

(Please note that these minutes have not been approved, but are provided as info until approved at the next annual meeting in Sep. '08.)

Minutes

TWNA annual meeting

September 11, 2007

Steering committee members present: Harriet Allen, Kathy Buchholz, Stan Carpenter, Carlyn Conway, Jeremy Gragert, Maria Henley, Duane Hookom, Susan Kasik-Miller, Rick Kayser, Sue Kayser, Jim Massey, Mary Mickel, Bob Schwartz, Catherine Sinkewicz.

Other attendees: Curtis Goodson, Don Bredle, Brian F. Larson, Mildred Larson, Marie Past, Steve Ronstrom, Sally Ronstrom, Laura Hookom, Duane Hookom, DeWayne Severson, Pat Kurtenbach, Bob Sinz, Jonathan Leuthe, Peter Hable, Margaret Becker, Tom Sinkewicz, Ginny Seymour, Luanne Coy, Doug Falkner, Jeff Smith, Brandon Buchanan.

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m. by Chair Stan Carpenter.

1. Guest Introductions: Stan introduced Jonathon Leuthe of the Northside Hill Association, City Council Representative Brandon Buchanan, and State Assembly Representative, Jeff Smith. The remaining attendees and Steering Committee members introduced themselves.
2. The minutes of the last Annual Meeting were approved.
3. The year in review: The proposal to purchase the house at 1705 Park Ave. with a zoning change was not approved. Spot zoning is not condoned in the neighborhood. The home is now owner occupied, by Pat Kurtenbach who was present tonight.

The "Porch" house on State Street was purchased by developer Cary Osborn, and and the transaction closed in August. Mr. Osborn also has an offer pending to purchase the house north of the "porch" house. That closing is slated for February. Stan hoped to meet with Cary Osborn and his design group soon.

4. Thanks: Stan thanked the Steering Committee and sub-committees for their work this year. Special thanks were given to DeWayne Severson for many years of service which included the successful 2006 Heritage Days. Stan also thanked Curt Goodson for his year as Chair in 2006, and also for his current work as layout person for the newsletter. The Newsletter Committee and the paper's advertisers were also thanked.
5. Fun and Social: Bob spoke about making meetings more fun and social. He proposed forming a speakers committee to arrange programs four times a year. Neighbors contributed ideas for speakers and programs.

Program Ideas: city arborist, historic buildings, gardening, trees, plant exchange, environmental sustainability, technology...website, blog, internet e-mail, UWEC music groups, UWEC athletic director or coaches for season preview, food, community visioning...Clear Vision Eau Claire, wine and cheese, contractors recommended for Third Ward, UWEC community fitness programs, volunteer at school events, deer issues, who's responsible?, Connecting with other neighborhood associations, bicycle and pedestrian safety committee (city council sub committee), candidate forums, condo living, pancake breakfast, newsletter delivery.

6. Motion: A motion was made and passed to promote more social meetings.
7. Web site: The web site was described. We would like to put together an E-mail list of neighbors who would like to be notified of events in the Third Ward. We don't deal with any political advertising.
8. 1505 State St. A new concrete pad was poured in the front yard of 1505 State St. Mary Mickel called the City and was told Darryl Tufte gave the go ahead for the pad. She routinely sees at least 5 cars parked on the pad. Stan reported seeing 8 cars on the pad last week. When he called the City, he was informed the original pad was intended to be a turnaround and the City justified the new pad by saying the driveway itself could not be called a parking place.

Brandon Buchanan said he hears conflicting stories from different departments regarding parking and occupancy. He and Dave Duax are looking to change that and not allow parking on pads. The issue of duplexes using streets for parking will also be addressed.

The Fall Creek owner of 1505 State St. has agree to explain to his tenants that the pad is for them alone.

9. UWEC building: Dewayne Severson asked if UWEC plans to tear down Park School and build an 8 story building. Jeremy Gragert replied that it will be at least 3 years before the planning for that is complete. Dewayne also mentioned the possibility that State St. could be widened as the City owns the right of way to widen the Street.
10. Demmler Park: The parties at Demmler have been a big success. Thanks to Bob Schwartz for arranging them. Bob also reports the gardens at Demmler have been pretty healthy. The City plows the space each spring, and a \$20.00 fee per plot helps pay the water bill. One check bounced this year.

11. Safety: The City Council approved removing parking from the Roosevelt/McKinley curve where the road is very narrow.

The midstreet crosswalk on State St. at Lincoln Ave. has been repainted. We did not want this, but the students use this as a crossing, paint or not. Jeremy said the City has discussed putting an island there. Susan K. Miller said traffic backs up State St. since the painting occurred, and could impede emergency vehicles.

The Water St. area is discussing becoming more pedestrian friendly. They want to post signs that say "Pedestrian Friendly Area". This could also come to our neighborhood. Brian Larson would like to include the Roosevelt /State crossing as a "Pedestrian Friendly Area".

Tom Sinkewicz said that motorists on State St. are confused with the lane change on State St. and Garfield Ave., and sometimes turn into his driveway.

Laura Hookom has safety concerns on Jefferson as well. She said the parking signs are disregarded, and there should not be parking on both sides of the street.

Luanne Coy addressed the danger of high pedestrian traffic and heavy traffic on Thorpe Drive. Thorpe is a narrow street and has no sidewalks. She suggested making Thorpe a one-way street help. This issue has worsened since it was first addressed a few years ago.

13. UWEC: Stan reported that the alcohol culture at UWEC is improving with the programs put together by The Bridge Coalition. The Neighborhood Walk and The Bar Walk were two such programs.

Maria Henly who lives behind Hibbard Hall, reported the 4 a.m. garbage truck noise from the Hibbard Hall dumpster has not improved despite several contacts with the University. In addition the contractor working on Hibbard Hall has been shoving reconstruction trash down a third floor metal chute throughout the night. UWEC has told her they can't do anything about these problems and that she needs to call either Campus Police, or City Police.

Parking has improved in the Third Ward despite the fact that UWEC was not in favor of the changes. There is still some confusion about parking on Lincoln Ave., even though the signs clearly indicate where parking is not allowed.

Jeremy Gragert has written an article in "Outpost" about the UWEC building plan. He brought copies for neighbors to take.

UWEC will host “Meet Your Neighbor” this Fall. Last year it was held at Davies Center. It provides a good opportunity for neighbors and students to meet.

14 Election of Steering Committee Members: candidates were elected to new terms on the Steering Committee: (C denotes continuing term, N denotes new term)

C Harriet Allen	C Susan K, Miller
N Kathy Buchholz	N Pat Kurtenbach
N Stan Carpenter	N Rick Kayser
N Doug Falkner	N Sue Kayser
N Curt Goodson	N Jim Massey
C Jeremy Gragert	N Katie McQuillan
N Peter Hable	N Bob Schwartz
C Duane Hookom	C Catherine Sinkewicz

15. Brandon Buchanan and Jeff Smith: Brandon said he is very impressed by the activism, vigilance, and work done by the Third Ward neighborhood. He thanked us for that. Jeff Smith said that the intertwining with students that we do is very healthy.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.  
Kathy Buchholz, Secretary