

Cambridge Woods Neighborhood Association

General Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, May 15, 2007
Urban Ecology Center
7:00-8:30 p.m.

Minutes Prepared by: Nick Blavat

I. Announcements

- Chapter 17 Update – Already 3 support letters from the state legislators.
- Mayor Barrett sent Sustainable Director, Ann Beier, as a representative from the mayor's office to attend today's general meeting.

II. Team Reports

Communications

- No Update.

Fun and Games

- Pieter Godfrey is on board to work on access at Hampshire and Cambridge.
- Urban Ecology Center got a grant to expand trail to Locust St. and Oak Leaf Trail.
- "Love in the Neighborhood" email was circulated by Vice President Hilary Chavez to explore different ideas to reach out to the neighborhood. She got a positive response and ideas on a table format.
- "Animal Fest" flyer was passed out to everyone who is interested. It is sponsored by CW children and proceeds go to the Human Society.

Membership

- Rusty had no membership updates.

Safety Committee

- Else created a flyer for summer safety tips.

Neighborhood Quality

- Plan to look at housing maintenance survey for the 4th year in a row.
- Native plant rescue dig is from 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM Saturday May 19th.
- Creating list of absentee landlords and giving the landlords report cards. They will highlight good landlords.

Treasurer

- No Update.

III. A Vision for the Milwaukee River Corridor – Milwaukee’s Central Park

- Presented by Ann Brummitt from Milwaukee River Workgroup.
- Summer 2007 UEC and Milwaukee County got Coastal Management Grant.
- A vision paper got passed around designed to give idea of starting the funding process.
- Discussed how the river “breathes”.
- Right now is the time to take action to preserving the river corridor.
- Olmstead’s Central Park is being used as a template.
- Milwaukee River Corridor consists of 800 acres.
- 1997 Milwaukee River had a studying done.
- The river is making a comeback in fish and wildlife. Currently 32 species of fish. Beaver have been sighted.
- Water quality has improved.
- Milwaukee Urban Trail and East Bank Trail on located in the corridor.
- River Workgroup is interested in protecting the view-shed, which is clear and unheeded view of nature from the river.
- That would mean no new development intruding physically or visually into view-shed.
- No clear cutting would be allowed to prevent erosion or water runoff.
- River Workgroup would like to improve public access and trails.
- 70 percent of greenway is publicly owned.
- Parties involved in protecting the corridor are Urban Ecology Center, Riverwork Committee Revitalization Foundation, and Friends of Milwaukee Rivers.
- Concern about contamination in the river, for example PCBs from Blue Hole Property, which is an abandoned landfill that housing MATC / UWM parking. Trees were cut to prevent stirring buried garbage. Estrabrook Dam has a lot of run off garbage, example of not good community stewards. There have been problems of discharging raw sewage, FMR is monitoring that issue.
- CWNA wondered why we would develop both sides of the river. Thought one side could be natural (Westside) and another pedestrian (eastside).
- Currently human river usage is hikers, fishermen, and mountain bikers. Outreach meetings are planned to have people voice there opinions.
- Options are to have dedicated trail or let people run loose and let erosion develop. There is no process for this concern, but River Workgroup is trying to create a template for this issue. Currently, biking is prohibited but not enforced. Mountain biking has a high impact on the environment.
- River Workgroup would like to get all groups involved to develop solutions.
- Current Map / Diagram of River Corridor are just schematic for initial study. Nothing is concrete.

IV. Adjourn - Adjourned at 8:30 p.m.