggestion was to replace the bollards with something more esthetically pleasing. Bill said Earthly Designs has offered to create a master plan that could be used to get a grant to implement the master plan. Mark said the Parks Department would lead implementation of the master plan. Greg encouraged everyone to keep involved and diverse membership, and to keep thinking of ideas.

City Alder's Update (Mark Clear)

Greg asked Mark about the status of the recommendations for installation of geothermal wells. Mark stated that no action has been taken yet.

Mark reported that the west side of town is finally getting off-leash dogs parks. One will be in Walnut Grove Park (off Gammon) and the other near the soccer fields on Segoe Road, behind the new HyVee grocery store. Jeff asked for a park to be sited near our neighborhood.

Jeanette asked Mark about the Mike Ivy article in the Cap Times that made it sound like neighborhoods will have less influence as a result of new zoning codes and Mark said that is not true.

County Supervisor's Update (Jeremy Levin) [Sent via email, 5/14/13]

Unfortunately I'm unable to make tonight's meeting. However, the County Board has only held one meeting since I saw you all at the SHNA Annual meeting, so not much has happened. Two items of note that continue on the theme of sustainability, the Board did approve an ordinance that provides new standards and procedures for issuance of conditional use permits for wind energy systems, but there is currently pending legislation in the State Capitol that could supersede our efforts. We also moved another step forward, by authorizing agreements, on the second "Cow Power Project" (Manure Digester) in the Town of Springfield.

Treasurer's Report

Bill reported that the cost of the vegetative management plan will be \$9,600. The city will pay half and SHNA and the Indian Hills Garden Club will cover the rest.

Next meeting: Tuesday, June 11

Meeting adjourned around 8:30.

Submitted by Mary Beth Dunning