

OTW Board Meeting Minutes

February 22, 2015

Present; Antoinette Powell, Jon Corelis, Brian De Groot, Peggy Samsa, Hugh Bayer, Keith Powell

Regrets: Keith Bilyeu, Linda Muldoon, Chris Vander Wielen, Patti Coenen

1. Review last meetings notes – 01-13-15

Unanimously approved.

2. Committee Reports – (30 min)

a. Next News letter and distribution, March ?

What's the plan for the spring newsletter? Antoinette: production is not a problem. Distribution is a problem. Brian: need to come up with a plan. Keith P.: maybe we need to talk about raising funds for the group. Brian: haven't had income for a while. Hugh: what kind of response did we get from the last distribution? Brian has some emails that have shown an interest in getting emails and electronic newsletter. Jon: there was some discussion of hand and electronic delivery. Peggy: when the weather gets nice she is willing to go around and talk to people and get email addresses. Keith P.: maybe we're looking at it too narrowly. People may want to find out about other happens. Should we think about charging? Brian: maybe think about asking for a donation instead. There's a small group that is interested in it - print that number of copies. Jon: can we send it electronically? Antoinette: Yes we always have. What about advertising, specifically Donald's inquiry? Having ads could be construed as endorsements.

► Action: Peggy will check about verbiage saying something about endorsing advertisers for churches.

Jon: since we're uncertain about how much it will bring in maybe it won't be worth it. Brian: deal with the advertisers and make sure they know they have to pay to have it distributed.

► Action: Antoinette will send a message back to Donald and feel him out. See what he thinks our distribution is first.

b. Neighborhood Grant Application status Former Water Treatment Site

Brian and Hugh had a meeting with Park & Rec.:1 Patti, Joe Martin, Matt Rebine and someone from CEDC about putting benches, etc. at the water treatment plant site. A Resolution is being written by Patti and Joe about having the city acquire the land so they can go before Council to approve the money for the improvements. They didn't want to do anything that may draw complaints. Brian will revisit a year from now with the same application.

Pioneer Park: Parks department doesn't have enough money to complete the plan this year. They will do the sidewalks beginning in the spring. Brian rewrote the Neighborhood Grant for benches and waste receptacles for Pioneer Park. This goes in front of Council pretty soon, maybe next Council meeting. Brian put a deadline of this summer. This does include the memorial bench in the plan.

▶ Action: Brian will send out the latest plan to the Board.

We will need neighborhood support for the resolution about the water treatment plant.

▶ Action: Antoinette will hold a place in the newsletter on how the neighborhood can support the plan.

3. Old Business – (30 min)

- a. Spring dinner meeting – finalize date, location, get it on calendar, volunteers to coordinate dinner, purchase food, theme, who to invite, add to newsletter and website.

▶ Action: Keith P. will ask Sue B. about either the 12th or 19th or April.

Send a mass email to Council, mayor, Tom Nelson, Katrin. Antoinette: please contact Brian if you are interested in being on the Board in the newsletter. Bring photos of the neighborhood or of your house to be scanned and put in the website.

- b. 2015 Budget

Brian went through line items for budget and it was discussed. Brian: should we put a budgetary item for a box in Pioneer Park to hold walking tour brochure? And will the city install it? Maybe the city would make something that looks like the park signs.

▶ Action: Brian will work with Dean or Bill to see if they'll support it.

- c. applying to tax exempt status -we would be eligible for 501(c)4 status as a social welfare organization

Brian doesn't see the reason to apply for this now. Hugh: (c)4 has a lot of limitations, can't apply for non-profit funding, etc.

4. City Report – Patti – (5-15 min) - Exhibition Center - skipped
5. New Business – (20 min)

- a. County Meeting Future Expansion Plans

County people found Brian through Karen Harkness. Someone contacted him who is working for the County (a consultant) trying to figure out space needs. They grilled Brian about neighborhood views - the problems are the county and the city. They are suggesting putting a building in the middle of the Elm St. parking lot with a skywalk to the administration building. They are proposing expanding the Elm. St. parking lot by putting a second layer on top. The neighborhood wants underground parking. And if a building is put up make it aesthetically like the administration building. Keith P.: isn't Wells Fargo closing? Jon said no. Brian said they're also proposing to take down the building behind the Administration building as a long-term goal. All building expansion would be office people.

- b. Goals for 2015 – What would we like to accomplish this year - skipped

► Action: Wednesday, March 18, Outagamie County Historical Society dinner - Brian will sit at the table with newsletters and brochures.

► Action: Antoinette will see if the newsletter can get together by then. Ask Matt Carpenter about a banner or sign.

6. Treasurer's Report – (2 min) Hugh gave treasurer's report
7. New Items for Website Calendar – (2 min) Will update spring dinner when the date is set. Also resolution about water treatment plant.
8. Next Meeting – (2 min) - March 29 7 p.m. Brian's house

Adjourned 8:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Antoinette Powell