Regent Neighborhood Association (RNA) Board Meeting

Best Western InnTowner

Wednesday, January 28, 2015 at 7p.

Board members present: Jon Miskowski, John Schlaefer, Charlie Peters, Jen McDonald, Ron Rosner, Ronnie Hess, Eric Steege, Mary Sarnowski, Dan O’Callaghan, Tom Pearce, Mary Czynszak-Lyne

Neighborhood members present: Alder Shiva Bidar-Sielaff, Steve Henicker, Robbie Weber, John Jacobson, Linda Ketchem, Doug Edwards, Greg Sisler, Ron St. John, Donna Letler

Guests: Hannah Hatlan-Atwell, Courtney Taborn, David Trowbridge, Gary Brink, Randy Bruce

Minutes: Motion to approve the minutes of the Regent Neighborhood Association membership meeting on November 21, 2014 was made by C. Peters, seconded by J. McDonald. Motion passed.

Achievement Connections presentation: Hannah Hatlan-Atwell with Teach for America and Courtney Taborn, a social worker for the school district, gave an overview of a tutoring program for students in algebra and geometry at West High and throughout the city. They extended an invitation for this tutoring opportunity and were seeking advice on how to reach out to neighbors to volunteer.

Transpiration Committee: C. Peters introduced David Trowbridge with the City of Madison – Madison in Motion. The City of Madison’s multimodal transportation plan is looking forward to the next 50 years and is taking into account the needs of neighborhood plans. http://www.cityofmadison.com/dpced/planning/transportationmasterplan/

Financial Report: J. Schlaefer presented the 2014 financial report. Motion to approve the 2014 financial report was made by R. Rosner, seconded by R. Hess. Motion passed.

R. Rosner and J. Schlaefer requested future discussion regarding spending down the treasury by considering worthy grants or contributions.

Healing House: Linda Ketchum for Madison Urban Ministry gave an overview of a 24/7 respite home for the homeless needing recuperative care. The house is located at 303 Lathrop Street, property owned by the Congregational Church.

Motion to endorse the concept of the Healing House was made by J. Schlaefer, seconded by M. Czynszak-Lyne. Motion passed unanimously.

Review of University Avenue Development projects: Gary Brink, representing 2501 University Avenue, gave an overview and answered questions regarding the project. J. Schlaefer noted the project follows the new University Avenue corridor plan with the exception of the first floor residential rentals space, even though the first floor residential rental space is elevated 5 feet up from the sidewalk.

Concerns expressed were: increased traffic at corner, need for traffic calming, hours of operation for sidewalk eatery, garbage collection, City of Madison dark sky ordinance, pedestrian friendly sidewalk and passage at the garage entrance.

Motion for RNA to endorse the 2501 University Avenue project subject to the following concerns:

increased traffic at corner,

need for traffic calming,

hours of operation for sidewalk eatery,

garbage collection,

City of Madison dark sky ordinance,

pedestrian friendly sidewalk and passage at the garage entrance,

detailed landscaping plan,

no outward lighting to neighborhood, was made by J. Schlaefer, seconded by E. Steege. Motion passed with R. Rosner and R. Hess voting no.

Randy Bruce representing 2583 University Avenue, gave an overview and answered questions regardng the project. Goldleaf is apply for condition use – zoning states 40 feet high building, this project is 43 feet high and the gross square feet is more than 10,000 square feet, they are seeking 25,000 square feet for building over 8 units, this project will have 27 units.

Motion for RNA to endorse the 2583 University Avenue project, although not consistent with every aspect of the University Avenue corridor plan, but does comply with the spirit of the University Avenue corridor plan subject to the following concerns:

increased traffic at corner,

need for traffic calming,

hours of operation for sidewalk eatery,

garbage collection,

City of Madison dark sky ordinance,

pedestrian friendly sidewalk and passage at the garage entrance,

detailed landscaping plan,

no outward lighting to neighborhood,

strongly encourage a right turn only sign at the garage entrance on Old University, was made by M. Czynszak-Lyne, seconded by J. Schlaelfer. Motion passed with R. Rosner and R. Hess voting no.

Alliance for Historic Preservation Mission and Values: J. Schlaefer requested this item be revisited at the

February meeting.

Sustainability Committee report: T.Pearce reported on the perennial garden project on Commonwealth Avenue and requested additional funds for the upcoming year. J. Schlaefer reported the project has remaining funds from the RNA grant.

T. Pearce reported on the Green Downtown and Great Neighborhoods project of 1,000 Friends of Wisconsin. This project is a guide for neighborhoods and includes sustainable programs. The group is compiling a “tool kit” for neighborhoods and their sustainable needs. The board will revisit this item again at the February meeting.

http://www.1kfriends.org/what-we-do/green-downtown/

Announcements: R. Hess reported on the 1922 University Avenue property.

S. Bidar-Seilaff reported a lease has been signed with a coffee shop in the Mullins property. Regent Street Co-op will be expanding into the adjacent liquor store.

M. Sarnowski reported the next RNA newsletter will be mailed in early February.

Motion to adjourn was made by C. Peters, seconded by R. Hess. Motion passed.

Adjourned at 955p.

Respectfully submitted.

Mary Czynszak-Lyne

02/03/15