

MARQUETTE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION BOARD

BOARD MEETING, WIL-MAR CENTER

NOV. 19, 2009 MINUTES

Board Members: Scott Thornton, Michael Jacob, Anne Walker, Cheryl Diaby, Bess Hambleton, Troy Pickl, Julie Spears, Lindsey Lee, Charles Monroe-Kane, Maria Sadowski, Amanda Schwoegler

Officer Liason: Brian Chaney

Also present: Fae Dremock, Marsha Rummel, Peter Wolff

1. Call to Order, 7:05
2. Update from Officer Chaney:
 - a. MPD working on special initiatives to address the strong arm robberies that have been occurring in the bike path area and burglaries; hopefully will be able to give update at next month's meeting.
 - b. In Tenney Lapham neighborhood, there have been some arrests for graffiti, and MPD is working on matching up graffiti work with the suspects. There have also been a number of burglaries in Tenney Lapham area with laptops / GPS systems being stolen out of cars.
 - c. MPD is also working on dealing with the heroin problem in the city, to get at the root of some of these other issues.
 - d. Discussion of the problem of people running red/yellow lights: logistics are difficult, can be a big expenditure of MPD resources for achieving limited results. Scott asks if citizens can report; Brian says yes, but result is a stern phone call, not a ticket.
 - e. Officer Chaney will be gone November 23rd to December 4th, but if anything comes up, neighbors can call non-emergency service and MPD will send someone out.
3. Approval of Sept and Oct minutes
 - a. September: Julie moves adoption, Lindsey seconded, unanimous voice vote for approval
 - b. October: including amended resolution on preserving neighborhood trees w/ Gary Tippler's edits; MJ moves for adoption, Julie seconds
 - Sharing trees resolution with other neighborhoods is 2009 goal for P&D.
 - Troy mentions damage to trees w/ snow removal on Willy Street. Anne adds that leaf removal also is doing damage, as was contractor. Scott suggests letter to Streets Dept voicing these concerns.
 - Anne raises concern of notice to allow watering of trees pre-construction. Discussion that this is complex to carry out, may be best addressed in creation of the health plan; and discussion that tree watering would be good to add to cover letter going out to neighborhoods/council.
 - Marsha working on fines for damage to trees, sees review of construction sites as part of job for seasonal worker. Language adopted in budget that "we will assign staff to review construction sites."
 - unanimous voice vote for approval of October minutes

4. Treasurer's Report

- a. Sept: MJ moves acceptance, Bess seconds
 - Last fiscal year done, and Sept end-of-year financials updated.
 - unanimous voice vote for approval
- b. Oct: MJ moves acceptance, Cheryl seconds
 - Cheryl now set up as treasurer, and will start handling dues for memberships.
 - unanimous voice vote for approval

5. Unfinished Business from Board Retreat

- a. Any additional goals for 2009, or changes to goals set out?
 - Budget monitoring goal should be to monitor not just school district but city budget processes generally, and act accordingly.
 - We need to devote appropriate time at board meetings to getting an update on progress toward goals, especially for things that don't otherwise have a home in a specific committee.
 - Charles proposes goal to diversify this board and committees. What is diversity? Race, age, renter/owner, income level, education, ability/disability, immigrant/non-immigrant. If we bring in more members from across the neighborhood, then that diversity may be reflected on the board. Reminder, let's talk to our neighbors about joining MNA.
 - Amanda asks whether a goal has been proposed re: tenant rights, knows this is an area of interest for Jeffrey. Julie sees similarity with wanting to ensure co-ops fit into zoning rewrite. Discussion that these may fall under goal of ensuring neighborhood interests are served.
 - Tax exempt status needs to be resolved this year.
 - On adoption of traffic goals, meet with adjacent neighborhood associations to discuss. Marsha notes that budgets form by July for review by Mayor in Sept, Anne notes that putting in federal piece adds a whole new layer, so there is some concern that we not miss our window to get our input in time to be considered. Deadline for communicating with other neighborhood associations doesn't need to be fixed but needs to be before board adoption.
 - Marsha notes that traffic issues are going to be affected by the railroad and how those plans go, and that part of Central Park plan as proposed has new crossing. Board tables this discussion for now in the interests of time.

6. Committee assignments

- a. Membership and Communications: MJ, Amanda, Troy, Julie
- b. Traffic: Anne
- c. FFF: Julie, Maria, MJ, Cheryl
- d. Schools: MJ
- e. Values: Maria, Charles, Scott, Jeffrey, Amanda
- f. P&D: Troy, Lindsey, Cheryl, Anne
- g. Central Park: Charles, Maria, Anne, Jeffrey, Troy

- h. Liasons:
 - Wil-Mar: Troy
 - Common Wealth: Bess
 - GWABA: Lindsey
 - EINPC: Twink has somebody who she thinks may be interested (Dan)
 - PTGs: MJ
 - i. Who will convene?
 - Julie: Membership
 - Maria: Central Park
 - Cheryl: FFF
 - Lindsey: P&D
 - Scott: Values
 - Anne: Traffic
 - MJ: Schools
7. Issue of tax exempt status
- a. Discussion of options focuses on applying for 501(c)(4) status this year and then re-applying next year for (c)(3) status: Amanda moved, Julie seconded, unanimous voice vote for approval
 - b. Committees need to each write up or list their activities and charitable activities.
8. No time for committee updates, so that has to wait until December meeting. Peter offers update on P&D and Traffic matters, tabled for further discussion with those committees.
9. Update from Alder Rummel:
- a. Marsha is glad to hear about the new Central Park committee.
 - The discussion is ongoing as to what will be the model for the park; a lot has changed as mayor has not pursued removing rail, and Center for Resilient Cities not willing to be of further assistance.
 - Getting a railroad crossing at Few St. will be important for the park.
 - Marsha met with skate park group, who are ready to move forward once memorandum is signed and Center for Resilient Cities deeds land to city.
 - Through city budgeting, consultant hired to do next engineering phase: MSA Associates and Mike Stats.
 - b. Willy St. reconstruction almost sure to be delayed by a year as it fits schedule and gives neighborhood time to do planning; DNR very likely to approve.
 - c. Jeffrey met with Jim Bauer re: Capital Gateway; Marsha couldn't attend.
 - d. Marsha gives heads-up that Tom Christianson is acquiring properties on 1100 block of Willy St. and talking about demolishing, in disregard of neighborhood build plan.
 - e. Budget update: successful on resolution re: Edgewater; bus stop signage improvements got passed, reduced to 100 stops; kept quiet zones.
10. Close of meeting: MJ moved adjournment, Troy second, unanimous voice vote (9:03)