

## 2019 ANNUAL MEETING OF THE THIRD WARD NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Approximately 60 neighbors attended the 2019 annual meeting of the Third Ward Neighborhood Association at 7:00 pm in Room 1204 UWEC Centennial Hall on September 11, 2019. Kevin Rosenberg, Chaired the meeting.

### CHAIR'S REPORT

#### 501C-4 STATUS

Kevin will research and update as warranted the TWNA non-profit tax status. This is required to submit the neighborhood plan, facilitate fund raising, and be eligible for grants etc. John Hibbard prepared original corporate papers and submittal, but it is necessary to file an annual report each year, and keep it current. Kevin will research what is necessary to get listing up to date.

### NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION SUMMIT MEETING

Two members of the City Council are coordinating the convening of all local neighborhood associations. The meeting is to be at Grace Lutheran Church at 5:00 pm on Friday November 15. Small groups will tackle specific opportunities for mutual assistance as well as shared threats. Items such as a shared liability coverage insurance plan, fund raising joint effort, and a joint website are suggested items. Neighbors interested in attending should contact Kevin Rosenberg. More information will be made available soon.

### TREASURER REPORT

Stephen Ronstrom reported that the US Bank checking account holds \$2,093.40 as of August 9, 2019. Statement to be affixed to minutes. \$2007.81 is held in trust for Demmlar Gardens, as they do not yet have their own tax document. The TWNA has \$85.59 available. A Third Ward resident made a \$10 donation on Wednesday.

### CITY STREET PARKING IN WINTER

Jeff Pippenger from the City, presented a proposal to return to alternative side of the street parking from November 1-May 1 with City discretion for start and stop date as determined by the weather and clearly announced in advance. This was basically the ordinance until 2014 when it was changed to both sides of street except in declared snow emergency. This revision has been causing problems especially last winter. There was 100 inches of snow in a few weeks and many problems. Further, leaf removal in the autumn is critical to ensure that the storm sewer drainage system properly functions. Neighbors cheered the proposal and shared observations about streets clogged so that school buses and ambulances etc. could not utilize. Jeff has also discussed the proposal with the Student Senate group and students are quite supportive of the change. After further discussion, a motion was passed stating that the Third Ward Neighborhood Association supports the return to alternative side parking.

### WILSON PARK FOUNTAIN PROJECT

The City is seeking public input as it prepares to renovate the fountain in Wilson Park.

### TWNA Steering Committee

A motion was passed in accord with the Association Bylaws to elect the following people for a two-year term on the TWNA Steering Committee:

Jack Karlik      Janet Bethke   Bob Audnszkiewicz      Barb Gregg- Harrison  
Laura Buchholz   Dick Solberg   Josh Clements      Roger Gravrok  
Jacqueline Roelant

## STATE STREET LIGHTING

The City conducted a trial of new lights at the request of the Association. After significant discussion of safety, efficiency, carbon standards, and other considerations, a motion was passed to recommend high-pressure sodium lights on State Street. These have a number of advantages over LED and will also provide relevant ambiance to people driving and walking into the Third Ward historical neighborhood.

Significant controversy is unresolved with the bright lights on Summit. Neighbors have approached the City a number of times without matters being resolved. Our City Council person Jeremy Greghardt and Council Chair Terry Weld agreed to get answers on issues such as who owns the light poles – the, City or Excel and other issues on Summit and report at our next meeting. We deeply appreciate the two gentlemen attending the association's meetings and working with us to address neighborhood issues.

## Newton Street Plat Vacation

Anton Smut requested support from the TWNA regarding the City questioning the vacating of his Newton Street plat. They reportedly couldn't find the original resolution. The plat was vacated a number of years ago and has never been questioned through six home sales, payment of taxes, property maintenance and private use for probably over a century. Mr. Smut has ably presented his case to the Waterways Commission and has secured their support. He is concerned with the September 24 City Council meeting and desires proper resolution. After discussion the Association voted to support the owners claim that the Newton Street Vacating is an historic fact. Many recognized his passionate defense and the effort that he has undertaken to support his position.

## HIBBARD PARKING LOT

At last month's TWNA meeting, Mike Rindo presented a plan to add 80 parking spaces for faculty on University owned land adjacent the Hibbard parking lot and change ingress and egress. Significant discussion ensued. Three residents on Garfield shared their concerns on safety as well as congestion being exacerbated by this plan. There are parking spaces available elsewhere on campus. The additional lot would increase traffic congestion; negatively impact two historic houses and expands the footprint of the University contrary to the Neighborhood plan. The proposed closing of the State Street exit was also a major concern. A motion was passed to reject the plan. Parking issues with the University still must be addressed.

## THRIFT SALE SEPTEMBER 14

Signs are available at 410 Roosevelt. Participants should also consider making a donation to the Neighborhood Association out of their proceeds. The Sale has been announced in the Leader Telegram.

## POLICE REPORT

Please keep your cars and houses locked. The night shift of the South Side Police division is keeping a close eye on our neighborhood and we are appreciative of their presence at our neighborhood meetings.

