

Spring Harbor Neighborhood Association Board Meeting
7:00 PM, Tuesday, June 11, 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, Kim McBride

Others in attendance: Herman Baumann, Dick Pearson, Jeremy Levin, Ken Haak, Daniel Wanke, Brad Spencer, Rita Spencer, Mark Clear

Minutes Approval

May minutes approved with changes. Mary Beth will start sending minutes for approval out on Sunday prior to board meeting instead of on Thursday.

Treasurer's Report

Bill Fitzpatrick reviewed the 2013 SHNA budget.

- At this time there are 63 paid members of the neighborhood association; all board members have paid.
- Biggest budgeted expenses for 2013 are the consulting fee for the neighborhood survey (conducted by Urban Assets) and newsletter printing. The City grant money (which covers the Urban Assets consulting fee) has been received.
- Bill confirmed that previously allocated funds for SHNA's share for the cost of the tree plantings in Spring Harbor Park and the natural area would be spent in this budget year. (City is providing funds for half of total cost, and SHNA and the Indian Hills Garden Club are providing the funds to cover the balance.) The City has not set a specific date for the tree planning.

4838 Lake Mendota Dr.--Daniel Wanke/Capital Builders, Inc

Daniel Wanke presented the plans for this home construction project.

- Will be a full demolition of the existing structure. New construction is scheduled to start in late fall.
- The setback of 73 feet from the lake meets the new zoning requirements. The style of the home will be a Prairie-Craftsman look, with full exposure toward the lake. Size of the structure is 2700 sq ft. The height of the house will be no higher than the houses on both sides.
- Shary Bisgard asked Mr. Wanke if he had looked at the recommendations in the SHNA neighborhood plan, and he said he had since he had built the house next door. Mr. Wanke indicated that there are no major objections from the neighbors. Herman Baumann, who lives next door, said that he likes the way the proposed house sits on the lot and is happy to see the existing structure (which was mostly used as a party house) go.

Kettle Pond—Ken Haak

Mr. Haak has been doing volunteer work in the Kettle Pond area for past 12 years; his work has included removing invasive species. He was present at the meeting to express his concern that the planned seeding planting, scheduled by the City, will not get done while he is still able to help. He asked that the Board send a resolution to the City to prompt Parks to move up the planting schedule. (The seeds are in City parks division storage.)

- Mark Clear asked Mr. Haak if he was asking for permission to plant or help with the planting; Ken said that he would like a planting plan and asked that the Board send a resolution to the City requesting a plan.
- Shary made a motion that the SHNA Board send a resolution the City of Madison Parks Department requesting a planting plan for Kettle Pond; Bill seconded. The resolution was unanimously approved.
- Mark said that he would take the resolution to the Parks Commission meeting tomorrow.
- Shary thanked Ken for his volunteer work.

Dane County Board Supervisor Report—Jeremy Levin

Jeremy reviewed the content of the article he wrote for June neighborhood newsletter. The county budget process starts in earnest in August. Jeremy said that the county is in a stronger economic position, with more reserves. It is building up its bond rating and there is steady improvement.

City Alder Report—Mark Clear

Mark talked about the City's new plan for collecting property taxes, which the City has been working on for three years

- The City will collect instead of the county treasurer. Still has to follow the county's rule regarding the assessment of penalties.
- Four installments, half of taxes due by March 31. This payment plan is supposed to reduce delinquency and the size of the penalty.
- Loss in funds to the County due to no more collection of penalties will be around \$200,000
- There is small possibility that the system will not be ready by December to collect 2014 taxes and may start with 2015 tax collection.

Jeremy explained county's side: loss of revenue, confusion on taxpayer's part regarding whom to pay. 80% of larger cities collect taxes in the way it's currently being done.

- Mark said that the City is looking at ways to compensate the County for the loss of revenue such as funding a program that the County normally pays for, since City cannot give the County money directly.

