

MINUTES

LENA

Date | time 10/12/2016 7:00 PM | *Meeting called to order by* Angela Jenkins

In Attendance

Angela Jenkins (President), Bill Curtis (VP), Sara Strehlow (Secretary), Erica Beckman (Member at Large). Steve McCarthy (Treasurer) David Ahrens, Erika Jones, Fred Kave, Sarah Sturgeon, Erica Jones, Mike Bare, Robin Schmidt

Approval of Minutes

September meeting minutes are approved after adding Steve McCarthy as present

Neighborhood Watch

No updates.

Invited Guests

Erika Jones CSA Coalition-Erika Jones

CSA (Community Supported Agriculture) you're a member of a farm and you receive part of the harvest. Delivery sites are arranged usually via work or community groups. If we think we have a good community site (coffee shop, church etc) that is great but it can also be someone's home. Think about what type of farms would meet the needs of the neighborhood? Are most people single or families? Conduct a survey to get an idea how many people are interested. The CSA meets with farmers in December and talk to them about their crops and if they are expanding to more neighborhoods. Most farms offer an early bird price if you sign up in the fall. On the website you can find a farm list and pick-up site list. Also each farm has a little bio about them. Annual CSA open house in March where you can meet them personally.

Since they are part of a coalition they are able to offer Fair Share for families that may need assistance and are interested in joining a CSA.

Angela is currently a member of a CSA through her work and she is very excited to offer this to our community. Last year they split a pig between a 4 friends, everything was cut up by the processor and it was very easy to split up. She thought it really fun, a good deal and would like to try it with neighbors.

What would LENA's role be? Be an informant and gather information. The partner is the UCC church off of Buckeye and Frank Allis School to offer meals through the weekend. This idea compliments that by offering fresh food to our neighborhoods and shares that aren't picked up could be donated to the school for the meals. This is in place for Schneck Schools right now to offer a model and it has been well received there.

First steps survey interest (greater than 10) in the neighborhood. If there is enough interest than we can determine where the drop off site would be and start the discussion with farms.

Erika will share a template survey for us to share.

Olbrich Beach Proposal- Mike Bare

German style Beer Garden at the Olbrich Park Beach house. They are one of 3 entities that responded to their request. Rutabaga was the other entity who may be operating together offering rentals such as paddle boards. They are still in the early stages of development. Mike is going to all of the Neighborhood Associations to answer questions about their proposal early.

Beer Gardens started in Germany and need a cool place to store the beer so they would build them below and nice crushed stone would be on top where people would gather. Beer Gardens were popular in the US until prohibition. 4 years ago Milwaukee opened a Beer Garden in Shorewood and it was very successful 20% of their revenues went to the Park system. Since then they have opened up several more Beer Gardens in and around Milwaukee.

This would not impact the grand scheme of the park, all of the courts would still be available. Beer would only be offered and allowed in a certain area. They would like to install more Bike Racks because this should increase the popularity of the park. They may have garden games, kites and other rentals available for families, they want this to be much more than just beer.

They would like to add German Style to the pavilion but this needs to go through the city. The restrooms would be updated; they would need to add a new electric line. They would install the crushed limestone seating area that would be available years to come even if this venture fails. This would be open seasonal May-October? Last call would be 10 p.m. when the park closes. Operating hours week days 4-10pm weekends noon-10 pm.

Menu

Beer, cider, wine, pitchers, soda, water, giant pretzels, brats, etc No hard liquor

They still need many permits/licenses such as serving alcohol in a park, restaurant license etc. Still a lot of time for neighborhood input, criticism, proposals, no contracts yet. They would have trained staff on site at all times of operations.

Q: Are there any things they could do to improve access/crossing the road on Atwood?

A: They city plans to redo Atwood 2021. This issue already exists and this development will increase the pedestrian traffic.

Q: The parking lot is small and has a lot of pressure already, this is going to increase pressure and the bike racks won't do enough.

A: Yes we realize this there are only 121 spots and we have asked if the parking lot could be re-painted. There are spots across the streets and there is a boat launch.

Q: We already have local businesses- are you going to compliment or compete?

A: Look at downtown you see several businesses that are similar right next to each other.

