

Approved

Historic Brewers Hill Association (HBHA)  
Minutes of the General Neighborhood Meeting  
November 29, 2016

I. Call to Order

Ms. Mambu Rasch, HBHA Vice President, called the meeting to order at 6:34PM. She stated Mr. Jenkins, HBHA President, was unable to attend tonight's meeting.

II. Roll Call

Board Members Present: Terry Mambu Rasch, Vice President; DeWayne Bishop, Treasurer; Molly Booth, Secretary; Ashley Booth, Larry Roffers, Sarah Nowak, and Chris Bryant; Auxiliary Board Members.

Board Members Absent: William Jenkins, President; Barb Janczak, Auxiliary Board Member.

Meeting Presenters: Captain Heir, Officer Lammers, Officer Looney, Officer Harris & Assistant District Attorney Jeremy Arn with Milwaukee Police Department (MPD) – District 5; Milwaukee County Parks Director, John Dargle, Jr., Claire Zautke with Milwaukee County Executive Office.

Meeting Attendees: 21 Members (John Larner, Mary Eastwood, Scott Carlson, Karin Luttinen Carlson, Elaine Schweitzer, Richard McGuire, Cathleen McGuire, Steve Bialk, Jeff Jilek, Sue Treichel, Bill Treichel, Gregg Prossen, Catherine Prossen, Cheryl Milbauer, Fernando Martinez Vera, Tim Baldwin, Jill Capicchioni, Reto Woodtli, Roger Kocher, Todd Siefert, and Eric Tallmadge) and 2 Non-members (Marissa Virrueta and Jacqui Cheney with Dr. George Washington Carver Academy of Math and Science.)

III. Membership/Treasurer Report

Mr. Bishop stated the balance for the General Fund is \$5,646.36 and the Signage Fund has \$2,781.65. Mr. Bishop continued the HBHA currently has 102 paid households. He continued that the 2017 membership drive has begun, with 25 paid households as of today's date.

IV. Guest Speakers / Presentations

A. MPD District 5

Captain Heir introduced himself, stating he is the Captain at District 5. He began by explaining the purpose of the last meeting he attended, held on September 26<sup>th</sup>, and at that meeting, he had suggested he would report back to the neighborhood within 30 days.

He asked the audience if they have noticed or seen an increased police presence since the September meeting. A consensus of the meeting attendees indicated they have noticed or seen this increased presence. He continued that, in an area which includes the neighborhood, between July 26<sup>th</sup> – September 26<sup>th</sup>, there was 82 pieces of reported activity and from September 26<sup>th</sup> to present, there was 210 pieces of reported activity. He remarked communication has improved with the reporting of plate numbers as Officer Lammers maintains a database of these numbers to find patterns, names, and locations of where these vehicles have been stopped. While there has been actionable intelligence to work with in the last three months, this does not stop the dealing as the same people are moving to other neighborhoods to complete deals. He noted Lavender Hill, along East Glover, has reported incidents of increased dealing.

He provided an update on the burglary occurring in the 2000 block of N 1<sup>st</sup> that they identified the perp from a finger print. This individual was subsequently arrested on the 20<sup>th</sup> of November, admitted to the burglary, and was charged on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of November with criminal burglary. He continued that there have been no updates on the September shots fired incident as the victim remains uncooperative. With the only evidence on the case is not talking, he stated the case was filed. He also provided an update on the recent robbery occurring near Hubbard & Reservoir when a female was robbed while walking to the condo building. He explained the perps saw her parking her vehicle, approached her from behind and grabbed her purse. Based on footage from a security camera, the incident took approximately 15 seconds. He continued the perps stole the victim's vehicle which was later recovered in an alley several blocks west. The alley also contained several other stolen vehicles. Officer Heir explained these cases take time to put together and the perps involved with these crimes are not from our neighborhood, but rather from all over the City.

