

Third Ward Neighborhood Association
Monthly Steering Committee Meeting
9-14-06, YMCA, 7:00 PM

Steering Committee attendance: Kathy Buchholz, Stan Carpenter, Carlyn Conway, Ken Fulgione, Curtis Goodson, Maria Henly, Rick Kayser, Sue Kayser, Jim Massey, Mary Mickel, Bob Schwartz, and Dewayne Severson.

Guests: Mike Rindo

Chair Curtis G. called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM.

The minutes of 8-10-06 were approved on a motion by DeWayne Severson.

Treasurer Maria H. stated that the account had \$1,308.75, and that she had a few small checks for deposit. Mary M. indicated she had some bills to send out.

Mike Rindo indicated he had no immediate announcements from the University.

Parking was discussed. Ken F. was concerned about the impact the new parking arrangements had on streets further into the neighborhood. Mike Rindo indicated that the University had not done an inventory on the number of permits issued so far, but thought that the number of faculty permits purchased was down. DeWayne S. toured the various lots today and saw many empty spaces in the Hibbard lot and Water St. lot. Stan C. and Bob S. noted that more cars are being parked on the 500 blocks of Lincoln and Summit, the 1300 and 1400 blocks of Farwell, and Rust St. Several members suggested we take some counts of parked cars for info. Other members noted that there was less traffic in the neighborhood due to the lifting of time limits on parking. Other members indicated that residents were now parking in front of their homes. The painted lines seem to be working as intended.

Mary M. reminded the members that we had agreed to help extend the changes to other parts of the neighborhood as the need arose.

Sue K. noted an increase in bicycle traffic, but that the cyclists were ignoring the rules of the road in many cases. She also noted that the ECPD had been proactively trying to raise cyclists' awareness of the regulations and ticketing where appropriate.

DeWayne S. noted that some overgrown hedges were seriously impeding foot traffic on Summit Ave. A motion by DeWayne S. to contact the city by the TWNA regarding these hedges was approved. Curtis G. will contact the city with the concern. Ken F. indicated that he would contact one of the property owners regarding their hedges.

Bob S. asked for volunteers to man the pie booth during the upcoming Blues Festival. Stan C. discussed International Fall Festival and other events occurring that day, and the efforts to co-promote the events.

Curtis G. indicated that he will not be at the Annual Meeting. Maria H. also will be absent. Mary M. reviewed last year's annual meeting minutes, noting the action items. The first item was the definition of "cause" in the bylaws with respect to removing someone from the association or steering committee. John Hibbard graciously worked on developing an explanation and examples as requested by the committee. (*See recommended wording at the end of the minutes.) Several members suggested including this definition and example as an addendum to the bylaws. This approach will be presented during the annual meeting.

The other action item was the suggestion by Brian Larson that Putnam Drive be closed to vehicular traffic. The steering committee discussed this matter and the following objections to closing the road were offered. In closing the road, the control/oversight of the road would pass entirely to the University. Additionally, it was noted that not all disabled/handicapped persons had handicapped plates/authorization. The monitoring of access was also a concern. The steering committee decided against seeking to close Putnam Drive to vehicular traffic.

Mary M. asked if there could be further clarification of the status of steering committee members regarding their intent to continue serving as well as serving out of their zones. All attending steering committee members, except Curtis G., indicated their willingness to continue to serve. As info, the steering committee has 16 positions, but only 13 are currently filled. That number will drop to 12 next week at the annual meeting.

Discussion on recruiting new members included simply discussing the association and its activities, and then asking them to consider attending/serving, and finding ways to effectively welcome new neighbors/potential committee members. A suggestion was made to provide programming for some of the meetings; i.e service organization presentations.

Several members expressed the hope that we would focus on the positive aspects of the neighborhood, such as the recent Heritage Days event, the upcoming picnic, and the blues festival in discussions with neighbors and the community at large.

Details regarding refreshments for the annual meeting were discussed.

Ken F. noted that there was erosion by the culvert down stream of Little Niagra and asked Mike Rindo to look into the matter.

Curtis G. indicated he will attend the next Student Senate meeting to invite students to the picnic. A suggestion to contact the Spectator was made. Bob S. will contact the Spectator with the details.

Stan C. and Mike Rindo reported on the upcoming Neighborhood Walk scheduled for 9-22-06. Its purpose is to raise awareness of behaviors occurring in the neighborhoods through observation. It is patterned after the recent Bar Walk. Any one is welcome to attend.

Ken F. noted the upcoming "Idea Lounge" event on 9-19-06 at Stella Blues which is based on the "Creative Class" work of Richard Florida. Stan C. explained that Downtown Eau Claire, Inc. and Volume One are arranging the event to encourage a broader diversity of thinking with respect to jobs, and understanding the current work and play scenario in Eau Claire from many perspectives.

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 PM.
Respectfully submitted by Stan C.

* Recommended wording for "cause."

It is the policy of the Third Ward Neighborhood Association that membership, as well as membership on the Steering Committee, is as inclusive as possible. No person shall be excluded or expelled from the organization because of their point of view on any topic or their expressions or communications within the Steering Committee, at any meeting to the Steering Committee, or expressions or communications among the general membership, at a meeting or otherwise.

"Cause" is the basis for expulsion within the Association, as used in Article II, Section 3 (expulsion of members) and Article III, Section 2 E. (expulsion from Steering Committee. Cause, in this context, is not capable of precise definition, but can be defined operationally and by example. Cause includes conduct which is destructive or subversive, which includes theft from the Association, repeated disruption of meetings rendering them incapable of functioning, and deliberately misrepresenting the Association or its positions. It does not include proposing and advocating the dissolution or significant alteration to the organization, advocating unpopular points of view, or having personal differences with any other member. It does not include conduct which does not specifically relate to the organization, such as being convicted of a crime against any victim other than the Association. It could include making a deliberate and false representation to the City Council as to a position of the Association, but would not include saying anything to anyone after identifying oneself as a resident of the Third Ward or a member of the Association.