

REGENT NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
Board Meeting
Best Western InnTowner
February 26, 2014 @ 7 p.m.

AGENDA

1. January Minutes – ACTION ITEM
2. University Avenue Corridor Plan Update
3. Elected Officials Report
4. Sustainability Committee Report
 - a. LeZaks garden project
 - b. Bike path garden grant request – ACTION ITEM
 - c. Mapping the Regent Neighborhood gardens and gardeners
5. Communications Committee Report
6. RNA Board Leadership – ACTION ITEM

Next RNA Meeting: Wed March 23 @ Best Western InnTowner

Jeanette LeZaks

Hello Jon,

David and I moved into the Regent neighborhood this past summer -- we live at 2239 Commonwealth, which is right at the edge of the RNA jurisdiction. Our property is adjacent to the SW bike path and there is a big triangle of green space that currently is just grass (at least, under all that snow). Last summer/fall, we ended up mowing that grassy area and it's often just used as a short cut between Commonwealth and the bike path, but we have a vision of planting a perennial garden in that space that the community could enjoy (see image below).

We have an inquiry into the City about potentially piggy-backing on the Commonwealth reconstruction project to divert stormwater run-off into the garden. They are thinking through the concept and told us they'd get back to us soon with more details.

Dear Jessi and Lorna,

I am Joyce Knutson, a long time Regent Neighborhood resident, and current 'captain' from the RNA to the Prospect Ave gardens at the SW bike path. The Prospect Ave/bike path gardens are a joint effort of the RNA and DMNA (Dudgeon-Monroe Neighborhood Association), the two neighborhoods that abut the SW bike path at Prospect Ave. Jake Blasczyk from DMNA is the over-all coordinator. As new co-chairs of the RNA Sustainability Committee, I thought you were the appropriate contacts for requesting funds for the gardens for 2014. I hope that you have had an opportunity in years past to see and enjoy the gardens.

Each year the RNA and DMNA have split the costs of mulch, plants, and water for the gardens. Volunteers from both neighborhoods supply the 'muscle' and motivation to keep the gardens flourishing. This year I am requesting \$350 from the RNA to cover the cost of the above-mentioned items. Although this amount is a bit more than was requested last year, we found our need for mulch was more last year than we had originally anticipated. We purchase the mulch at the Olbrich leaf mulch sale - which helps restore organic material to a former railroad line and also supports the public gardens at Olbrich.

Unfortunately, I am unable to attend the Feb 26, 2014 Board meeting in person because of eye surgery. If possible, I ask that you arrange to have this funding request placed on the agenda for that meeting. If you have any questions, or if questions arise at the meeting, I would be happy to meet with any one to answer the questions at a later date.

As the snow continues to fall today, it may seem a little early to be requesting funds for gardens; however, I am hopeful that spring will come. We are beginning our plans for the new season, and an assurance of funds would be helpful. Care for the gardens is actually a year round event. We were pleased this year that the city provided the equipment, (and we provided the man power) to install temporary snow fences along the edge of the gardens to keep the snow plows from destroying the upper sections of the gardens.

I thank you and the Board for their consideration of this request.

Best regards,

Joyce (Knutson)
24 N Prospect Ave.

Next RNA Meeting: Wed March ?? @ Best Western InnTowner