Update on UW Digestive Health Clinic Sign

Mark said that he had talked to Andy Howick (UW Health) who seemed reluctant to take any action and said he would not turn off the sign but may look into the possibility of dimming the sign in the late evening.

- Greg asked Mark who "dropped the ball" and allowed the sign to be put up in first place. Mark said that the Urban Design Commission gave approval to the lighting

- plans as a package and that they met the guidelines of the signage code, but that the code does not take into account a residential setting.
- There was some discussion about what could be done to get UW Health to make changes to the sign. Mark indicated that, as Alder, he could not sign off on the SIP because he considered the placement and lighting of the sign on the front of the building to be a major alteration to the SIP. No approval would cause the SIP to go to the Plan Commission and trigger a public hearing.
 - Bill asked about leverage with developer and Kim asked about moving the signage to the end of the building.
 - Mark said that he will work to ensure that SIP alterations trigger Alder notification in the future.

Update on plans for cottage in Merrill Spring Park

There are no plans to move the cottage but City staff are concerned about it standing empty and are considering having city staff live in it. There was a short discussion about the mostly negative reasons for the cottage being occupied full time.

- Greg Hull expressed his opinion that having someone living there will make the cottage seem like private property.
- Mark offered the example of city staff living in Olin Park house. Greg countered that there was a huge difference in the scale of the parks and asked Mark to make sure that Parks knew of the neighborhood's dissatisfaction with the cottage idea

Other issues

Bill brought up the issue of mowing cuttings being left in the gutters along University Avenue and showed photos he had taken to Mark. Mark will follow up with staff.

Mark said that the neighbors on Flambeau Road, who lost screening plants when a City contractor inadvertently cleared bushes on their property in preparation for the plantings around the well, are being compensated by the City, so that they can buy replacement plants.

Fourth of July Picnic and Parade—Jeanette Tierney

Jeanette said that she had sent out the duties list to the volunteers. Jeanette asked Mary Beth to make sure the Mayor was invited to the parade since someone had pointed out to her that the mayor seemed to have been let off the list of dignitaries to invite; Mary Beth said she had already invited the mayor and that he was not able to make it. Greg asked Mary Beth to bring all of the paper plates, cups, etc. left over from the spring membership meeting to Jeanette for use at the picnic. Mark said he would be at the parade. Mary Beth said, that in addition to the Shorewood Hills fire truck, she had asked Pat McBride to drive his red convertible Audi TT to bring up the rear of the parade.

Good N Loud Redevelopment Project

Dick Pearson, representing the Planning and Development Committee for Herman Felstehausen, said that the committee was going to talk to developer about making sure that the lighting was dark sky compliant.

WATCH Committee Report—Barb Schultz-Becker

Barb gave an overview of the recent neighborhood break-ins, which she said seem to be directed by outsiders, using amateurs. Some teens had been apprehended. There seems to be a pattern of breaking glass in the door (or next to it) to gain entry. Residents have been at home. There was a short discussion about creating a discussion board to use to more easily notify neighbors about break-ins. No action was taken.

Indian Hills Garden Club Plant Sale

Shary Bisgard reported that the sale was successful and the club made \$2,700. The sale signs have been picked up.

Indian Hills Neighborhood Sign

Kim brought up the need for plantings around the sign. No action was taken. Mary Beth and Shary made motion that the neighborhood association cover the cost of the repair of sign and reimburse Herman F. for the cost, which he paid for out of pocket. The motion was approved. Bill will send a check for \$375 to Herman.

Placement of the Repaired Spring Harbor Neighborhood Sign

Greg reviewed the suggested locations for the repaired sign. The three best options along University Avenue—current location, in front of Klinke's cleaners, and next to bus stop at Capital Avenue. Greg will call Glen Yeager to let him know that the vote is to put the sign back in the current location.

Next meeting: 7/16 (3rd Tuesday)

Submitted by Mary Beth Dunning