

SASY Neighborhood Association
Council Meeting Minutes ~ 12 July 2012
Goodman Center – 6:30 - 8:45 PM
<http://www.sasyna.org/>

1) Introductions /quorum

In attendance: Lou H-J, Catherine S., Sarah W., Brad H., Brad K., James M., Randy R., Twink. J-M., Betty C., Melanie F., Margo T.

Council members excused: John Steines, Lance Green, Gary Karch

Others attending: Zane Williams, Maj Fischer, Dan Cash, Dan Melton, Alder Marsha Rummel, John Martens, Carl Landsness

2) Approval of previous meeting minutes – see <http://www.sasyna.org/index.php/meetings/> - Motion to approve: Sarah W., Second Twink. No corrections

3) Additions/corrections to agenda. Identify additional items, include guests and invited presenters, items for open discussion time.

Guests to speak:

Zane Williams re: Garver; John Marten also arriving later.
Maj Fischer also re: garver

4) SASY Business

a. Kipp Memory cloths at Absolutely Art by Leslee Nelson – 3 sold. Setting up fund for summer youth programs for families near Kipp. (Catherine/Margo)

Project w/local fabric artist - 3 “memory cloths” on sale at Abs. Art. have sold. Request of artist that proceeds are used to support the families affected by Kipp. Catherine and Margo meeting twice, and decided to go with Children’s Museum passes, and City of Monona pool passes. Letter passed around for review. Plan to deliver letter door to door. No list of names of families shared involved at this point.

b. SASY Budget Update: ~\$1,420. Margo noted we owe \$200 to Solstice; needs to know who to write check to. Betty suggests Friends of Starkweather - will work directly w/Margo to sort out details.

5. SASY Guests

Zane Williams - from First Settlement Neighborhood and professional photographer, invited to Garver tour and took photos of inside Garver. Turned over to Amy Scanlon of the City. Aiming to delve more into this project - display downtown in City of Madison Building ?

www.zanewilliamsphotography.com/garverfeedmill

Looking for \$800-900 support to create large scale prints. Possibly double that depending on presentation format (matte, frames, etc...)

Catherine suggests talking to Olbrich. Betty suggests funding exhibition by selling prints - sponsors per print.

Brad K.: supportive of Kickstart idea. Lots of Madison support there.

Melanie: OBS folks already talking to city of Madison - already an agreement to work together. Understands there’s already money sitting ready for the project...?

Zane is willing to talk more with anyone who wants to help think around this project.

Twink makes a Motion to front seed money (\$100?) for Zane's project. Second: ?
Discussion: Catherine - hoping to hear more of the big picture discussion of Garver first. Zane - willing to explore other funding options first. Motion tabled by Lou 'til Garver agenda item.

Maj Fischer, UW Madison - hosting student internships with "Aquaponic Gardening" - describes it as akin to Will Allen's "growing Power" in the City of Milwaukee where we have Growing Power and Sweet Water Organics. Students learning about aquaponics and have then gone to India to build "closed loop organic systems" in India.

<http://sweetwater-organic.com/>

UW Madison and Milwaukee trying to pair up on limnology and fresh-water centers.

Badger Rock School - Wally Draper? working with kids on a small scale - also on Children's Museum. Garver would be a good size for production for sale to restaurants.

Lou: Project needs light and heat. Garver is not ready for that level of development at this point.

Maj: Project started inside a factory and has moved outside into hoop houses. Can talk with people at Sweet Water and Growing Power to learn more about how the project evolved.

Melanie: Maybe other spaces that would lend themselves to this use. Empty warehouses along E. Mifflin ? are not actively addressed by the city at this point.

Brad H: What are the space and feature needs in specific? Having those details would help narrow down viable options.

Twink: Interested in scaling this down to residential size...

Catherine: Sweet Water grew through some very key partnerships. UW, what else? How to make this a real thing in the city of Madison on the production scale? Other research arms at the UW? Madison restaurant association? Department of Limnology. DNR?

See Sweetwater on Wisconsin Foodie (Youtube): http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=nSyx0noGpeM

John Martens - describes his efforts to study the building & bikepath --see Garver report below.

6) City Report (Alder Marsha Rummel)

Lots going on in the market world...

Atwood Avenue - Concerns about Fair Oaks intersection starting to settle down.

Capitol Bike Path - looking for NAs to step in and be involved.

Non-lighted intersections - priority bike use - table the street surfacing (?) on the side streets.

Union Corners - 15 or so developers showing interest.

Garver - City staff process working with OBS. OBS seem to be taking more ownership, including fundraising for a structure report. Also RFP for architects for entry area and visitor space.

Catherine: How does SASY advocate for a voice in this process?

Marsha: Perhaps at the Open House...? Maybe past that opportunity.

Olbrich has decided to pay for a structural assessment to see if the Building can be used/saved.

