

**Board of Directors Meeting
Summit Hill Association
March 10, 2011
Minutes**

Board Member List: Bayliss, Berhow, Chelseth, Erickson, Husband, Kedrowski, Lawson, McFadden, Meachem, Pramas, Park, Pearce, Schweizer, Wilbert

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

Also present: Roy, Hilden, Ivey, MacDougall, Ward 2 - Lindgren, McClure, Lucke-Hendrickson, Ongoro, Skally

President Pramas called the meeting to order at 7:02p.m.

1. Additions to the Agenda:

- a. none

2. Approval of Past Minutes

- a. approved

3. Presidents Report

- a. **Central Corridor LRT: North/South feeder bus route on Lexington from West 7th up to Rosedale, some concerns. Metro Transit agreed to keep us in the loop**
- b. **Priscilla's DCC report – expecting full funding for LRT from Washington in April!**
 - a. **Some mitigation plans for small businesses along the corridor**
 - b. **No talk of permanent parking mitigation**
 - c. **Big businesses all have ample parking, small business are really lacking**
 - d. **Priscilla put in a push advocating for small business parking**
 - e. **City and DCC are asking for ideas on supporting businesses during construction phases**
 - 1. **One suggestion has been a frequent user card**
 - 2. **Suggestion: offer a list of restaurants and businesses available**
 - 3. **Suggestion: List businesses most at risk, we could include these businesses in the SHA newsletter**
 - f. **They are moving along with construction, focus now is on the west end of University.**
- c. **Pramas asked about the LRT Environmental Impact Statement**
 - a. **\$8.7M, \$4M of which is for community coordinators**
 - b. **Complaints about the loan program – businesses found it not useful**
- d. **Comment from Board member Lawson –lack of north/south bus service, the Lexington bus line makes a lot of sense to fill this need. The idea is to get people out of their cars and using more businesses on University Ave.**
 - a. **Pramas responds that SHA will not take a stand one way or another on the at this time on proposed bus line, only that no decision is made without our input.**
- e. **Proposed bringing a “social night” for D16 up to a business on University Avenue to help during construction**

4. Executive Director's Report

- a. History book continues to have good sales, but much slower – only 4 books/month. Many being sold in the local stores as well.
- b. Started the audit process (we do this every three years)
- c. New computers are coming next Monday – got a great deal. Currently slightly under budget. Call for volunteers came up with six different people to help with the computer set-up/installation. Will have much faster internet connection, more applications available.

5. CC/AA Staff Report

- a. Pan handling is down, lot of cooperation from Grand Ave businesses
- b. Huge outbreak of graffiti on Grand Ave. MacGroveland was hit worse. None has been gang-related to this point. If you see any graffiti, please call the citizen service line, 651-266-8989
- c. "After Hours" at Dixie's was great. 25+ attended! Hoping to do another one this spring. It's a new, growing event – people will get used to hearing about it as we do more.
- d. Renters – please help us identify renters in the neighborhood! Keep in mind, 53% of residents in Summit Hill are renters. The highest representation of renters on the board has been 4 board members! Please help encourage renters to consider running for the board, volunteering in general. Get them in touch with Jeff to get started.
- e. Diane has copies of the column "What is Suspicious" – please take one
- f. Diane will be on vacation starting 3/12/11 for two and a half weeks.

6. Pat Lindgren, Legislative Aid to Dave Thune, introduced

- a. Asked if we have had many complaints about parking during snow emergencies
- b. Many have discovered parking ramp at Victoria & Grand

7. Old Business

a. CIB proposals

- a. Roy provided detailed analysis about lamp project & crosswalk project
- b. Staff recommendation that the two Grand Avenue proposals be pulled
 - 1. Question – if we pull these proposals, what happens to them?
 - a. GABA President, Skally responded – the business association intends to keep the proposals moving, gathering more information and property/business owner buy in for 2012 round.
 - 2. Grand Crosswalk clarification – Public Works says this would actually make the situation worse. Others question if enough people would use this or if people would still just jaywalk across Grand. A median would be a safer way to allow people to cross mid-block, but would also create plowing issues and left turn issues to businesses.
 - 3. With lamping project – there is a possibility it could pass, however there is also risk that people are then assessed for it without warning.
 - 4. With help of GABA & City Public Works, we can revise the crosswalk proposals for next year's CIB round for 2013/14.

