

Spring Harbor Neighborhood Association (SHNA)
Board Meeting
Thursday, January 27, 2023
Via Zoom

APPROVED MINUTES

Welcome and introductions

Matt got the meeting started by welcoming everyone. No introductions needed.

In attendance:

- Board members: Jeff Bauer, Sue Alban, Matt Seib, Erin McGrath, Aaron Crandall, Joan Martin, Mary Beth Dunning
- Committee chairs: Faith Fitzpatrick (Natural Resources), Tom Kneubel (Development), Leslie Herje (LMD Ad Hoc)
- Neighbor: Kim McBride (Spring Court)

Approval of November minutes

Moved to next meeting.

Announcements

Westside mayoral forum, 1/30, 7-8:30pm, Sequoya Library. Mary Beth will send out announcement to the listserv.

Neighborhood grant-- opportunity discussion

Faith proposed that the neighborhood association apply for a City of Madison neighborhood grant to promote water features in all SHNA areas. Faith presented some ideas for how to use the funds to promote the environmental/water related features of our neighborhood: meet your water neighbor, Web site with linked QR coded signs about water features in the area, display beach reports. Could hire a consultant to build the site and organize water information. Erin asked about the timeframe for using the funds if awarded the grant—need to use this year? Timeframe to be determined. Erin suggested doing something around Earth Day. Faith was thinking about summer time, when people are going into the water. Matt mentioned that World Water Week is in August. Joan made a motion to move ahead with this project and for Faith to develop the grant application; Sue seconded. A vote was taken and there was agreement that Faith should move forward with putting together the grant. She will send out a draft for feedback.

West Side Plan Project

Tom presented a brief overview of the City's effort to develop 13 area plans, which will have a life span of 10 years. Every area plan will use the same template; City wants to have consistency of certain topics in every plan. There are public meetings scheduled. Tom said that an area plan will supersede a neighborhood plan. Faith asked about the role a neighborhood association in the development process. Leslie said there is a 10 minute video posted on the City's Web site that explains a sample process. Tom pointed out that the new area plans will make neighborhood plans obsolete if they don't align. Environmental and development issues of importance to SHNA could get overlooked or dropped in the

new plan. Matt pointed out that a large portion of the west side is part of the watershed area that drains into Spring Harbor and the template doesn't mention environmental issues. Erin asked about the origin of the current SHNA neighborhood plan; Aaron gave a brief history. There was general agreement that SHNA needs to be actively involved in the development of the new area plan. Matt suggested that there be a call for neighborhood partners to participate in the process, perhaps through an application process or formal request. No action was taken.

Schedule spring meeting, speaker/presenter ideas?

The spring all neighbor meeting will be on Thursday, 4/20 or 4/27, depending on the availability of a speaker. Tom will contact Mark Reston with Clean Wisconsin to see if he can be the main speaker. Mary Beth will check on the availability of the Spring Harbor Middle School library on both of these dates.

Spring issue of neighborhood newsletter

Newsletter articles and printing/distribution timeline to be discussed at the February board meeting. According to the SHNA by-laws the newsletter needs to be distributed to residents 2 weeks prior to spring meeting. Jeff raised the question of when SHNA could transition the newsletter from its current print format to an online-only document. There was a brief discussion and several other Board members agreed and supported developing a formal plan to bring the newsletter into the virtual world. No formal motion was made to do this at this meeting, and Aaron said that the idea will be put on a future agenda when time will be set aside for a full discussion about moving to an online only version of the newsletter as a way to save money and resources used to get the newsletter to residents' homes, as Jeff proposes.

Updates/Reports

- No county supervisor or city alder report.
- Treasurer's Report—Joan reviewed the current budget and some proposed line item increases were discussed, including newsletter printing, plantings in public spaces. Changes will be voted on at the February meeting.
- Lake Mendota Drive reconstruction project—Leslie gave a brief update on the project and said that Aaron Canton is the new project manager. Leslie and Faith will be meeting with city staff to discuss rain gardens and other environmental impacts of the project.
- Planning/development—Tom reported that there are no commercial businesses yet at the redeveloped Perkins and Brennan's sites. Tom is working on revising the SHNA development document.
- Other—Faith reported that Well 14 is off line for repair; Merrill Spring is bubbling away

Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm

Next meeting: Thursday, 2/23

Minutes submitted by Mary Beth Dunning