

**Board of Directors Meeting
Summit Hill Association
April 14, 2011**

Minutes

Board Member List: Ken Bayliss, Candace Gislason, Cheryl Kedrowski, Barry Lawson, Troy Melhus, Kate Pearce, Julie Wilbert, Betty Schweitzer, Don Husband, Mark Berhow, Patrick Meacham, Tim Pramas

Members Absent: Dobson, Donnelly, Khan, McGann, Raabe

Also present: Roy, Hilden, Ivey, MacDougall, McClure (Villager), Norton Cermak (Cooks of Crocus Hill)

President Pramas called the meeting to order at 7:06p.m.

President's report will come later.

I. Motion to approve minutes: Bayliss/Gislason - Approved.

II. Executive Director's Report

- Patio liquor license denied for Wild Onion. Berhow asked about motion to deny. Wild Onion has retained attorney and crafted letter to ask City Council at its April 6 meeting that Councilmember Dave Thune recuse himself from the proceedings. Wild Onion patio license application by City Council denied on the fact that so many neighbors have been opposed to the expansion; and CC believes that the original intent of the license petitioning process was not to circumvent strong opposition in the community. Process required 60 percent approval by impacted property owners or higher to grant license. Short of that, would need district council support. Wild Onion only able to get 30 percent to agree. 44 property owners in the neighborhood opposed it. Final reading is this Wednesday. Could possibly sue, but that should not affect this district.
- Leadership training continues with conflict management in March.
- Website continues to be updated as needed.
- Volunteers still needed for Annual Neighborhood Cleanup held behind/below Linwood Rec Center on Saturday, May 21, 8 a.m.-2 p.m., at the corner of Victoria and Pleasant. Furniture, refuse, etc. Joint cleanup with District 9 to the south. Hoping to get more people to the event. It will give the West Seventh residents access to a spring cleanup and D16 residents to participate in the fall at the D9/D16 event in September.
- Grand Old Day parade participation. Every year we have a SHA contingent. Call for volunteers to participate, particularly if you have a block club that could participate. Theme for Grand Old Day 2011 is Hometown Heroes.

III. DIANE HILDEN'S REPORT

- New computers are up and running.
- Report on Block and Bldg. Clubs - the same in numbers. Participation in National Night Out (NNO) has been notable. 18 official clubs requested firetrucks, for example.
- Planning a booth at Grand Old Day for SHA; seeking volunteers. Planning to sell some history books. Will have T-shirts for people at the booth. Seeking volunteers who have creative abilities who could assist in creating T-shirt design.
- On April 30, Linwood Rec Center will have annual May Day celebration. Make May baskets, have climbing wall, firetrucks. Police crime prevention. Meet the cops, etc.

IV. Old Business.

- Pramas/ Schweizer discuss seeking Grand Old Day booth volunteers for wristbands. Still seeking.
- SHA/CIB. Crosswalk presentation was very well received. Addressed criticisms well. better lighting, median,
- CIB projects ranked by Kedrowski/Meacham - approved and passed onto City.
- Wilder-Bush site: One offer has been made and multiple showings of the project. Don Husband explained there some potential buyers include an eating disorder clinic expressing some interest. Looking at using the facility as-is, with some parking lot rearrangement. Another is a developer has good reputation with possible plans for condominiums. Don and Kay created this ad hoc committee to be able to respond to ideas as they come up.

V. New business

Cooks of Crocus Hill temporary extension of liquor license application.

Berhow explained Cooks seeks to extend their wine/beer service on two evenings in June (13 & 14th) for events they've held on their site in the past. Cooks representative, Elizabeth Norton Cermak noted that annually Cooks has a large event. To maximize the tent space they having classes June 13-14. Small bar run by trained employees.

No opposition to the request at ZLU committee and ZLU approved.

ACTION ITEM for full Board: Unanimously approved Cooks application and will send recommendation to city licensing.