MOTION: Kedrowski

SECOND: Bayliss

Vote Count: Unanimous by voice

- b. **Recruiting for SHA - Grand Old Day Wristband Booth**
 - a. About a 1/3 said yes, 1/3 had conflicts, and another 1/3 did not respond.
 - b. Pramas will send out another nudge to those who did not respond, and feels we will be able to get to the 30 people we need. Unless someone talks him out of it, we will submit application for a wristband booth to GABA.

8. NEW BUSINESS

- a. **Ranking Multi-District CIB Proposals**
 - a. Due to time constraints, Pramas suggests a few individuals look into this, rank the proposals and send recommendations & rationale to SHA.
 - 1. Volunteers: Kedrowski, Meachem
- b. **Lexington Parkway LRT Feeder Bus Issue**
 - a. See notes from President's report
 - b. Idea has been floated over email if we should have a community meeting of our own on this issue. Ped/Safety Committee is meeting next week and can make a decision on this.
 - c. One neighbor in particular is especially concerned and wishes for a public forum
 - d. Board Member Kedrowski welcomed any comments

9. GABA Report

- a. **Introduction of new GABA Executive Director, Robin Ongoro**
 - a. Welcome!
- b. **Annual Grand Old Day Letter to the City**
 - a. Letter to Police Chief to waive required block party permit petition to block off Grand Avenue for Grand Old Day
 MOTION: Bayliss
 SECOND: Pearce
 VOTE: Unanimous by voice
 - b. SHA also requests that the police ticket the restricted parking areas
 - c. Liquor extension request for Dixie's, Salut, Wild Onion and that GABA will host 3 festival gardens at Walgreens, Pier One and US Bank.
 MOTION: Bayliss
 SECOND: McFadden
 VOTE: Unanimous by voice
 - d. Proposal is to move the festival gardens time from noon-5pm, to 11:00am-5:00pm.
 - 1. GABA E.D. Ongaro spoke to this proposal – the idea is to maximize the benefit of the one-day event.
 - 2. Grand Old Day is the biggest annual fundraiser for GABA. Wristband sales begin at 10:00am.
 - 3. Festival gardens have always been open at 11am, but liquor sales have not historically started until noon.
 - 4. Interiors of these bars are normally open by 11:00am.

5. Board member Bayliss mentions that this is a bit unpopular with those he has spoken to. Intoxication of Grand Old Day is always an issue.
6. GABA President Skally commented that only 4 people had to be taken in for intoxication out of thousands in 2010. They also hear the worst cases are actually taking place outside of the festival gardens & bars.
7. Erickson, SHA Liaison to GABA, mentioned that beer sales are actually down.
8. Skally commented - the past four years have reported significantly less intoxication problems throughout the area. We cannot eliminate the behaviors, but we can attempt to reduce it, and improvement has taken place over the past several years.
9. Wilbert – is there a way to get feedback from neighbors before we vote?
10. Pearce – SHA benefits financially from this event, and we would benefit from that extra hour of sales. If you don't support this way of fundraising for the neighborhood, speak up.
11. Meachem – is it possible to look at revenue from that extra hour?
 - a. Revenue varies heavily on weather from year to year
 - b. More demand is for extra hours at the end of the day
12. Husband – our concerns should not be about how much money we can make
13. Erickson – most of us moved into the area after Grand Old Day was created.
14. Pramas – clarification that this proposal is only for 2011. GABA seeks approval each year. Pramas – observation: that we don't sell very many wristbands from 10am – noon, doubts we will see a big increase in sales. Peak time for selling wristbands is typically from 1-3:30pm.
15. Pramas – if there are problems, but they are unrelated to the 11am change, this may be something we can use as bargaining power in the future.
16. ROY – question: Is there anything in city code to allow more control over house parties? Doesn't GABA have control of the space & properties along Grand?
 - a. Ward 2 Aide Lindgren: Social Host ordinance, but if they are not underage, or there is a no noise violation, there isn't much they city can do. Party buses are the major complaint the city hears, rather than party houses.
 - b. GABA staff Lucke: GABA tries to encourage anyone having private house parties to be responsible, respectful, clean up after their parties, etc.
 - c. Neighbors with Cinco de Mayo have similar problems, they created a Twitter account to follow problem “packs” and then police are called.
 - d. Skally – police the past three years have had more officers (over 100 officers that day). As a result of these board meetings, GABA has emphasized our wish for additional patrolling into the evening.
 - e. Ongoro – Police Commander felt confident this wouldn't have a negative impact

