

CAPITOL NEIGHBORHOODS, INC.
MINUTES of Executive Council Meeting Held April 25, 2017.

MEMBERS PRESENT: (Meeting chaired by Ostlind in Vercauteren's absence)
Ostlind, Kamps, Ingebritson, Warman, Broughman, Cooper, Stitt, Fisher, Mohs,
Herrick, O'Brien and Ald. Verveer.

GUESTS PRESENT: Jim Morgan, Madison Police Capt. Jason Freedman.

I. Meeting called to order by Ostlind. There is a quorum.

II. DOWNTOWN POLICE REPORT.

According to Freedman, police are preparing for this weekend's Mifflin Street "non-event." More than 150 law enforcement officers will be on hand beginning at 8:00 a.m. Saturday until the end. The Special Events team will be on hand from 9:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. Residents and landlords have been contacted and apprised of the rules. Police have also worked with UW to get out the word about what is considered unacceptable behavior at the party. There will also be a blog post and a press release. In response to Warman's question, Freedman said the block party is not a sanctioned event, and the UW is not holding its alternative "Revelry" party this year. Last year, only 60 citations were issued and Freedman is hoping for the same this year. In response to Ingebritson's question, Freedman said there are less than a half a dozen off-campus house parties that concern them and, after the party closes down, police will shift resources to other parts of the downtown that night.

There have been a wave of shootings and violent robberies around the city recently. Although the violence has not yet affected the downtown, Freedman believes it is inevitable with summer coming.

Freedman recently sent out a blog post regarding behavior issues at the top of State St. It was also sent out on the CNI listserve. The post discusses the approaches to be taken by police, beginning with an educational component, followed by stepped up enforcement. There will be a more proactive police presence this summer. Herring thanked police for being visible and accessible. He asked why problems persist at the top of State St., believing that this will have a negative impact on tourism. Herring suggested a regular beat officer who issues citations. Freedman agrees it is necessary to have "boots on the ground" there. Police have dedicated the State St. officer and another officer to the area, and have obtained overtime funds for more staffing. Police will be more "pro-citation" but with some freedom of movement; they'll seek compliance first, then cite. Freedman explained that the area is neither a park nor a street, yet it is open and available – a "vacuum." The downtown is a bus hub enabling those who hang out there to have access to resources downtown. Contributing to the attractiveness is the city's inability to enforce the panhandling ordinance. Cooper asked how the educational

component is going. Freedman said police have given out a lot of information, which will help, but some people just don't care. Ingebritson asked about the use of mounted police, commenting that the horses are good for crowd disbursement. Freedman agreed and said the horses will be used at the Mifflin Street party, and they will then be around all summer downtown beginning later in May.

Mohs is concerned about the "distressing" bus shelter in front of the "Graft" restaurant on Carroll St. The restaurant cannot have outdoor seating because people are constantly acting out in and around the shelter. This problem was exacerbated when the city took down the problem bus shelter at the top of State St. It is creating a bad business environment, Mohs added, suggesting that the bus shelter might have to be moved again. Freedman said he has spoken with many business owners in the area who are passionate about these issues. Police and the city are looking toward long-term solutions but people still need to be held accountable for their behavior no matter when it occurs. He noted that some of the people who hang out there are themselves victims of bad behavior by others. Fisher added that people are discouraged from bringing their children to the public library because of the bad behavior ongoing in front. Ostlind is encouraged that other community partners are working with police to address these problems; this is the right approach, he believes.

III. MINUTES of March EC meeting. Ostlind, Warman and Ingebritson made several corrections to the March minutes which will be incorporated into those minutes. Warman had several corrections. As amended, the minutes are APPROVED; on MOTION by Herring, SECOND by Mohs.

[NOTE: The amended March minutes, as well as an additional change to the January minutes pointed out by Ostlind, are also attached to this e-mail]

IV. TREASURER'S REPORT. Warman distributed a report showing a bank balance of \$19,946.66, of which \$14,557.79 is available to spend due to monies that are earmarked for specific projects (Period Park, James Madison Park, Emerald Ash Bore treatment) and several outstanding bills.

