

Historic Brewers Hill Association (HBHA)
Minutes of the General Neighborhood Meeting
April 26, 2016

I. Call to Order

Mr. Jenkins, HBHA President, called the meeting to order at 6:33PM.

II. Milwaukee Police Department District 5

a. Captain Timothy Heir and Officer Ciano

Mr. Jenkins introduced representatives from District 5 Milwaukee Police Department (MPD), Captain Timothy Heir and Officer Ed Ciano. Captain Heir stated that he has been captain at District 5 for approximately three months, replacing Captain Stigler who was promoted and reassigned to a different division. He recapped his career with MPD which began in 1991 and having worked at District 5 from 1992 – 1997. He was then promoted to detective and lieutenant at different districts but he seized upon the opportunity to once again work at District 5 as he feels it's the best district in the City. He mentioned his familiarity with Historic Brewers Hill, stating his cousin previously lived in the neighborhood and he had walked through the homes part of the home and garden tour in the 90's. He continued that he himself lives in a cream city brick house and is fascinated by the architecture of the Historic Brewers Hill neighborhood.

He continued that he brought along Officer Ed Ciano, Community Liaison Officer (CLO) for District 5 and that he understands many residents know the other CLO, Officer Lammers, who was unable to attend tonight's meeting. Captain Heir reviewed the 20-day incident period for the neighborhood and noted there was one vehicle theft. He concluded that overall crime is minimal in the neighborhood and stolen vehicles tend to be dropped in the neighborhood as opposed to being stolen from the neighborhood.

Members from the audience asked several questions relating to drug dealing, indicating that deals are still quite prevalent in the neighborhood and continue to be a large concern of neighbors. Questions also asked of the status of the drug enforcement officer and bicycle patrols.

Officer Ciano addressed the questions, stating the drug officer was no longer assigned to the neighborhood as issues arose with residents contacting the officer directly as opposed to calling incidents into the system. Officer Ciano emphasized incidents must be documented in order to utilize crime statistics to justify how the department's resources are delegated. Officer Ciano distributed handouts related to an updated communication list for District 5 and for tracking nuisance properties.

Captain Heir responded to the bicycle and beat patrols, stating their route changes daily as they adjust to various hot spots. He elaborated using data from complaints is important and that residents must be diligent in calling in suspicious behavior.

Mr. Jenkins thanked Captain Heir and Officer Ciano for the presentation and he proceeded to introduce the next speaker, Assistant District Attorney Jeremy Arn.

b. Assistant District Attorney Jeremy Arn

Mr. Arn began his presentation stating that he was a former resident and he welcomes the opportunity to present as its good to be back to the neighborhood. He stated that his intent is to be a regular attendee at neighborhood meetings to learn about our concerns and issues. He explained his role as the Assistant District Attorney and he is the one assistant district attorney assigned to District 5, which began in December 2015. He continued to explain arrest procedures, with police officers being on the front lines and the District Attorneys being behind the scenes. The district attorneys take cases presented by the Police to talk to witnesses and victims to see what crime has been committed and if there is enough evidence to charge in court. He continued that people must be held accountable to the fullest extent of the law but a shift in criminal justice is to try and divert people from criminal justice system if there's another way.

To conclude his presentation, Mr. Arn stated he will try to provide updates from cases that have stemmed from the neighborhood in future meetings. He explained the various units within a district, including sensitive crimes, child protection, drugs, guns, and diversion. With a past title, his previous case load was 80-90 cases but as an assistant district attorney, his case load is around 20 cases in order to focus on high value targets with people and places and a common goal of improving the quality of life and reducing the crime rate. He concluded by complimenting the monument signage and feels that identifying geographic neighborhood boundaries helps deter crime. He encouraged the neighborhood to keep the signs coming.

Members of the audience asked questions relating to the diversion unit and absentee landlords / nuisance properties.

III. Tour of Americas Dairyland (ToAD)

Mr. Jenkins introduced the managing partners of ToAD, Bill and Tom, and Schlitz Crit race will be Tuesday, June 21st. They began their presentation that this is the 8th time the race has staged in the neighborhood which has been made possible of the host, Schlitz Park. They continued that this year there will be 10 total races which are largely Milwaukee-centric, but races also in West Bend, Sheboygan, and Waukesha. The same format and course will be utilized as in years past, with short loops designed to maximize exposure, and racers like the neighborhood circuit because of the challengingly hills. They stated that new this year is juniors racing with youth starting as young as 9 years. In total, there will be 10 races throughout the day and approximately 500 riders. For more information, they encouraged everyone to visit their website, www.tourofamericasdairyland.com, and to consider housing cyclists.

