

Annual Meeting 1/28/2018
Tentative Minutes (To Be Approved at 2019 Annual Meeting)

John opened the meeting at 12:01am and introduced Board Members as follows:

President: John Pinto

Vice President: Katherine Bidwell

Acting Timekeeper: Bill Littman

Secretary: Eric excused due to flu, Mark Schmidt offered to stand in but had accident, Liz will record Minutes

Treasurer: Birgitta approved late arrival due to daughter's birthday

ACC: Susan

Block Captains/Communication: Liz, acting secretary/recorder for annual meeting

Social: Diane Littman: excused due to travel plans, Bill Littman present, standing in

Greenways: Gabe

At 12:05, Introduced Paul Skidmore, Alderman for the 9th District

Alderman Skidmore provided the following commentary:

City update: well run

Alderman Skidmore is now on the following committees/task forces:

- City finance committee (one of six alders).
- Taskforce on Security & Surveillance.
- Governance Committee (redistricting in 2020)
 - Take away mayor's veto power. This would go to the city council instead.
 - Take away appointments to committees. This would go to the city council instead.
 - Mayor, council and municipal judge structure would go away

City changes over the past year

- Police Department:
 - Myth that we have too many police officers, but understaffed. Priority call status is in place (city is not always able to reply to "quality of life" calls- noise complaints, small traffic accidents, etc)
 - Hired 8 new police officers (budget had 15). A matching federal grant did not come through, hence the reduced number of officers hired.
 - Created a task force to hire a consultant to report on Policy & Procedures. Firm out of CA at a cost of \$400k was employed to complete the study. Lawful Orders are the recommendations the task force put in place. Alderman did not support this process/report, but is committed to supporting the recommendations for implementation.
 - Implementation
 - 140 recommendations given in the report
 - Will be reviewing and implementing as needed
 - Madison Crime
 - Spike in alcohol related problems (mostly downtown districts- Gilman, State St, etc)
 - All time high in homicides
 - Weapons violations +80% YOY, 50% YOY prior
 - Heroin deaths and overdoses increased: 2016 7 deaths, 2017 34 deaths.
- Development
 - New real estate (homes, condos, apartments, etc)

- West Place II is now in construction. Will be international headquarters for Navitus (moving from Todd Drive).

Questions for the Alderman:

Tom Foltz: Park surveying question regarding Walnut Grove Park

- Reconstruction of Walnut Grove Park Trail

Dave Phillips: noticed some surveying in the woods

- Survey of invasive species to address trees that need to be taken out. Effort to restore Oaks and remove invasive species

Gabe: Street repaving in the spring? Is this a go?

- Yes, streets are being reviewed

Derek Pavelec: Is there a widening project for Gammon

- In planning mode for reconstruction for one area of Gammon
- By Living Christ, longer project because more land would need to be purchased

Liz: Water/sewer charges have gone up, commentary?

- Impact fees can be increased by the city. This is a legal way they can quickly raise additional funds
- Urban forestry and storm water fees
- These fees/funds are a bit of a "slush" fund

At 12:24 Police officer Josh addressed the meeting and provided the following commentary:

- Josh was the liaison for 2017. With dept for 19 years, will continue to work in our neighborhood in the west district, but will no longer be our "liaison" for 2018. New will be Krista Lukee? (spelling)
- Last 3 months of 2017 calls: see separate page summary with explanation of 51 calls. This is a pretty good (low) number.
- Recommendations: Lock cars, close garage doors, keep valuables out of sight
- Questions:
 - What is classified as Fraud: mostly phone and credit card scams
 - Traffic questions asked regarding stops on Gammon (traffic team handles)
 - What is Foot Patrol: officers walking the neighborhood (mostly on park at Westfield)
- Stolen cars: not showing in our neighborhood, but a growing problem in Madison. This instance is when the car is left running and unlocked. Not broken windows.
- Left brochures on burglary prevention
- Provided an overview of Coffee with a cop: Thursday mornings, 9am, Steep & Brew on Odana Road. Cannot guarantee which officer will be present. Ranges based on who is free/hasn't received a call

12:44 Thank yous and John moves to board updates

VP Katherine Bidwell: no specific updates. Encourages board involvement

ACC: Susan Ames:

- Thanks Derek and Pat for being on the ACC committee. Over the year, approved/denied the following:
 - Approved repair of a fence
 - Approved a tree house
 - Approved moving a screened in porch to a 3 seasons room

- Denied a deck
- If approval needed, please review forms on the website and/or email Susan Ames
- Encouraged board attendance

Greenways: Gabe

- Normal year for the greenways: mowing, lawn maintenance, etc
- Lack of vandalism
- Colony, Greenhaven, and Foxboro did nice circle improvements
- Mary Fitzsimmons questioned Ash tree condemnation. These are city trees. Gabe replied that the city is decided on removal or treatment, and he isn't clear on specific criteria used
- We had an arborist (Jeff Olson of Arbor Systems) grade all of the Ash trees in the neighborhood. They are either receiving treatment or are removed
- Walnut Grove Park trees that were removed have been replanted (not greenways, city owned)
- Coordinating mowing, treatments, reviewing trees (with arborist resource), subcommittee meets twice a year, field calls on property line issues, invasive planting questions, lighting system (monitor lights out, vandalism)
 - Gabe will stay on to help with lighting
 - Looking for a new board member for Greenways

Social: Diane (report by Liz Fenster)

- Successful events included Girl's Night out at Bonefish, July 4th Parade and Picnic, Adult social at Craftsman in Middleton, October Bonfire.
- Need help to continue to put on these events

Liz: Block Captains

- Directory completion and delivery
- Next door up to 79% of households
- Looking for a replacement block captain for Mary Bucknell: portion of Farmington and S Harwood
- Encouraged board member participation

Nominations to the Board

- Elizabeth Albano
 - Nominated by Liz Fenster
 - Second by Pat Delaney
- Dave Phillips
 - Nominated by John Pinto
 - Second by Eileen Goode
- Amelia Tastad
 - Nominated by Susan Ames
 - Second by Eileen Goode and Rick Conne

Motion to close nominations

- Pat Delaney
- Second by Tom Foltz
- Unanimously approved by verbal vote

Unanimous vote for Elizabeth Albano, Dave Phillips, and Amelia Tastad to join the 2018 board.

Sub Committee for Greenways additions/volunteers

- Ed Codner

Budget Review/Approval:

Liz Fenster reviewed budget prepared by Birgitta Larson-Gamez. Reviewed 2017 Actual v Budget and proposed 2018 budget. Further discussion ensued on future repaving of Greenways (asked by Pat Delaney). Gabe provided an update on where we are with quotes and it was decided that we would propose as a special assessment if needed once ready to move forward with the project in a future year.

Rick Conne motions to move into discussion and vote on budget and \$70 2018 annual dues

Dave Phillips seconds the motion

Discussion of repaving of Greenways. When will this happen? Space out throughout future years to cover expenses, but still working on quotes.

Eileen Goode- do greenways need to be paved? Could they be mulch/ stone, etc?

Rick Conne – what is the cost, reserve could be used the Greenways

Questions will be addressed by the Greenways committee in future sub-committee meetings. No action is planned for 2018 other than continuing to gather quotes for necessary work.

Budget is unanimously approved by verbal vote.

Annual meeting is adjourned at 1:40 by John Pinto. Pat Delaney seconded motion to adjourn.