

SPRING HARBOR NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION (SHNA)
BOARD MEETING
7:00 P.M., Thursday, February 23, 2023
Via Zoom

Approved Minutes

Welcome and introductions

- Aaron called the meeting to order. No introductions necessary.
- Board members in attendance: Sue Albans, Jeff Bauer, Aaron Crandall, Mary Beth Dunning, Joan Martin, Erin McGrath, Matt Seib
- Committee chairs in attendance: Faith Fitzpatrick (Natural Resources)
- Neighbors in attendance: Janet Loewi (Lake Mendota Dr.)

Minutes Approval

November 2022 minutes approved with no changes. Mary Beth will revise the January 2023 minutes regarding discussion about the newsletter and discontinuing printing and distributing door to door, and converting to online distribution only, and resubmit for the January minutes for approval.

Treasurer's Report

Joan presented the 2023 budget which reflected suggested changes made at the January meeting. Took out Indian Hills Sign line item. No more changes to the budget were proposed and there was a vote and the 2023 budget was approved. The approved budget will be presented at the spring all neighbor meeting.

Natural Resources—Faith Fitzpatrick

Faith was at the meeting to talk about the Neighborhood Grant application that she has submitted on behalf of SHNA. Her goal was to connect the north and south parts of neighborhood association, as a way to try to solve the physical divide that University Avenue creates, by highlighting common demographics, and connecting water features on both sides of University Avenue. We will find out in early April if SHNA is awarded the grant. Thank you Faith!

West Side Plan

Janet asked how SHNA will be participating in the process of the formation of the new West Side Plan since there is a call for community partners. She asked if SHNA will be forming a committee to look at the proposed plan, comparing to the existing neighborhood plan. Matt read the proposed timeline on City Web site, pointing out that there are issues and opportunities to be engaged in. Erin suggested sending an email on behalf of SHNA to the City, advocating for elements of the plan that of importance to the neighborhood association and, make neighbors aware of these elements. Faith recommended forming a subcommittee to look at proposed plan relative to the existing 2006 neighborhood plan. She noted that environment issues are missing. She suggested putting out a call for volunteers to participate in next newsletter. Janet proposed taking a vote at the April all neighbor meeting to form a committee, or if a committee is formed now, develop something to present at the April meeting. Matt noted that there is nothing on the project page that explains how is a neighborhood association can participate; Aaron will contact the City to see how SHNA can participate in planning process, and will contact other neighborhood associations to see how they are participating. Joan advocated for the idea that a group start looking at the plan now. Jeff proposed forming the committee right after the March 9 public information meeting at the high school. Joan made a motion to form a sub-committee that will look at and keep track of the West Area planning process, Jeff seconded. Jeff, Joan, Faith, Janet will be members, and Tom Kneubuehl, as Planning and Development chair, will be asked if he wants to be on committee.

Faith made the recommendation that the Alder give an update on the West Side Plan at the spring meeting if he is able to attend. This would be in addition to the guest speaker who is already set.

April edition of the Newsletter

A call for articles has been sent out; due by March 9. Liz will be traveling in March so articles will be sent to Mary Beth and Joan for coordination. Mary Beth said there was a request to have the two alder candidates answer some questions to be distributed via the newsletter. Erin offered to compose some questions to send to the candidates—thank you Erin! The newsletter may not be completely distributed before election day so the Q&A will be distributed via the listserve, Facebook, and the Web site.

Other items

- Well 14— Faith will check in on the progress of the testing and chloride study.
- Janet said that the City will be changing the zoning code which will be changing the meaning of family so that 5 unrelated people can live in a house; in past the owner had to be living there, or no more than 2 unrelated people can live in a house.
- Invasive removal in parks--Faith said invasive removal will be happening in Kettle Pond and wondered how this was funded (SHNA helps pay for invasive removal in Spring Harbor Park). Erin said it was because Kettle Pond is a conservation park. (Faith thinks that there needs to be better communication from the City about this.) Faith said that the clearing was supposed to be minimally invasive. Erin said that there was a lot of brush cut, and pesticide was used, last summer. Faith said that Alice Erickson contacted the Crane Foundation, who assured her that there will be minimal disturbance to the nesting cranes in Kettle Pond. Aaron mentioned that a portion of developer's fees, charged by the City, goes to benefit parks, so this may be a source of funds to pay for invasive removal.

Future agenda item—neighborhood association communication (Tanya Cunningham spearheading effort to improve)

Meeting adjourned at 8:10

Minutes submitted by Mary Beth Dunning