MOTION: Kedrowski

SECOND: Schweitzer

VOTE: 9 in favor, 3 opposed, 2 abstain – motion carries

10. Treasurer's Report - Gislason absent, Roy updated

- a. Grant funds came in after Gislason's P & L comments were printed
- b. Right column on first page, 11% for the CP grant, and 49% for Crime prevention grant that have come in.
- c. Doing fine.
- d. Pramas emphasized that we have had a history of great treasures

11. Committee Updates

- a. **Communications Committee**
 - a. No major updates, thanks to everyone who came to the After Hours!
- b. **Development Committee**
 - a. See Grand Old Day & History books
- c. **Pedestrian and Safety Committee**
 - a. Did not meet in Feb, Roy has been working on the Milton/Summit pedestrian crossing proposal.
 - b. Historic Preservation Committee does not support the proposed bump outs.
 - c. SARPA unanimously oppose bump-outs at Milton, would rather do a full analysis of Summit if ped safety is issue on Summit.
 - 1. Comment from board member Bayliss: parking near corners in that area is a problem, makes cars and ped crossing challenging
 - d. Roy has been in conversation about other options. Kedrowski notes that she understands that painted crosswalks are counterintuitive, giving pedestrians over-confidence.
 - e. Suggestion – have a meeting with SARPA, HPC to discuss different views on the various options, then open up to a public meeting
 - f. Next meeting, Tuesday, March 15th
- d. **D16 Implementation Committee**
 - a. No report.
- e. **Environmental Committee**
 - a. Update on upcoming events – volunteers needed! Attendance encouraged
 - 1. Wed, March 30th – Next Committee meeting
 - 2. Sat, April 9th – park clean-up, focusing on trails east of rec center
 - 3. Sat, May 21st – annual Neighborhood Clean-Up Day, volunteers needed!
 - a. Collaborating this year with D9 on clean up day.
 - 4. Sat. June 4th – Plant Exchange
- f. **Zoning and Land Use Committee**
 - a. No meeting since last board meeting
 - b. March 17th –meeting scheduled to discuss:
 - 1. Re-establishing a non-conforming use permit for 838-840 Goodrich
 - 2. Cooks of Crocus Hill liquor license extension for two small outdoor events on June 13 and June 15
 - a. This liquor license extension will come to vote at the April SHA board meeting once through the ZLU committee process.

12. Additional comments on GABA

- a. **Park - GABA advocates for all businesses on the avenue, big and small.**
- b. **Roy – had a conversation with Ongaro and Skally about Amore Coffee leaving, suggested that GABA take up in its Advocacy Committee how they could promote locally owned businesses.**
- c. **Park - When GABA does events (such as workshops) other than Grand Old Day – more focus on the small business.**
- d. **Pramas – important part of the D16 plan, is that we continue to find ways to make the businesses a vital part of Grand Avenue. These businesses are a major draw for visitors and residents. Intends to talk with past board members about looking at other areas of the country with similar issues and how they handle challenges, etc.**
- e. **Smith Avenue is under similar challenges and has decided to recruit only small, local businesses.**
- f. **Roy – mentioned that Merritt Clapp-Smith might be a valuable resource as she and Wm Mitchell lawyers in about 2005 looked at “formula businesses”, examples of municipal ordinances nation-wide on how to balance large & small businesses on Grand Avenue.**
- g. **Lindgren suggested talking to the small businesses about what challenges they have remaining in business on Grand Avenue**
- h. **Roy – suggestion of a private fund where small businesses can qualify for help with a longer-term lease to help landowners take the risk on leasing to smaller businesses.**

Adjourned at 8:40pm.