

SASY Neighborhood Association

Council Meeting Minutes

Thursday August 11, 2011 ~ Goodman Center – 6:30 pm

<http://www.sasyna.org/>

1. Introductions /quorum.

Present: Melanie F, Catherine S, Randy R, Brad H, Lou H-J, Doug J, Twink J-M, Mark McF, Lance G, Margo T, Gary K, Mike B

Excused: Ken F, Betty C, John S

Attending: Marsha R (alder), Tim (neighbor), Judy J (Staltzy's), Lucas D (OurBallotBox.com)

2. Executive Committee Report – (Lou)

- a. Executive Committee is working on a more focused agenda which allows time for discussion for improved SASY meetings.
- b. Letters sent: response to redistricting and letter to Water Review Board.

3. **Approval of previous meeting minutes** – see <http://www.sasyna.org/index.php/meetings/> for minutes. Minutes approved.

4. **Additions/corrections to agenda.** Items for open discussion time.

- a. Report about outcomes of sending letter to water utility.
- b. Move new business up, after committee reports

5. SASYNA Committee reports

- a. **Membership** - (comments at the SASY booth - Atwood Summerfest) - report submitted
In response to neighbor comment about Fair Oaks/Milwaukee street intersection, Brad led a discussion. Project to improve intersection postponed to wait until after Willy Street work is finished. See plans posted on DOT site. It is a bus route and slowing traffic is problematic. Tentative plan to turn Maple into one way after a study takes place. See Brad's recent story in the East Side News. Project work is approved, just waiting to begin. Lou urged those involved to stay in touch with the project work. Suggestion to Mark, Brad and Hillary to follow-up. Consider forming a SASY transportation committee. Lucas volunteered help from his role on the Board of Public works.

(Lance) asked about a left turn signal option. (Brad) It was considered by the City engineers in the discussions, but rejected as creating timing problems for traveling platoons of vehicles.

- b. **Communications** – report submitted
Migrating to a newer content management system. Randy evaluating content management systems to consider. Randy meeting with Catherine to review SASY web tools.
- c. **Preservation and Development** - Mark McFadden
No meeting took place.
- d. **Ad-hoc Committees: Union Corners Temporary / Transitional Use** – Lou reports on July 28th meeting on site.
(Lou) Joe Mingle led a meeting and shared some of the CNU designs with attendees.
(Mark) Developers continue to express interest and when a developer is interested in cherry-picking the City of Madison responds that this neighborhood would not approve.
- e. Ad-hoc Committee: Airport Noise forum – Melanie
No plans yet. Will try to plan a forum in October.

6. New Business

a. Proposed electronic voting & potential change to the bylaws – Mark McFadden & Melanie

- i. (Lou) See proposal attached. Drafted after council drafted a letter to respond to Council action re: redistricting. We had very little time to respond. We drafted a letter and almost everyone weighed in. Let's try to draft a policy to address the process.
- ii. (Mark) Presents draft rules. This is not to dissuade face to face meetings. Instead, we must address fairness, transparency and that important voices be heard. We should continue to meet and have others at the meeting to share expertise.
Summary: we continue to promote that we meet and talk about issues, but in emergency situations, we have a process to follow.
- iii. (Melanie) Elected not to bring her draft for discussion; mostly agrees with Mark's concepts and language
- iv. Discussion
(Mike B.) Suggest language change that in the next face to face meeting, then ratify the electronic voting.
(Lance) See 7.6.6 notes 48 hours, and 7.6.4 notes 24 hours, should be the same.
(Melanie) be more clear about use for urgent matters (i.e. impending deadline for example).
(Melanie) consider that we may vote about a particular policy.
(Lou) let's have Mark review the language concerning the term policy.
(Brad) This document gives us a mechanism to act, we will monitor the rest.
(Melanie) asked for clarification on 7.6.8.
(Lance) asked that we adopt this as a temporary mechanism. Seconded. Mark will make modifications, and return with revised document. In the interim, we voted to accept this as an "operating procedure.. At the annual meeting, we intend to present this Article to the general membership as a potential Bylaw revision.

