

MINUTES OF THE
MARQUETTE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
BOARD
WIL MAR COMMUNITY CENTER
Thursday, April 16, 2009

BOARD MEMBER ATTENDEES: Julie Spears, Mariah Miller (left at 7:55), John Coleman, Scott Thornton, Michael Jacob (arrived at 7:25), Amanda Schwoegler, and Sara Ishado

GUESTS: Twink Jan-McMahon, Brian Cheney, Marsha Rummel, Peter Wolff, Adam Walsh, Ted Voth, Fred Johnson, Fae Dremock, Mariana Williams, Burke, Gary Tipler

1. WELCOME

Introductions were made by Scott Thornton, president of MNA, and welcomed those present at 7:04 p.m. Quorum was not reached until 7:25 and then was lost again at 7:55.

2. Adam Walsh from Tenney Lapham Neighborhood Association (TLNA)

Adam is the Education Chair for the TLNA. The TLNA plans to adopt Lapham and is considering to adopt Marquette as well. The adoption program involves providing volunteers for events, donations, and participation in other activities. TLNA is wondering if MNA would like to co-adopt these schools. Adam will send additional information about the adoption program.

Also, TLNA provides job shadow hosts to East High School. If anyone would like to volunteer, contact Adam.

There is an interest to expand the Young Shakespeare Players Theatre to the eastside. There will be a performance this summer at Tenney.

3. MPD Update: Officer Chaney

The month of March had mainly routine calls for disturbance—domestic issues and unruly patrons. The reported burglaries were down. He encouraged us to call him or crime stoppers when we suspect an issue in the neighborhood. Recently a neighbor called because felt there was suspicious activity at the neighbor's house. Officer Chaney felt it sounded suspicious, so he observed the house. He realized the neighbor was dealing cocaine out of the house.

There was discussion about an upcoming curfew ordinance. Marsha Rummel received an email from the police captain mentioning the potential for changing it from 11p.m. to 10 p.m.

4. March Minutes Approval

Minutes were available, but unable to approve due to lack of quorum.

5. March Treasurer's Report

Treasurer's report was available, but unable to approve due to lack of quorum.

6. Alder Report

- Extension of citywide ban on certain packs of beer. Star Liquor is unhappy about this issue due to the impact on its business. Discussion arose about it not applying to microbrew. Other discussion arose about it being unfair to exempt certain items.
- Merry St Apex project. Apex met with staff about the status of land along the creek. They are unsure if its owned by city.
- The Willy St Coop has completed its traffic study regarding how to change the traffic flow in/out of parking lot, which includes the egress onto Jenifer St. They want to meet with MNA board before meeting with neighbors.
- Traffic committee plans have been forwarded to David Dryer.
- #38 Bus. The Metro will perform a test of having the #38 bus stop on Jenifer St where there are lighted intersections on Willy St.

7. Cantwell Ct/Thornton Ave Project

Fae Dremock explained the neighbors met with the developers on Monday. The developers may push out their timeline on the project

Fred Johnson said the property has been neglected for two years. There has been sporadic work by one to two people. Only recently have efforts been made to seal the property. He feels the new building will destroy the look of the neighborhood.

Mariana Williams said she wants the developer to complete the apartments before starting to build a condo. She doesn't want them to bring back the home that has been moved once construction is complete. She feels the house is perfectly fine and doesn't need to be replaced. She explained there have been other projects this developer started and still has not completed. She would prefer they just have three houses and not include a condo.

Burke prefers to have the existing houses stay. He said they are still functionally fine. The new development would be 50% wider and longer than existing structures and eliminates 30 feet of green space.

Fae said she realizes there is an issue because the developer wants to put in underground parking to prepare the condos. The developer will try to make the property presentable by mid-July. The developer is trying to find a commercial contractor to speed up the project.

MNA was approached by the developer in 2006. He was interested in developing condos. In 2008 the developer came back again and MNA felt the project was still fine and wrote a letter of support. Once MNA saw it wasn't moving forward, they sent a letter that said the developer needs to complete the current project before starting a condo. The developer won't move forward until he has a letter of support.

Marsha Rummel said this could pass in the UDC, but the planning commission is where neighbor input will be heard. Issues about the scale and green space would be considered by UDC.

Suggestions were for the neighbors to write a letter to the planning commission to consider. A letter can be written by MNA to repeat the same thing from the previous letter and that the mass of the new building needs to be reduced. Also, include a final condition that the neighbor's concerns are addressed. The MNA letter will be voted on by email.

8. Values Committee

There was only 1 application for the community improvement grant. The request is from Tenney Park Shelter for \$500. The issue of a previous grant not being funded came up. The plantings by the Elks Club was requested previously for \$1000. MNA could consider funding this as well. There will need to be a vote via email.

Only one scholarship application was provided. Only \$700+ was raised at the chili dinner, so consider just funding one applicant. Also, could fund two at less than \$500 each.

9. Membership Committee

Michael Jacob reported there are 130 email addresses on the list serve. There have been 14 memberships by mail in the last few months since the traffic meeting. There are 88 current members. Gary Kallas agreed to provide space in the main room for a file cabinet for MNA.

10. Funding, Finance, and Festivals

The Central Park Meeting was well attended on Tuesday. WilMar is developing a capital campaign that could help funding Central Park. To advocate for the park, a letter can be sent to the Railroad Commission about the need for a safe crossing at the S Few St proposed entrance to the park.

Put Central Park on the agenda for the May meeting. Potential for letter of support. Include drawings of park and possibly invite Bill Bauer or someone from Parks Commission. The current MNA members on the Central Park Planning Committee are Truly Remarkable Loon, Leslie Schroeder, and Nan Cheney.

11. Traffic Committee

The traffic committee will meet with the Willy St Coop team about the traffic study. This will occur before Willy St Coop presents to the MNA Board. The traffic committee will provide a recommendation to the board. The next traffic committee meeting is 4/29 at 7:00 p.m.

There is a proposed burn of the prairie land along the bike path. The city will provide \$50 to go towards the \$150 permit. Need to raise money for rest of permit cost.

12. Misc

John Coleman will drop off the board for the next 6 months. He has family commitments to attend to.

Executive Board committee will meet to discuss the committee and board capacity.

13. Adjourn

No quorum. Meeting ended at 9:05 p.m.

Submitted Respectfully By,

Sara Ishado