John Martens: Prior "structural reports" seem to be very cursory analysis, not specifics of what is sound. These reports are not adequate. Some do not coincide with the conditions in there.

Betty: Has the amount of square footage of the project stayed the same? Lou/John - we think it's stayed the same. They are doing a more in-depth building assessment. We still think there could be space for "something else".

Betty asks, how can we be involved? Marsha has reminded Kevin Briski - there is a neighborhood hoping to be involved.

Marsha has suggested - perhaps a RFP for the "something else". She reminds Kevin of our thoughts regularly.

Catherine - makes a motion to have SASY make a formal gesture, and write a letter to Olbrich and Parks to advocate for a 2nd RFP for the "something else". Letter to express interest in partnership. Sarah seconds. Discussion: Lou - best avenue is to punt that to Garver Committee. Melanie points out - this could be a request for concepts / for ideas. Marsha - how can we collect and share the ideas. An "idea fair" Sarah points out - the strength in the Letter would be that we *have been* a part of this project and wish to stay at the table. Catherine points out the goals of a project should include feasibility and intention.

Lou, asked to describe the RFP process: "Consider Union Corners. The City owns the parcel. The RFP helps spell out development goals. Then, there is a committee who works on a "visioning process". This RFP is published and Developers are asked to respond. Then the committee reviews what comes in. And selects the best proposal. Garver is a different animal than Union Corners. Visioning process would be different."

Mark McFadden is on the Olbrich Board - and we could ask him for an update. Marsha is "our" rep at the moment. Marsha points out, Olbrich has bought us some time.

Marsha suggests - can we ask the City to help us sponsor an "idea fair / brainstorm" ?

John Martens - architectural training and construction background. Consulted for Goodman Center on Ironworks Building, and Madison Candy Factory Bldg on Willy Street. Working on Garver "The Sugar Castle". Need to understand what the building is saying - what's already there. Structure, condition, history, changes over time. Sees great similarities between Garver and Ironworks.

Consider the nearby bike path - and the railroad which ties to the access. Pay attention to the avenues between here and there. John hopes for improvements to the pedestrian and bike paths - more art (Doc Evermore / Sid Boyum), historical points of interest, wider paths. John has shared the vision of an improved bike path with the City, with Olbrich and nods of interest. When Lou was sharing the Ruin Gardens - John was part of the Tour of Garver.

Project analysis does involve how much square footage could be rebuilt. John shared a sketch sharing the steel structural foundation in good shape. *Projecting over 100 SQ foot in good shape on multiple floors.* The Building itself is solid. The floors are concrete and sound, worth saving. The wood needs to be replaced. The roof has trouble.

Jacob Arnt (sp?)" Mason and repair work in Madison on the Garver tour. Jacob: this is "a whole bunch of tuck pointing".

Looking at this creatively. Lou's ruin garden concept - there are places in the building, where this could work. Save what you can, what is economical to save.

Zane Williams - has been part of this project, taking photographs. Zane is also hoping to save Garver.

Amy Scanlon - head of Landmarks Department. This project could involve many departments: art, history, planning, bikes and pedestrian. With Citizens coming forward with a vision. Use Zane's exhibition to spark some collaboration between departments downtown.

Betty: Clarifying space breakdown. Over 100,00 sq. ft. total. Not all in good shape structurally. Betty advocates getting involved quickly so as not to lose the best of the usable space to "storage" before other more interactive community programs can get in there.

Twink - points out the Ash trees coming down - could be used as part of rebuilding Garver. Look at the WidMIR building on campus - with wood that was reused. What is the process to preserve some of the great ideas generated here, and not lose them in this room.

Lou: Garver committee needs to work on the great letter that gets us involved and spell this out in a way that shares a creative vision.

Betty sharing concern, step up now, concern that the City and Olbrich staking out territory that is the best at Garver. Who is deciding? Parks? Olbrich?

Marsha notes - she is meeting with Kevin Briski on Monday, July 23 at noon in Council Office. Perhaps SASY Garver Committee rep could attend. John Steines? John Marten? Betty?

Note -- City of Madison owns the building.

Carl asks can we also address the North Platt?

Motion Clarified by Lou: Garver committee needs to meet and hash this out.

Let's find out more about the Olbrich neighborhood rep and how that person could share back here. Committee needs to have a long constructive conversation about how to bring these ideas together on the table.

Letter might be ONE of the vehicles, but may be premature since the committee hasn't done these tasks yet.

Letter asks "what is the public process" for the decisions taking place?

Friendly amendment that Lou take next step and draft a letter.

July 23rd meeting at Noon with Parks staff. Marsha will invite SASY Garver to attend.

Vote approved to write a letter (see all the notes above!).

Return to earlier motion.

Zane's photos. Seed money to help get this off the ground?

Twink notes SA would put forth \$100 to be matched by SASY.

Brad H. expressed concern about our funds - limited.

Melanie reminds us of Zane's comments that \$100 would not go far.