He answered questions from the audience. Mr. Roffers asked that if police resources are sent to area with the most "dots" (i.e. reported incidents), what happens to the resources when minor incidents, such as a rash of vehicle break-ins, go unreported? He asked if there is any app or technology available to report these minor incidents as the time it takes to file a report, wait for an officer, etc.... deters individuals from filing incidents, and thus the resources are not put towards such incidents. Mr. Heir responded that yes, all incidents need to be reported for record purposes and everyone needs to be proactive. He stated that is a good idea with technology but at this time MPD does not have the technology for an app.

Ms. Booth questioned that moving forward, how will District 5 keep Brewers Hill safe and will we continue to see an increased patrol presence? Captain Heir responded that District 5 will maintain patrols, will keep the neighborhood safe, and thinks dealing will decrease with the cooler weather. He continued that the communication Officer

Lammers must be maintained and to continue inviting us to meeting. He concluded by thanking everyone for attending and to call him with any questions or concerns. Officer Lammers added they brought an updated list of District 5 contacts.

B. Milwaukee County Parks Department

Ms. Mambu Rasch introduced Milwaukee County Parks Director John Dargle. She explained the Board has previously had dialogue with Milwaukee County Executive's Office on the pocket parks and to learn more information about this process, and the park system in general, Mr. Dargle was invited to speak. Mr. Dargle began by stating that he has been the Parks Director for the last three years. He stated Milwaukee County has a world class park system with approximately 200 full-time employees and 1,000 part-time employees. Currently, the Parks Department is undergoing a staff transition where 75% of leadership team will be brand new. Since his time as Director, he noted that several investments into infrastructure have been completed, such as HVAC, roofs, etc. that are not always the most visible investments. He continued the park system is an accredited parks program and in the coming year they will be completing the following items: 1) Updating parks and open space plan, specifically looking at gaps in needs as the County grows with, projecting to year 2050 with SEWPRC; 2) Creating a park system master plan, specifically where are the needs and gaps, and overlaying that information with other municipalities; and 3) Establishing and Maintaining Partners, specifically enlisting volunteers and "friends-of" groups to help maintain and manage parks. He concluded that with pocket and / or neighborhood parks, the Parks Department looks towards the City of Milwaukee to help identify those gaps.

The following questions were asked from the audience: What is a "friends-of" groups and how does it interact with the Parks Department; if there are issues in the parks, such as trash, who do you contact; is there public engagement with updating the referenced plans and will these plans include trails and dog parks; and how does a neighborhood start a pocket park.

Mr. Dargle responded that there are currently 60 "friends-of" groups, which are essentially a fundraising arm of the Park People. As the interest in friends groups keeps growing, and the needs to maintain parks keeps growing, a volunteer manager was recently hired which will manage interactions of friends groups. In response to any issues in the parks, Mr. Dargle said to call 257-PARKS or County Executive's office 278-4212. For the public engagement, a few public workshops and surveys have been completed but to stay updated and provide input, he suggested visiting Parks with Purpose on the Parks Department website, Parks with Purpose, to provide input. He continued the update will take approximately a year and he would be happy to come back and conduct a workshop at an association meeting. He also added a dedicated coordinator for the bike trail system was recently hired and for dog parks, there are eight in the system. If there are identified areas that could use a dog park, give the County a call with suggestions. In

Approved

regards to the formation of a pocket park, he referred this question to the City of Milwaukee.

C. HBHA Member Eric Tallmadge

Due to scheduling conflicts, Mr. Eric Tallmadge was unable to present about his company, Small Shops United, which is fundraising for Carver Academy by selling 2017 Gift Packs for discounts to local restaurants and shops. More info on this initiative is available here: <https://www.smallshopsunited.com/fundraiser/1n/2j>.

