

Sunset Village Community Association
Madison, WI 53705
Meeting Minutes
Minutes distributed 3/21/16

Date of Meeting: March 7, 2016

Meeting Location:
Madison Sequoya Branch Library
4340 Tokay Blvd
Madison, WI 53711

Attendees:

Sue Reynard, SVCA President
Ken Raffa, outgoing SVCA President
Josh Arnold, Secretary
Linda Fahy
Liz McBride
June Immerfall
Kit Becker
Jim Bennett
Sam LeMense
Gina LeMense
John Hackney
Wendy Wink
Carl Baumann
Tania Thousand
Jesse Drury
Peter Krug
Ian Orland
Anne Badey Raffa
Ulrike Dieterle
Vaughan James
Tim Gruber, City of Madison District 11 Alder
A.M. Fuller
Dave Blouin [Guest from Westmorland]

Meeting Opening:

- Meeting brought to order 6:35 p.m.
- Introductions

- Call for Adjustments to Agenda: Alder Report (Tim Gruber)
- Approval of Minutes: revised minutes from the December meeting approved, no comments

SVCA Election Results (Ken Raffa)

- Thank you to Ken Raffa for his years of service to SVCA as president.
- Welcome to our new President Sue Reynard!

President Sue Reynard
 Secretary Josh Arnold
 Treasurer Brian Andersen

State of the SVCA (Sue Reynard)

Sue Reynard presented her State of the SVCA and a survey on interest in the neighborhood. Please see attachments for complete details.

- Finances— Brian reported that the SVCA bank account balance was \$7,124.22. Sue is looking to prepare a budget.
- Membership – we have about 70 households that are members of SVCA, with about 30 who get the Bucky Book.
- Social Media and Facebook. We could post more on facebook to increase communication, such as through neighborhood block captains.

Question: what do other neighborhood groups do?
 For example, Westmoreland – has 500 members.

Question: When do we ask people to become members?
 Could we ask people more frequently?
 Could we get more people involved?

Question: Could we make it easier to sign up?
 Could we ask for memberships at all of the social events?
 Could we sign up on the facebook page?
 Could we use the sandwich boards to advertise the events?
 Perhaps invest more money into advertising and increase SVCA presence at events?

Question: committees?
 Should we organize some committees? Maybe a committee brainstorming committee?

Co-sponsor events with other neighborhood groups?

Sue distributed a survey that asked people to indicate their interest in volunteering for SVCA.

Midtown Police Station (Sue)

Sue shared a sketch of a possible footprint for Midtown Police Station and asked for input and questions from the attendees. Give feedback to Sue or email them back to her.

Sue will request that contiguous neighbors are requested to have additional input before the end of the design phase.

She reported that planning and design is currently underway. There is below-ground parking currently planned that will help avoid the police cars' idling. Construction in late 2016/2017 – plan to occupy the new building in 2018

Tim Gruber will set up a meeting – will take input in April 2016

Question: what about siren noise?

Officers have to check siren and lights – the current plan is to do the testing in the underground parking.

Motion: SVCA should support the current plan to include underground parking.
Approved.

Announcements & Reports:

Friends of Hoyt Park (Anne Raffa)

- Annual Membership Party Thursday April 21 (6:45 p.m.)
- Marcus Miller will provide a presentation of urban coyotes and foxes
- Funding has been approved for National Historic Register

New Rain Gardens (Liz McBride)

- Nine new rain gardens along Owen Drive.
- Update: Contractor mistakenly planted grass in the rain garden, it had to cover the grass in black plastic to kill the grass. Garden materials were not planted until the Fall.
- Liz has looked at the rain gardens and viewed where the water was going. Stones installed were too high – water wasn't being absorbed as intended. A relatively small effort should be able to correct the problem.

- She asked about the current status and the gardener will hold a workshop in May.
- Some limited new construction will continue this summer – City will send a list of eligible households for sign up.
- Cost of rain gardens originally \$700, then \$400, now \$100 due to city and county contributions.
- Share information though the email listserv and the facebook page.
- Thanks to Liz McBride for organizing this effort for the neighborhood!

Alder's Report (Tim Gruber)

Welcome Tim! Tim will fill the position until next Spring election.

Tim invites others to get involved and consider running next Spring.

- Midtown Police Station.
- Neighborhood Police Officer – crimes of opportunity – car thefts, open doors in cars, garages, etc. Reminder to lock car doors and garage doors. Get to know your neighbors, implement a neighborhood watch.
- Construction. Hillcrest Drive and Circle – next month April 2016. Sunset Circle – 2017. Westmoreland – Hammersley 2018
- Hill Farms. Community gardens gets a spot at Rhennenbaum park. State office building under construction. Remaining site will be private developer – will go through city zoning. Westside Market is expected to continue at the site
- Alder Election next year. Sue will schedule a candidate's forum later in the year and provide equal time to anyone who would like to be heard.

Trees – Emerald Ash Borer (John Hackney)

Trees being removed in Sunset Park. Consider buying trees to replace others that are being removed. Ken will contact Marla Eddy city forester to find out what options exist for replacing trees in the city park and will ask about dates for pruning oaks. At Hoyt Park, the board chose to let ash trees get cut down to let other trees, such as oak, grow.

Westmorland July 4 party (Dave Blouin – Westmorland Neighborhood Assoc.)

Seek to help promote event, help recruit volunteers and promote fundraising for the event, share contact information for neighborhood businesses.

This year is the 75th anniversary of the July 4th event. First one was 1941.

Midvale Heights and Sunset Village co-sponsored events in the past (previous to 1991).

Kids parade in the morning – kids carnival games – food – flag raising ceremony – music and usually finished by 2 pm.

Prior to that time, in the 1980's, the event would go later, along with fireworks and music.

This year, proposing to expand the event to July 3 (Sunday) and July 4 (Monday).

This year, they are adding an evening program on Sunday July 3 – big band concert with intermission with the history book and Sarah White (author) and a neighborhood potluck event. Legacy games on July 4 could include games from 1940s to 1960s – vintage cars, motorcycles, softball, marshmallow races, and other old games, dunk tank, bounce house, raffle, t-shirts.

Westmoreland projected deficit is \$3000 to \$4000 and expects to absorb those costs directly. SVCA is not responsible for financial costs.

Signage and promotion will include all neighborhoods information.

Co-sponsorship includes helping to promote the event in the newsletter and facebook page, helping to recruit volunteers and promote fundraising for the event, and sharing contact information for neighborhood businesses.

Next planning meeting will be upcoming. Someone from SVCA will be a liaison for the planning, otherwise Sue will be the official liaison for planning.

Motion: Sunset Village will help to co-sponsor the July 4th Westmorland party.
Approved.

Motion: SVCA can contribute up to \$500 to help support the event if needed. Sue will appropriate money based on her judgment.
Approved.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:11 p.m.

Minutes submitted by:
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