IV. Nominations/Voting for Vacant Board Seat

Mr. Jenkins stated a special election will be held at tonight's meeting for the position previously held by Ms. Bitoy, who had to resign for personal obligations. Mr. Jenkins asked the audience if anyone would like to nominate themselves. As there were no additional nominations, the two interested parties on the agenda were Mr. Bryan and Mr. Shortridge and ballots were distributed to members of the audience (who were paid HBHA members). Neither candidates were in attendance but both had submitted statements on why they were running for an Auxiliary Board Member position. Ms. Bryan was in attendance and read her husband's statement.

V. Treasurer's Report & Membership Report

Mr. Bishop, HBHA Treasurer, stated the balance for the General Fund is \$4,875.30 and the Signage Fund has \$2,935.65. Mr. Bishop continued the HBHA currently has 81 paid households which is an increase of 14 new households since the last meeting. He continued that 22 households from 2015 have not renewed and the goal is to finish with a total of 120 households for 2016. He finished by asking the audience to sign-in on the sheets provided at the entrance and if you are interested in becoming a member to see himself.

An audience member asked what is the status of the Gateway Signage Project. Mr. Bishop stated an update will be provided at a future meeting but the tentative plan is to pursue banner signage on light poles, targeting areas around St. Marcus (based on a past funding commitment) and then establish signage along neighborhood boundaries, followed by interior areas of neighborhood. The type, size, design, etc.... will be determined based on the amount of available funding.

VI. Events

a. Neighborhood Clean-up

Ms. Janczak stated the clean-up will be Saturday, May 14th from 10am-1pm. The cleanup will begin at St. Marcus who is acting as the host site and providing coffee, juice & donuts. She stated their youth group will be volunteering and that St. Marcus is having their own cleanup on April 29th and extended the offer to participate to the neighborhood. She also stated the HBHA clean-up is registered with Keeping Milwaukee Beautiful.

b. Block Party

Mr. Roffers stated the block party will be Saturday, August 27th with streets closed from 10:30AM-9PM and the actual party from 2PM-8PM. The planning committee is looking for a cheap band and donations towards the \$250 portal potty rental. The planning committee will need help with planning and intend to meet soon.

c. Patio Round Robin

Ms. Janczak stated the Patio Round Robin will be Saturday, August 6th. She explained the popularity of this event and encouraged the audience to mark the date on their calendar as a limited number of tickets will be made available to purchase.

d. Sangerhouse Event

Ms. Booth explained the Tuesday, July 19th joint fundraiser with Historic Milwaukee, Inc and the HBHA. She stated the fundraiser is bringing together two great non-profit organizations at the Sangerhouse Gardens, with drinks and light appetizers to be served. She continued a sponsorship with Fresh Thyme is being discussed to provide the appetizers and more information on the tickets will be provided in the coming weeks.

e. Neighborhood Concern – Wiegand Properties

Ms. Mambu Rasch discussed the letter submitted by neighbor, Tom Warden, which stated his concerns about the Fortress property. His concerns related to litter / debris, neglect of the building / adjacent lots, etc.... Mr. Bishop stated Mr. Wiegand has owned the property for several years and had donated to the Gateway Signage Fund. Ms. Booth stated that she lives across from the Fortress and that Mr. Wiegand has been fairly responsive to the immediate neighbors' property concerns / maintenance the last several years. She added the property may be marketed for sale in the future.

Mr. Bishop motioned, seconded by Ms. Janczak, to table the item for now but monitor the condition and maintenance of the property and revisit the item in the future, if warranted.

Voice Vote:

All "Ayes", no "Nays", none abstaining

VII. Royal Capital Update

Ms. Mambu Rasch provided a recap of the March 29th meeting, indicating the official minutes are available on the HBHA website. She stated that since the meeting, there has been significant amounts of resident complaints via the social media platform, Next Door, and neighbors have reached out to Royal Capital. Ms. Mambu Rasch explained that the Board is still waiting to receive all pieces of info about the proposed development as there has not been any communications or renderings provided to the Board. She stated the development is not on the May 3rd Plan Commission schedule. Questions from the audience inquired if the Board will be taking a position on the proposed development. Mr. Bishop explained the Board has not taken an official stance as the final plans have not been presented. He continued the Board has given Royal Capital guidance on materials, site plan, etc. but the Board has not provided an official position.

VIII. Election Results

Ms. Mambu Rasch read the vote tally, stating both herself and Mr. Roffers counted the votes. She stated Mr. Bryan received 14 votes and Mr. Shortridge received 5 votes. She concluded Mr. Bryan received the required 2/3 majority and is the new auxiliary board member.

XI. Adjournment

Approved

Ms. Mambu Rasch asked for a motion to adjourn. The motion was unanimously approved and the meeting was adjourned at 8:24PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Molly Booth
HBHA Secretary