Union Triangle Committee Meeting Report

Date of Meeting: September 19 2014 - 20:00
Name of Committee: Union Triangle
Chair: Gary Karch
Members: Brad Kuse, Elizabeth Reinwald, Erin Hughes, Jason Waller, Jennifer Stenglein, Sandy Schoen, Matt Nefrano, Melissa Biagtan, Mia Broaderson, Mike Gresch, Steve Herrick, Tim McCarty

Here are some things to consider talking about:
The SASY meeting - Charge (See below) and are we going to ask for funds?
   Gary Karch relayed that SASYNA figuring out how to dispense funds
   Union Triangle looking for intial $200 of seed money
   Brad suggests spending now, keeping receipts and getting reimbursed until a
   process is in place to request funds from SASYNA
Who's going to say what? (Unfortunately, Erin nor I can make it on Thursday night).
   Gary will state Charter

Crime
Non emergency number 2662948
New Police contact in addition to Moore
   Dau Xiong
   Email dxiong@cityofmadison.com
Community meeting with Marsha Rummel and the police at the Salvation Army next steps.
Police chief Koval - Who can go to the next meeting at Thompson Drive?
   Thompson Drive Police Meeting 24th of September
   East Side Police Station Thompson Drive
   Possibly 6-6:30p
Research of gunshot detector
   Jason asked the police chief
   There is not one installed
   Have no intention of implementing one
   Expensive
   Do a good job of triangulating using calls from residents
Calling in disturbances to the police
   Captain of East District Mary Schauf and Chief Koval advise calling any disturbances in
   Email to Police captains is powerful as well
   Especially when CCing Police Chief and other officials
This is now the police get information
Call the non emergency number
Create document for neighbors (or a fridge magnet) that states “when do we call the police?” Non-emergency numbers, Police contacts, other contact numbers

Eastside Shopping Center
Managers of franchises in the East Side Shopping Center
   Not receptive to working with the committee to reduce crime
Manager of Walgreens receptive
Trixies is receptive, currently working with police to curb sale of specific liquor bottle frequently found in parks
Hawthorne Library is on board
Need to put some pressure on the management company ECI to step up
   Draft a letter to ECI
      CC people from the committee first to give them the benefit of the doubt
   If this doesn’t work make sure to CC Police, Politicians, etc...
Mental health clinic, no response.
Chief Koval
   Stunned when Jason said that calling for fireworks was like “crying wolf”

Traffic
SASYNA Traffic Committee
   Engage this committee with a list of traffic concerns
   Draw upon their experience and knowledge
Road murals
   Joannah stated previously that she was interested in pursuing this
Hermia Street - will it be worked on next year? Is there any chance of a Play Street? What would that mean?
   Get Jay Firm involved with this
   Drew and Jay have been linked up, discussing possible solutions
      Drew leads the Milwaukee Street Traffic issues
Do we want digital speed signs on Marquette?
Other issues

Parks
Erin spoke to Mary Schauf about the parks
   Recommending more activity there
   Reclaim the space
Suggestion to have a regular neighborhood activity there
Potluck Wednesdays 5:30-6:30 now scheduled
Invite police to the potluck
In Circle Park during the summer MSCR 9-3 camp
Move city activities to here
Public art
Sid Boyum sculptures
Others

Better playground in Reger Park
Discussion of updates to Wirth Ct. Park
Investigate how this was done
Kaboom
Oscar Meyer grant
Lowell Parents
Make the park a focus
Extending the community garden
That is part of the apartment building
Private space
It would draw people to the park on a regular basis

Planting on the 27th
Have the amplified music and closing the street permits
Updates found out from police and parks people regarding Reger?
Tabled
How do we get a street lighting there?
Mary states that more lights are a good idea
Mary states that it is dark in the park
Mia is going to work with parks about lighting in the park
Mia to contact new Park Superintendent

Outreach
Businesses that Mia reached out to
Getting info out to all Union Triangle to all neighbors about the committee and events -
  fliers, neighborhood Facebook page and adding people to the listserv
The Starkweather planting
The Reger Park picnic
How we work with WPNA
Contacting Women of Worthington
   Brad and Mia to look for contact information
Other services to reach out to
Figure out a way to communicate with those older individuals who don’t really get out at night

Upcoming events/meetings
   Bigger Community Meeting Salvation October 8th 6-7 in the annex
   Planting on the 27th
   Potluck Wednesdays
   Thompson Police meeting on the 24th
      Thompson Drive Police Meeting 24th of September
   East Side Police Station Thompson Drive
   Possibly 6-6:30p

The SASYNA Union Triangle Subcommittee Charter
Our neighborhood is full of great people; teachers, musicians, therapists, stay-at-home parents, artists, City workers, those looking for jobs, academics and retirees. With a lot of those folks come their kids who like to play, bike, draw on the sidewalk, attend the local schools and run amuck in the parks.
It’s a fun, quirky, vibrant place to live.
Recently, however, we’ve seen an increase in disturbances. There have been afternoon and night-time shootings; drinking, drug use and prostitution in the parks; cars careening up and down the roads like it’s a racetrack. Before it gets any worse, we want to take ownership of our neighborhood and its issues.
By forming a SASYNA subcommittee, working with our own neighbors and near-neighborhood associations, the police, local businesses, landlords, and the City, we want make the streets, roads, parks and local stores safer.
If people are talking about our neighborhood, we want it to be for the right reasons.
During the next year, the subcommittee will focus on the following areas:
   ● Crime
   ● Traffic
   ● Parks
   ● Neighborhood events and outreach
We’ll look to improve the place, focusing on measurable goals, when possible, with both short-term and long-term projects. Here’s how:
Crime
   ● Set up regular meetings with the police to ask about their strategy and discuss how we can partner to help reduce the crime rate.
• Encourage neighbors to call incidents in to the police (ask the police how they want this to happen).
• Work with local businesses and landlords.
• Contact agencies and community centers, to develop relationships with them to help those who need it.

Traffic
• Research and deliver road safety ideas for specific roads. Initial ideas include play streets (woonerfs), road murals and speed radars.
• Build relationships with the City’s engineering department to help influence our ideas.

Parks
• Work with the Police and City to make Reger and Hippo Park safer.
• Encourage neighbors to use the parks more, both informally and by planning events.

Neighborhood events and outreach
• Continue to plan “all-welcome” events such as the Union Street Block Party, Halloween and Christmas caroling.
• Encourage more informal gatherings.
• Encourage neighbors to attend other neighborhood association events, helping to bridge the gaps.