Catherine points out we can highlight the the photos on SASY's web site. Sure, go ahead.

Vote to seed money for Zane Williams does not pass.

7) State Update -- Rep. Chris Taylor unable to attend

8) SASY Events

a. Goodman Fest July 28 and 29.

Margo: Grill = \$70/day. Details to discuss via email. James needs to get a temp. restaurant permit.

a. Corn Grill update (James)

Saturday and Sunday. All slots with at least one person. James will attend w/his family the whole time. Corn costs are not significantly raised with drought at this point. Collecting cash. Catherine asks - how much are you charging for an ear of corn? \$2.50 / each according to Margo.

b. Solstice report (Betty / John / Lou)

Betty: Solstice was great. It didn't rain much. Hundreds of people. Great procession of species. Fire was a little too grand in the eyes of the FD. Garbage pick-up was great. Parks dept. is happy. Person in charge of permit was featured in the procession. Had a SASY Booth.

c. SASY book group / salon focused on Switch: How to Change Things When Change Is Hard by Chip and Dan Heath.

First Salon meeting scheduled for July 18 from 7 - 9-ish at Sarah's house 2118 Yahara PL.

Share Salon goals: (Sarah)

Primarily aiming to familiarize more people with the book to generate common vocabulary and process around addressing hard projects.

d. Lake Monona Water Walk July 6, 7, 8.

Carl: Great event. Whitehorse family all there. Not pleased with the low attendance.

Lou: Is this likely to be an annual event? Growth over time.

9) **Communications committee report (Sarah)**

a. Possible switch to Google Group / Gmail (Brad).

Current Web admin: Lou and Catherine. Brad observes that Google might not be the best place to go at this point. Looking at compatibility issues of current platform with new system.

b. Progress with SASY PR (Sarah). Facebook has nearly 100 participants.

I will work with Brad Hinkfuss to develop sandwich board signs to post at festivals in the future.

c. East Side News deadline and articles (Betty).

Next ESN deadline is Fri, Aug. 3. Deadlines appear to be first Fridays every two months. <https://www.goodmancenter.org/services/esn-calendar-deadlines>

Please consider story ideas.

10) **Form a SASY Water Committee (Dan Melton)**

Propose involve non-SASY council members who are interested (Steve Klafka and Angelo Castillo)
Start with two focus areas / goals:

1. the quality of the water that we drink. Coming mostly from well 11 near Woodmans. Some of you are also getting well 8 water in the summer.

2. the amount of water we are using / conservation / possibly going door to door sharing ideas for how to conserve water in this Neighborhood. Uses fossil fuels to draw from water source.

Looking for ideas on what this group should work on.

Brad K. suggests a public awareness campaign.

Lou suggests looking into a tiered rate structure. After you over-using water - your rates go up. If you are a really heavy water user, you are paying more than your neighbor.

Sarah suggests - block captains to help with communicating/educating, collecting block data. Communicate with their block, f2f, potluck, positive social work.

Dan points out - we hear from people "I'm saving water but I don't see it in my Bill". There are fixed costs involved in the City of Water system and no tiered rates.

Catherine makes Motion: Betty seconds. That Dan form a committee to address "water" issues. Discussion: Surface water or Drinking water? Addressing the issues above makes it "drinking" water and Water Conservation. Needs a charter and mission. Dan's okay with that.

James asks about education and promotion of rain barrels. Explore legalize gray water ?

Betty calls the question. Motion carries unanimously.

11) **Union Corners Update (Lou) -- see above**

Covered by Marsha

12) **Garver Update (Lou / Marsha) -- see above**

13) **Airport Noise Committee (Melanie)**

Steve gathering pics and a video before redrafting the Airport Letter.

14) **Kipp committee (written report submitted)**

a. Advisory letter from Council re: sentinel well. (tabled)

15) **Transportation Committee (Tim / Anne / Melanie)**

Melanie expressed concern that the Committee is not functioning well. Melanie has asked Executive Committee to meet with the Transportation Committee and see if we can help.

16) **Development and Presentation Committee (Brad)**

Nothing to report.

Marsha notes potential developer (unnamed) is doing due diligence on First Street - former Dean Clinic.

Dan adds - Well 8 is officially scheduled to be built next. Dan notes Principle Engineer wants to flip priority to: Well 7 - build that first (2013); then Well 8 - build that in 2014 or 2015. This affects the Olbrich Sledding Hill aesthetically. Allowing Well 8 to wait may provide time to deal with sentinel wells and Kipp issues. It may also allow Well 8 to ultimately be kept out of use.

Addressing Well 8 earlier forces the acceptance of use of that well. Does it help to force Kipp issues faster?

What does the neighborhood want to do regarding the timing of Well 8 reconstruction? (I, SFW, personally missed the final comments of this discussion.)

17) **Old Business**

18) **New Business**

19) **Adjourn at 9 pm**

Motioned by Sarah. Seconded...?