V. NEW BUSINESS
Annual Meeting.

According to Ostlind, the presentation at the annual meeting will be on the urban forest. He has made inquiries and is starting get responses but is still open to suggestion. Warman believes Ostlind should introduce the subject at the meeting and tell the attendees what we are doing about the urban forest. Ostlind believes we will get a good turnout for this topic if we get the right speakers. Vercauteren had sent an e-mail suggesting that, if we held the meeting on June29 as planned, we may want to start early because a rooftop concert is also scheduled for 7:00 that

night. Or, we might explore another venue. Verveer pointed out that we have the use of Monona Terrace at no charge because they donate one free meeting a year to us. Cooper suggested holding it on the third floor of the library, but Verveer noted that we would have to use the library's caterer for food and alcohol. Ostlind will follow up on this with Vercauteren. [NOTE: The Annual Meeting is now scheduled for June 13, 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at Monona Terrace]

According to Warman, we spent \$326 on food for the annual meeting last year and only got cookies. We should look into something more substantial this year, such as veggie trays and cheese, especially if we start the meeting earlier. We can afford more, he believes. Ostlind noted that we have not eaten all that was provided at Monona Terrace. Warman will discuss this with both Monona Terrace and the Central Library.

Warman pointed out that district chairs and the Treasurer must provide annual reports before the annual meeting. This must be done soon. Each district chair must also provide a list of representatives who are up for election this year. Those representatives will then select the district chair.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

Madison College Update. In discussing the future of the downtown campus, Mohs referenced the Historic Shared Vision for Downtown Madison which declares that the area of Pinckney, Carroll and Wis. Ave. is historically very important and must be protected. All the buildings in the area are low scale, have setbacks and contribute to the historic character. Mohs believes the Hovde proposal being pushed by MATC does not protect the historic character of the area and serves MATC's desire to get the most money for the site. They want bonus stories over the height limit. Mohs believes we need to strongly resist this. We need to know where we are going and to get it right. Ostlind commented that this is another situation where we are not part of the RFP process, putting us in a reactive mode when a proposal is made. The issue should be whether the proposal fits within the city and neighborhood plans, not how much money it will make. According to Verveer, the MATC Board will vote May 3 on whether to enter into negotiations with Hovde. Assuming they approve, the proposal will go through a deliberative city review process. Mohs suggested having a meeting with the development team before the review process. Verveer noted that MATC won't vacate the downtown campus until 2019, and construction will not begin until 2020, but it is not too early to start talking.

West Washington Corridor Planning. Kamps reports that the subcommittee members have returned from vacations and the like and will meet soon. City Planning staff said today that resources will still be available in the

fourth quarter of this year. The subcommittee will meet occasionally between now and then. Cooper added that the planned walking tour of the area can be organized soon. Ostlind noted that the area included in the planning process has been expanded beyond the two blocks of W. Wash. to include blocks on Mifflin and Dayton Sts. This will all be taken on at one time.

Judge Doyle Square. The project received land use and re-zoning approval at last night's Plan Commission meeting attended by Ostlind and Stitt. Ostlind said he and others proposed some conditions that were included in the approval motion. This will now go back to UDC. According to Ostlind, the width of the parking garage entrances remains a major concern. This, he noted, is another instance where we were not included in the RFP process where these issues could have been addressed early on. Stitt asked why we aren't consulted before the RFP and what can be done about it. Verveer took the blame for this, explaining that he did not realize the parking garage entrances would become an issue. The proposed width of the driveways increased greatly from when EC member Adam Plotkin was chair of the JDS committee. Ostlind noted that he and Cooper were members of a previous committee that was shown a 22 ft. width limit for the entrances. The good news, he added, is that the width will be reduced from 45 ft. to 30 ft. with one lane blocked during low usage times. The next step, according to Verveer, is for the Plan Commission's recommendation to go before the full city council for approval May 2nd, and before the UDC for approval in early June. It is important, he added, that the steering committee remain active. Verveer was pleased that the Plan Commission took our recommendations seriously. They approved all eight of the conditions proposed by CNI. Cooper thanked Ostlind for preparing the neighborhood position statement and for getting the commission to adopt all eight conditions.

VII. DISTRICT REPORTS

Miffland. Kamps referenced the upcoming Mifflin St. Block Party and the police efforts to address behavioral issues at the top of State St. See the full discussion of these issues in the police report, above.

Kamps reports that residents met with City Parks Dept. staff, the city planning director and economic development commission members this afternoon to discuss locating a park in what Kamps called "the most park deficient neighborhood in the city." They discussed strategies and possible park locations. Verveer noted that \$7.5 million has been appropriated in the city budget for a park. The city staff has an "action plan" for a pocket park and later a larger park downtown.