7. SASY Financial Report - (Catherine)

8. Invited presenters

a. Alder Report

- i. Budget Conversation Meetings – next meeting is focused on Infrastructure / roads. Then, end of the month is on Public Safety.
 - ii. Mayor scrutinizing the budget very carefully. Taking close look at Central Park.
 - iii. Marsha encourages us to attend the infrastructure meetings, and stress the need for quiet [train] zones on the EastSide.
 - iv. Meeting about Don Miller site August 25th from 6-8 meeting at Christ Presbyterian church on Gorham. See recent email across SASY with plans shared.
 - v. Congrats to Goodman Center for the progress with Wirth Court playground. Design day coming up with kids designing dream playground and adults checking plans.
 - vi. August 15th – meeting with City Traffic about Jenifer / Clemons street design.
 - vii. Kipp – will keep neighborhood informed.
 - viii. Barrymore / Majestic / and others are alarmed about "rock shows" at the Overture pulling away business. Capitol Theater attracting acts to play in a smaller venue in competition Barrymore / Majestic.
 - ix. Redistricting: new district passed. Starts in January. Chris Taylor lands in Mark Pocan's district. Mayor Paul doing research about start date. At the council, careful attention about impact on communities.
 - x. (Mike B.) Pam's budget from last month conveyed the dramatic increase in spending around paving. Parks and Community Services flat-lined. Debt a big, huge concern. Marsha, please check how you vote about paving budget.
- b. **Judy James from Stalzy's deli.** We would like to have a October Fest party Saturday October 1st in our parking lot. Pursuing a liquor license. Would like to have live music. Need alcohol permit and live music permit. Noon-6 event.

- i. (Lance) made a motion to support with the caveat that adjacent neighbors be notified and approve. Brad seconded. Motion carried. Mark McFadden volunteered to contact neighbors. Lou asked Mark to report back to the group at next meeting. Judy will also contact neighbors via list. With neighborhood approval, SASY would support at alcohol and license review board.
- c. **Lucas Daily of “Our Ballot Box.com”.** Lucas described his group’s free and fast polling website, to poll residents in the district. See <http://ourballotbox.com>. To sign up go to site, then see issues to vote on. There are different levels of use to verify votes. They hope to be a Benefit Organization where they are required to provide a public good. Looking for sponsors to turn this into a political and social network. Can track opinions to see how they shift. Can filter to see votes in District 6. Can set timing on Polls. Allows filtering based on demographics (“self-selection bias”).

9. Old Business

- a. **Invite Mayor Paul Soglin to upcoming SASY meeting.**
 - i. (Mark) suggested that Paul be invited to the Annual meeting.
 - ii. (Twink) suggested that we invite Paul come to our meetings in time to talk with us about the Budget.
 - iii. (Catherine) thinks that inviting to a general membership meeting would be great. Would like to hear Mayor’s perspective on Union Corners temp/trans use and more.
 - iv. (Brad) if invite Mayor to a general membership, figure out specific topics to address.
 - v. (Melanie) Would like to invite the Mayor. Would like to share the concerns about the Budget.
 - vi. (Mark) we could consider a special meeting: dialogue with the Mayor, and lead with issues near and dear to our heart.
 - vii. (Lou) need work to be done about inviting the mayor, writing the ?s, inviting the Mayor.
 - viii. (Marsha) Capitol Neighborhood arranges a quarterly meeting with the Mayor in his office.
 - ix. (Mark) Budget, Garver, Union Corners, Transportation – there are enough strategic issues to talk to the East Isthmus community.
 - x. (Mike) I will help coordinate. Catherine also offered to help.
 - xi. (Melanie) let’s try to arrange this soon.
 - xii. (Brad) motion to invite the Mayor. Mike B. volunteered to lead this. Catherine offered to help. We can review the proposed agenda at the next meeting. Mark will call the Mayor’s office tomorrow to work on scheduling. Mike will work on Agenda setting. Lou will work on official letter from SASY.
 - xiii. (Lance) include Kipp on the agenda as well.
- b. **Share Pam’s overview of the City Budget.**
 - i. (Mark) thanks to Mike for sharing copies at the upcoming Infrastructure Meeting.

10. Proposed Ad-Hoc Committees with written Charge & Mission

- a. **Hudson Park ad-hoc committee** – committee charge and request submitted
 - i. (Mark) made a motion to approve the ad-hoc committee. Brad seconded. Motion passed.
 - ii. (Catherine) there is a safety issue with the Railing; should the neighborhood have to cover cost of improvement to the Park? Marsha has asked the Mayor for help.
 - iii. (Mark) Listed ideas where to go for grant funding.
 - iv. (Lance) we can ask the Mayor about Hudson Park.
 - v. (Twink) let’s communicate this work to the neighborhood.

11. Open Discussion Time

- a. Taking the pulse of the SASY council – how are we doing? -- Tabled
- b. Other

12. Adjourned at 8:51 pm