**Regent Neighborhood Association Meeting, June 25, 2014**

Members present: Jon Miskowski, John Schlaefer, Mary Czynszak-Lyne, LD Oakley, Mary Sarnowski, Ronnie Hess, Ron Rosner, Betsy Greene, Eric Steege, Jessi Claringbole, Charlie Peters, Karen Christianson, Marcia Vandercook.

Elected officials: Shiva Bidar-Sielaff and Jeremy Levin.

1. **Minutes** of May 28 approved, with the correction that sparkling grape juice was the celebratory drink of choice.

2. **Little Library**. Brent Sainsbury asked if the RNA would be willing to submit an application for a Little Library on the SW bike path. RNA would submit the application but would not own the library or take on responsibility for its maintenance. Little Libraries follow the Privilege in Streets process, and the city takes ownership of the library. Mary C-L moved to have RNA submit the application, seconded by Marcia. The motion passed unanimously.

3. **July 4th fair update**. Jon reported that the July 4th celebration is coming together and that new chair David Hughes has been working hard to pull it together.

4. **Next year’s meeting schedule**. August 27, September 24, October 22, November 19 (third Wednesday), January 28, February 25, March 18 (third Wednesday), April 22, May 27 (annual meeting), June 24.

5. **Election of members and officers.** Jon Miskowski presented the slate of members and officers for next year, as follows:

Officers (4)

President Jon Miskowski

Secretary Mary Czynszak-Lyne

Treasurer John Schlaefer

Past President John Schlaefer

Elect positions (3)

President Elect Dan O’Callaghan

Treasurer Elect Vacant

Secretary Elect Vacant

Chairs of standing committees (8)

Streets and Transportation Charlie Peters

Membership Eric Steege

Zoning Ron Rosner

School Relations Jen McDonald

Communications Mary Sarnowski

University Relations Dan O’Callaghan

Greenspace / Sustainability Vacant

Festival Dave Hughes

At-large board members (5)

Karen Christianson

Ronnie Hess

LD Oakley

Sabra Gent

The slate was approved unanimously with 21 RNA members present.

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**A Conversation on Race**. Jon Miskowski welcomed approximately 75 guests to a discussion of race-related issues in Madison. Panelists were William P. Jones, professor of history at UW, Karen Menendez Coller, executive director of Centro Latino, Rev. Dr. Alex Gee, pastor at Fountain of Life Covenant Church, and Shiva Bidar-Sielaff, alder and Director of Community Partnerships for UW Health. The panel discussed the complex interaction of structural issues in communities of color. They agreed on the need for better-paying work, affordable housing, and greater engagement with the schools. Audience members talked about the need to create opportunities for families to succeed, the problems caused by disproportionate incarceration, the need for a greater diversity of employment situations, and the need for ongoing community discussion, among other topics.