Mansion Hill. Mohs anticipates there will continue to be issues with noise at the Edgewater this summer. There is a proposal by the Evans Scholar coed

fraternity to tear down its building at Langdon and Henry Sts. and replace it with a building that would have an additional story.

A steering committee to address the proposal for a hotel at 122 State St. will start meeting in the next two weeks. Mohs added that they are very committed to maintaining the look of State St. Verveer announced that Ostlind has agreed to co-chair the committee.

James Madison Park. According to Stitt, Cliff Fisher's proposal to construct small, affordable apartment units went before the Plan Commission recently but was not approved.

First Settlement. Stitt reports that the Hail Mary Sports Bar is going ahead but without a liquor license at this point. They will meet with the neighborhood May 9th. The owners held a meeting at the bar a few weeks ago, but no one from the neighborhood was invited. The owners have put a lot into the bar even without yet having obtained ALRC approval.

The owners of the house at 138 S. Franklin, Dan Gorman, proposes restoring the house and building a second small house behind it. He has received push-back from the city, telling him to turn the existing house into a two-flat and not to build a second house in the rear. According to Stitt, the neighbors support Gorman's proposal. Verveer added that Gorman's proposal will go before the Zoning Board of Appeals this Thursday (4/27).

Bassett. Vern Stenman of the Madison Mallards spoke at the April district meeting about plans for this year's "Shake the Lake" fireworks show scheduled for Saturday June 24. Ostlind said he is pleased with their willingness to speak with neighbors. He is confident it will be a good event again this year.

VIII. ALDERPERSONS' REPORTS

Verveer reports the Heartland Credit Union Building across the street from CVS on Bedford St. and W. Wash. has been sold. The new owners will meet with the neighborhood soon to discuss their plans. The BID purchased tables and chairs, funded by the city, to be put out at the top of State St. each day between 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. for lunch. It will be staffed by the BID Ambassadors. This should create new vending opportunities. The city has also set aside \$50,000 for entertainment, kids' activities, musicians, etc. all up and down State St.

"Ride the Drive" has been saved. It will be held on a smaller course that will primarily feature John Nolen Dr. July 16 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. It will run from Lakeside to Blair St., to North shore Dr. and Proudftt.

Verveer announced he is withdrawing his support for the controversial proposed test contra-flow bike lane on Wilson St. this summer. He prefers that the city go ahead with the reconstruction option proposed for Wilson St. and MLK Blvd. Contra-flow bike lanes will, however, be installed at N. Basset, Gorham and University Ave. to Dayton St. this summer. He reports that bike advocates propose running a bicycle lane down Mifflin St. through Philosopher's Grove. This would require an amendment to an ordinance. This would be similar to what is happening now at Library Mall. B-Cycle would install one or two stations there.

MEETING ADJOURNED, on MOTION by Mohs; SECOND by Warman.

NEXT EC MEETING: Tuesday May 23, 2017, 5:15 p.m., Central Library, Third floor.

AGENDA for the May 23 EC Meeting

- I. CALL TO ORDER AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM (Vercauteren).
- II. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF APRIL EC MEETING MINUTES.
- III. TREASURER'S REPORT (Warman).
- IV. DOWNTOWN POLICE REPORT.
- V. ACTION ITEMS/NEW BUSINESS:
Planning for the June Annual Meeting;
Mifflin Street Block Party Report;
2017 Programs and Initiatives;
Securing CNI's Facebook Account from Hackers (Brabender);
Other.
- VI. OLD BUSINESS:
Madison College RFP Update;
W. Washington Corridor Plan Update;
State Historical Museum Project Update;
State Street Retail Business Study and Potential Action;
Judge Doyle Square Update;
Proposal to re-incorporate State/Langdon District into CNI;
Update on Homeless Day Resource Center;
CNI Membership Outreach/Growth Strategy Next Steps;
Update on Website/Membership/Communications System Upgrade;
Other.

VII. DISTRICT REPORTS:

Mansion Hill, Bassett, Mifflin West, First Settlement, James Madison Park.

VIII. ALDERPERSONS' REPORTS.

IX. PRESIDENT'S REPORT (Vercauteren).

X. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Program (open), Membership/Media/Development (open), Policy (Vercauteren), DROC (Ostlind), Finance (Warman), Physical Linkages (Mayer), Garden (open), Education and City Issues Monitoring (open).

XI. ADJOURNMENT.

***Agenda subject to change by Vercauteren.**