

# Neighborhood News

The Quarterly Newsletter of The Old Third Ward Neighborhood Association, Inc.  
Summer 1995

## THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!

Not only has it been a long hot summer for members of the Old Third Ward; politically, temperatures began to soar when news spread of a proposed county purchase of the David and Patty Fox home at 416 South Walnut Street. A resolution to purchase, which was narrowly approved by the Outagamie County Airport/Property Committee, set into motion a string of events that would hopefully help to arrest the resolution at the county board level.

Proponents within the county argued that the purchase would help to "square off" the existing parking lots south of Sixth Street, and that the county should take advantage of an opportunity to purchase property from a willing seller.

### Plan to Attend

The next meeting of the OTW Board of Directors is Tuesday, September 19 at 6pm. We will be meeting in the County Board Room of the Outagamie County Administration Building. All OTW members are invited to attend to hear an update of current events.

Neighborhood proponents, however, saw the purchase as a stab in the dark with no expansion plan to support the decision. Removal of the house would be detrimental to homes on Fifth Street and assumptions that additional neighbors would sell their homes to square off the lots were unfounded.

As time drew closer for the resolution to be considered by the County Board, Old Third Ward Inc. began to rally support from its membership to attend the July 11th meeting. Members were not only eager to attend the meeting, they felt more should be done to demonstrate their concern and unity. The result: a peaceful protest at the County Administration Building was organized to coincide with that evening's county board meeting.

Although the vote was then delayed until July 25th, media exposure of the protest put the Old Third Ward back in front of the public eye. The delay also allowed time for additional letter and calling campaigns to County Supervisors.

At the July 25th County Board meeting, OTW residents, lead by Jerry Chadwick, spoke calmly and concisely during the meeting's public participation. Mrs. Fox spoke towards the need of having a decision made rather than

county purchase of her house, and surprisingly, County Executive Ron Van De Hey made no comments about the resolution during his address.

Supervisor debate proceeded decisively and eloquently, and it soon became apparent that the two thirds majority needed to pass the resolution, would not be there. In fact, Supervisors voted overwhelmingly, 27 - 11, not buy the house.

While we understand there were varying reasons for opposing Resolution 56, OTW has still sent letters of thanks to those 27 who voted no. Thank you again. Many thanks are also due to Linda Muldoon, the Hulbert family and John and Sandra Barkett. We'd also like to thank Jerry and Margo Chadwick, Joe Martin, Jerry and Paula Sosala, Ann and Chris Sager, Lynn Zetzman, JC Taylor, and all those who called or wrote letters to county supervisors. Your help was extremely important. Thank you all.

## AD-HOC COMMITTEE MEETINGS BEGIN

Two organizational meetings of the County Parking and Expansion Ad-Hoc Committee have been held to begin the process of

searching and recommending ways the county can fulfill its parking needs and utilize space for future office and juvenile facilities.

Members of the committee have been selected from the City of Appleton, Outagamie County and the Old Third Ward Neighborhood Association, Inc.

Members from the Old Third Ward are: Frank Council, Linda Muldoon and Gordon Schmeidel.

The committee is meeting on alternating Thursday afternoons at 4pm, beginning with the next meeting on September 14th. You are invited to attend and observe.

## OTW RECEIVES GRANT FROM FOX CITIES CVB

Word was received in June that the Old Third Ward, Inc. has qualified to receive a \$2,000.00 grant from the Fox Cities Convention and Visitor's Bureau. The moneys are to be used for a walking tour guide of the Old Third Ward Historic District - including brief historical sketches of notable houses, and interesting families or events that occurred in the Old Third Ward.

On a recent walk of the neighborhood, OTW Historical Committee members noted that over 60 houses may be of interest. Narrowing that number down to a size compatible with a convenient booklet form will be a challenge. Nonetheless, if you have any anecdotes, remembrances or family history you would like to share for consideration in the

walking tour guide, please call Ann Sager at

## IMAGE STUDIOS DONATES SERVICES

The OTW Board is looking forward to working with photographer John Luke from Image Studios. John and his wife, Kim, currently live on West Prospect Avenue and became aware of the Old Third Ward's neighborhood preservation efforts during the controversy which surrounded the proposed widening of Prospect Avenue.

One idea the board is currently considering is the issue of a series of note cards depicting historical homes of the OTW. Another idea might be a poster or calendar. Mr. Luke will also be assisting with photography for the OTW's walking tour guide. We are very pleased and excited to have received this offer of support.

## SITING FOR JUVENILE HOME STILL UP IN THE AIR

Parking has not been the only concern recently facing the Old Third Ward Neighborhood Association. Recent proposals to replace Outagamie County's non-secure Juvenile detention facility have raised serious questions whether the new building will blend harmoniously within the residential setting or stick out like a sore thumb. (Example: the new maintenance building on Elm Street.)

## Thank You to Our New Members

(Since 4-1-95)

Jeffrey and Sharon Morgan  
Andrew and Heide Nugent

## Old Third Ward Board of Directors\*

Frank Council (Pres)  
Linda Muldoon (VP)  
Jackie Dungan (Treas)  
Meg Casey (Sec)  
Sally Johnson  
Bruce Ladewig  
Ann Sager  
Bill Anderson  
Dan Hulbert

### Steering Committee Advisors

Joyce Anderson  
Margo Chadwick  
Mary Beth Laux  
Carol LeRoy  
Sue Martinson

\*Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of the month. OTW members welcome anytime. Call one of the above for meeting times and place.

*"Neighborhood News" was compiled and written by Frank Council*

Architectural plans for the new building will not be available until October 31st, but criteria for the plans call for a 16 bed facility with separate wings for boys and girls, common recreational space, outdoor recreational space and offices for on site staff. Human Services also would like the home convenient to law enforcement, the courts and social services staff which commute from the annex of

the county Administration Building. The facility should provide a homelike environment, and for this reason a location in proximity to a residential neighborhood is being sought.

At the present time, two sites are being investigated by the county's Health and Human Services Committee. Use of the existing site on the northwest corner of Walnut and Fifth Streets would mean replacement of the existing home with a much larger structure. Additional space would be taken from the adjacent parking lot.

Questions about building size, height, style, and continued disruption to neighbors, when trouble arises, need to be addressed.

Concerns about additional county development on the block have also been raised, not to mention the loss of a potentially beautiful older home.

The second site currently under consideration is located behind the Justice Center on Seventh Court. The building could be made smaller by sharing some facilities in the Justice Center, but building construction may be more costly due to unstable ground in the area. Other drawbacks are the need to acquire another home in the area, and potential disruptions to surrounding neighbors. Using this site is also no guarantee that the historical home on Walnut Street will be spared, and not torn down for parking.

A third site, supported by OTW and outlined in Appleton's Downtown Comprehensive Plan, is situated on the northwest corner of Lawrence and Walnut Streets. While the site is not within a residential neighborhood, it is adjacent to churches and a school. The site easily fulfills many of the other criteria called for.

We sincerely hope that in working with the county's Ad-Hoc Committee on Expansion, and Health and Human Services, that a suitable site and favorable architecture can be agreed upon. This is a sensitive issue for all of us.



*Old Third Ward, Inc.*

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