



Neighborhood Notes
Cambridge Woods Neighborhood Association
March / April 2006

Spring Forward!

Winter is behind us and daylight savings has come. So it is time to dust off the outdoor furniture, revive the gardens, and just enjoy spending more time outside. I hope that the March General Meeting helped people get ready for a safer time outdoors with the presentation on Bike and Pedestrian Safety on the Eastside.

I am pleased to say that efforts started some time ago to improve safety and access to the Oak Leaf Trail from the neighborhood may actually see some implementation. The focus of improvements could take place at Hampshire and Cambridge and may be in the form of a switch back ramp and/or stairs. The County is benefiting from the use of a AmeriCorp Trail Crew that will be doing some work on a soft trail connecting Cesar's Park and Urban Ecology Center along the east side of the river. If time and resources permit, attention will be given to the connections from our neighborhood. If this gets pulled together, I may be requesting additional volunteers to assist. I am sure keeping my fingers crossed on this one.

The neighborhood will also be getting another traffic-calming device with another traffic circle at Bartlett and Linnwood intersection. The circle is in; it just needs soil, signage, and plantings. CWNA does provide additional funding/supplies for supplemental plantings at these circles and we rely on residents around these circles act as keepers to see that they are well maintained, report any damage/graffiti, and watered as needed. So in other words, we are in need for a new *circle-keeper* for this circle.

In my last message, I indicated a small workgroup would gather to discuss UWM's relationship with the neighborhood and their desire to acquire the Columbia Hospital site in 2010. Unfortunately, the workgroup consisting of representatives from the four neighborhood associations, university, and state legislative aides did not meet for the first time until just this month. At the meeting, there was little discussion on solutions to problems raised by residents and UWM reiterated their desire to continue enrollment increases for the next four years and desire to add more dorms to the campus in addition to the two dorms they will be adding along North Avenue. The workgroup will meet again in May, in addition to the University Neighborhood Association which meets with additional stakeholders to address action items identified in the Partnership for Change Study completed in 2003. I recently provided both written and verbal support for the advancement of the Milwaukee Connector Study before a City Committee. Improved and enhanced transit has been an area where the university, students, and neighborhood groups have found some common ground.

Finally, the next General Meeting on Tuesday, May 16 will feature a very special speaker- YOU! The CWNA Board would like to hear what is of importance to you and be available to answer, or get answers for you. So let's see what spring brings us and how we move forward.

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