VI. GABA Report: No members of GABA present as tonight is same night as annual meeting.

VII. Treasurer's Report: Gislason

- Profit and loss close to even. A little bit under, most likely related to timing. Grant income is a bit behind. Lot of things that are in the budget are known to be one-time -- e.g. audit, computer equipment. Don't see anything unusual. Phone expenses higher due to computer installation.

- Treasurer and Staff recommendation for three 7-month-old CDs each 10,500 that are rolling over on April 18. Recommendation: rollover two as 12-month CD's and one continue as a 7 month CD. Board approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE. McFadden: Continues to work on neighborhood plaque project and those interested in purchasing.

DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE. Schweizer: Grand Old Day, already discussed. As of today, 489 copies of the history book have been sold. Bibelot on Grand is selling a high number of them.

ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE. Pearce: Planning for spring/summer events. June 4 Plant Exchange and the May 21 Annual Cleanup Day. Good turnout for April 9 City-Sponsored Parks Cleanup. Got nearly a whole dumpster cleaned out of ravine area to east of Linwood Center. A few volunteers looking into rain garden project with city of Saint Paul.

PEDESTRIAN COMMITTEE: Kedrowski:

- A lot of activity around Milton/Summit CIB crosswalk proposal from SHA/Wm Mitchell College and reaction from SARPA. Nothing will likely move forward for this but city will be counting traffic at the crosswalks for the committee.
- Committee express interest in public forum on traffic safety. SARPA has passed measures against bumpouts. Have two years to educate. Grand Ave. Pedestrian Safety Week. Julie has been in discussion for Oxford/Grand intersection. Plan to do some pedestrian counting.
- Next meeting is April 19.

DCC COMMITTEE: MacDougall

- Good news on business assistance for corridor. Nearly \$6 million is available in grants to local businesses. DCC Retreat is this weekend.
- Ask for neighborhood priorities for the entire corridor from our district and within our district.
- Pramas recommended MacDougall share D-16 community plan with DCC board in terms of our priorities. Also discussed suggestions that SHA considers important regarding DCC:
 - Access to corridor through some transit planning while also being mindful of impact on our neighborhood.
 - Affordable housing along the corridor and ensuring current residents are not displaced.
 - Assistance for University Ave. businesses during the transition.
 - Pedestrian safety.
- MacDougall also distributed list of businesses that are offering discounts during DCC construction to support business.

Two community forums:

- May 5: Developmental models and how Frogtown Square project was done.
- May 10: Forum on jobs, careers the Central Corridor and beyond.

- MacDougall attended forum on Affordable Housing: Talked about \$14 million for Central Corridor and Hiawatha line. Would like to do high-profile projects. Currently 170 vacant houses in Frogtown. Hope is to get those properties renovated, sold and get money out on the street. Concern for green space. Concern about urban blight.

DCC Background

- DCC was created a combination of District Councils that are impacted in some way by the Corridor. Roy provided brief history of DCC and how it came to be. Discussed what exactly these priorities are both in relation to Corridor as well as their neighborhoods.
- Roy made a staff recommendation to SHA Board members of the board consider developing a position on DCC and rezoning of University Avenue properties. Plan to rezone most of University Ave to mixed zoning and lighter. Mixed use is a combination of residential and commercial. A lot of organizations opposed because of its potential impact on property values that could potentially raise costs significantly and then bring gentrification or replication of the I-94 corridor project.

ZLU COMMITTEE: Berhow

Pramas: City Council voted to deny Wild Onion patio liquor license.

Berhow: Noted that the March 17 ZLU Hearing summary in your materials.

- 838-848 Goodrich: Owner had hoped to re-establish a nonconforming use permit that had elapsed. ZLU voted to recommend to the city to grant this permit for the long-standing duplex. Nobody has lived in this property for more than a year and so had to seek a new permit. Deadline for responding was prior to this Board meeting, so the decision by ZLU became the defacto decision of SHA.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Reminder: Jeff will be gone for three weeks.

Safia Kahn could not be here tonight. She is engaged to be married and apologized for absence tonight.

8:24 p.m. – Meeting adjourned.

Minutes submitted by Troy Melhus, Acting Secretary