Q: Concerns about alcohol and children

A: We would do signs "No alcohol beyond this sign" and the limestone patio would help define the area. We do not want to put up fences that would prohibit the open space. The Milwaukee location has been operating for 4 years with just signs and have not had many issues we will be looking to them as a model.

Q: What's the capacity

A: Still negotiating 180-300 people range about the size of a medium size restaurant.

Q: Would you have live music?

A: It is not in the contract; they would follow the special event procedures if they wanted music. There will be opportunities for the area neighborhoods to become involved with special events.

Idea: Offer discounts for bikers and pedestrians.

Q: Will you be serving local beer?

A: Yes all of the beer will be from Wisconsin. All food from Dane County.

Q: How will you be handling waste? What type of containers will you use?

A: No glass is allowed in the park and we agree because of the beach. We asked about ceramic but that had the same issue. So we are thinking metal or compostable plastic.

Q: How can LENA support you?

A: We need your support! Write a letter in the next 4 weeks or so. They are starting to apply for permits and trying to get on the agenda soon. Shouldn't be a major renovation but the sooner the better.

Comment: Well if you have an article we can feature it in our Newsletter.

A: Great! Thanks

Q: Concerns over the bathrooms and changing area security?

A: We can't change how the layout of the bathrooms are without big renovation. We will have staff onsite at all times and security cameras.

Presidents Report

Past Events

Mayors Neighborhood Conference

Angela attended and reported that about 300 others did along with many of city neighborhood councils. There were several workshops she attended one on transportation and another on the demographics of the city. The keynote speaker was Parks Commission from New York city, he was an excellent speaker that gave a lot of eye opening data and what he has done with that information to improve the parks around the city. Angela will bring a packet for next meeting

LENA website is live and is good for 2-3 years and Angela gave all board members administrative rights to the website and we are free to make changes. Let Angela know any ideas or suggestions you may have.

Next meeting is at the **East Side Club** at 6 pm for social hour and LENA will buy the first round. The tiki bar has been moved inside downstairs so if it really busy we can use the upstairs bar.

Fall Newsletters are printed; someone needs to drop them off to Al Kent. Mention these are time sensitive due to upcoming events.

Rake Fest only 1 person has signed up so far. We need to advertise on social media more, hopefully the newsletter will help.

Complete Streets Panel 10/24/2016 Linda with the Neighborhood Plan and how it complements the cities plan, Director of the Madison Public Library or delegate will discuss why accessibility is important for public place like the library, Transportation Planning, City Engineering

Halloween Fall Fest we have 1 sign up but others indicated they are going on Facebook. It is hard to tell interest vs going. Again hopefully the Newsletter will help.

Treasurer's Report

1 Renewal for next year and 2 new members and these are being tracked in the membership on gmail.

126 households currently.

Costs were for the website, newsletter and checks.

Anticipate more membership after this newsletter.

Board Member's Report

David (Alder Update)

City Budget highlights

\$290 million and operating budget is \$270

CIP Capital Improvement Plans are over 5 years

Under Equity \$10 million to build Pinney Branch Library

\$11 million to improve Olbrich Gardens

\$50 Million for County Hwy M improvements – this is why Buckeye is being postponed

Where does the money come from—we borrow it, we pay it back in 10 years, AAA rating=low rate

1 out every 5 dollars goes to debt

Most of the funding source is from Property Taxes (73%)

A large chunk of the money goes to Fire and Police and the majority is for personnel salaries

David believe both police and parks are important and we shouldn't have to choose between the two

County Updates-Robin Schmidt

Lake Initiative to remove phosphorus out of the Lake. They are going to remove some of the older sediment which should lower the phosphorous levels.

They have put some funding in to improve safety at the jail.

The Day resource center is moving forward-good location downtown. Provide services such as job searching, laundry.

Landfill has a new technology to take methane from the landfill and convert to natural gas to sell and convert to CNG that fuels snowplows. When you convert to CNG it creates nitrogen which they are using to make dry ice.

Q: What is the cities plan for the homeless in the winter?

A: Mostly rely on churches, they have a plan to get through the winter but it's not sufficient. It has been very difficult to find a location to build a shelter.

LENA comment: Please create a short summary for us to Share

Next Meeting

11/9/2016 6:00 PM, East Side Club

Adjoined 8:50 p.m.