V. Old Business

A. Gateway Signage

Ms. Booth provided an update on Phase II, indicating that pictures of the proposed toppers and neighborhood identification signs are posted at the front entrance for comments. She introduced Mr. Scott Carlson, a member and resident of the neighborhood with graphic design expertise who volunteered to be on the Sign Committee and developed the sign study which provides various design and styles for Phase II. Mr. Carlson explained how he developed the sign concepts, stating he researched what other communities have done relating to colors, size, etc. He continued that for Phase II, the proposed concepts update the logo and design of the existing neighborhood identification signs but will retain the same size in order to reuse any existing brackets. He concluded his presentation by stating he proposed concepts have been preliminarily approved by the City, comply with MUTC guidelines, and the signs are realistic and compliant. Ms. Booth stated the Sign Committee needs feedback from neighborhood on the proposed concepts and once a final design is selected, a number will be developed that we can fundraise towards in 2017.

B. 1851 N 2<sup>nd</sup>

Mr. Bishop recapped the December 5, 2016 Judicial and Legislative Committee meeting relating to the transfer of property located at 1851 N 2<sup>nd</sup>. He continued that after a rather lengthy discussion, the Committee recommended placing this item on file, which in effect kills the request from Midwest Commercial Funding to have the property turned over to them. While they do have a right to appeal, he continued that with today's action, the City will now proceed, most likely in January, with putting the property on the market to an owner-occupied buyer. Mr. Bishop thanked the neighbors who wrote letters and testified at the meeting. Mr. Bishop also stated that Midwest Commercial Funding owns 1921 and 1923 N. 2<sup>nd</sup>. St and they have violated their Certificate of Appropriateness (COA) with the work done on 1923.

A motion from the audience was proposed, and seconded, for HBHA to proactively inquire with DNS asking for an updated status on the referenced 1921 and 1923 N 2<sup>nd</sup> St properties. The motion was unanimously approved.

Approved

VI. New Business

A. 2017 Elections

Ms. Mambu Rasch explained that with the upcoming year, there are nine spots open on the Board of Directors, specifically for the President, Secretary and five Auxiliary Members. In 2016, the Vice President and Treasurer spots were up for re-election and by staggering spots, with each spot being for two-year terms, maintains continuity. She continued that the neighborhood is only as strong as the people involved. In terms of the process, the nomination process is very easy, you can either nominate yourself or someone can nominate you, you must be a paid member (dues can be paid in person or on the website), and you must reside or own property within the neighborhood boundaries. Nominations can be accepted through January 15, 2017. In terms of commitment, the Board typically meets monthly for one to two hours, assistance is needed to help plan events, set agendas, write letters, etc. Mr. Bishop inquired if e-voting would be an option to consider as a potential site is Ballotin.com.

Ms. Mambu Rasch motioned, seconded by Ms. Capicchioni, to pursue electronic voting prior to the January 31, 2017 and to maintain pen & paper voting at the January 31, 2017 meeting. From the audience, all Ayes.

B. Next Meeting: January 31, 2017 (Location TBD)

Ms. Mambu Rasch stated the next membership meeting will be held Tuesday, January 31st, 2017. Before the meeting adjourns, she asked if there were questions from the audience. Questions included the status of the burned house at 1<sup>st</sup> & Lloyd and if there were any updates to Royal Capital and Fortress developments. Mr. Roffers responded that the rehab process for the 1<sup>st</sup> & Lloyd house began but has remained on pause after the COA was not granted due to neighbor objections. Mr. Bialk suggested to amend his earlier motion to include this property into the letter to DNS. Mr. Roffers seconded, all ayes from the audience. Based on various questions relating to property maintenance, a potential guest speaker for the next meeting was suggested to be Mr. Preston Cole, director of DNS. Regarding Royal Capitol, Mr. Booth responded that soil testing was completed and the developer is working on engineering drawings, with an anticipated date to break ground in April 2017. Regarding Fortress, Mr. Booth stated the new owner is allowing more time for tenants to leave and the rehab is anticipated to begin April 2017.

Lastly, Ms. Mambu Rasch stated if anyone is interested in vintage Brewers Hill posters to see Mr. Roffers.

VII. Adjournment

Ms. Mambu Rasch asked for a motion to adjourn. The motion was unanimously approved and the meeting was adjourned at 7:54PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Approved

Molly Booth  
HBHA Secretary