

MINUTES
University Hill Farms Neighborhood Association
Feb 3, 2018 at 9:00 a.m.

Covenant Presbyterian Church, Rm C206 on Main Level

Officers attending: Peter Hughes, Ron Harris, David Lewandowski, , Kathy Thompson, Joe Keyes, Brendon Dybdahl, Marilyn Howell, Julia Stein-Barnes, Nick Schweitzer, Mike Lawton, Jacki Lawton, Anita Sprenger

Guests attending: Cathy Auger, Bob Park, Ken Skog.

Excused: Mary Whitcomb, Henry Hempe, Joe Keyes, Brian Ohm

Peter Hughes called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m.

1. Alder Report (out of town – no report)
2. Approved the Minutes for Nov 11, 2017
3. President's Report by Peter Hughes
 - a. Report on community garden alternatives meeting on Jan 8th. Parks Division will select location shortly.
 - b. Candidates for local office. Candidates have asked for our endorsement. Instead, UHFA offered to help set up candidate forums so that our neighbors can meet and hear from all candidates.
 - c. Crossing guard reduction at Midvale/Mineral Pt. Crossing counts are down, according to City of Madison.
 - d. City of Madison Water Utility has posted information about salt studies for Well 14
 - e. New stores opening at Hilldale Mall: LL Bean and Crescendo expresso bar.
4. Schools by Julia Stein-Barnes. Van Hise school hasn't told us how or whether to use the \$250 annual contribution. Julia will reach out to all three neighborhood school PTOs. Julia also is recruiting volunteers to join the UHFA board.
5. Treasurer's Report by Dave Lewandowski. We've received most of our membership revenues for the year, but most of our activities are yet to come. We now accept membership contributions via PayPal. Donations go into PayPal, then Brendon transfers the money to our bank account. Marilyn receives an email for each PayPal donation, which she forwards to Dave. We've got about 47 PayPal members. Checking: \$16,738; Money market plus: \$2,502; 16 month CD: \$10,050. The board voted to accept the Treasurer's report.
6. Low power FM radio station presentation by Bob Park and Ken Skog. The station operates from Ken's garage on Orchard Drive. The station operates as WIDE-LP, 99.1 FM, with talk and music programming. The reception area is Madison's west side. Budget is approximately \$1,200 per year, primarily for subscription music services and electricity for the transmitter. All talk programs are archived on the station's website. Listeners who miss broadcasts can listen online. In the next newsletter, UHFA will run an item about the station. Between now and the May meeting, board members will

endeavor to listen to the station, to give us a better sense of the station and its programming.

7. Technology Update by Brendon Dybdahl
 - a. Report on Facebook group posting guidelines, with respect to a recent event notice. There was some controversy about comment posting and deleting. In consequence, residents established an alternative HF Facebook group dedicated to political discussion. The issue also led to social media dialogue regarding the terms of officers and directors.
 - b. Discussion regarding succession of technology director.
 - c. Should we publish meeting agenda and minutes on the UHFNA page? Other neighborhood associations follow this practice. The board decided that we will publish a draft agenda and approved minutes on the webpage. On our Facebook group we will post a link to those documents. Approved by voice vote.
8. Safety by Joe Keyes.
 - a. The board recognizes and appreciates the efforts of Marshall Flax and other volunteers who maintain the Rennebohm ice skating area through the Madison Parks' Adopt the Ice program.
 - b. This week there have been three residential burglaries. Hill Farms is not alone. Midvale Heights has experienced a spike in burglaries.
 - c. Auto thefts continue at record pace. MPD put out two notices this week because many cars were stolen. These were cars that were left unlocked and the engine running to warm the car.
 - i. Police do not want to chase these kids because it will turn into a dangerous high speed chase since the kids don't know how to drive.
 - ii. Instances where kids in the stolen cars are speeding at 80 mph past marked squad cars
 - iii. Instances where a kid is arrested, taken to Juvenile detention, released and steals another car the same day.
 - iv. It is a group of kids who do not fear the court system.
 - v. In early December, MPD caught one of the car thieves in our neighborhood. Luckily no one was hurt.
 - vi. MPD consider the stolen vehicles as 2,000 lb. bullets because the kids don't know how to drive and it is just a matter of time when an innocent person is injured.
 - d. We have a new Madison Police Liaison Officer. His name is Tyler Phillips. Tyler is on MPD's drone team.
9. Membership & Directory by Marilyn Howell. We now have 689 paid members, 11 of them Associate Members. 21 are new members. Marylyn is reaching out to each family new member.
10. ARC and Planning Committee updates by Mike Lawton.
 - a. ARC approved several routine proposals.
 - b. Update on Madison Yards Development. Expect neighborhood meeting in March for the first group of buildings. UHFNA committee members have met with developers and City staff to discuss issues of importance to neighborhood residents. Plan is to demolish old State Office Building in summer 2018, with construction to

start in fall. Traffic plans for intersection of Segoe Road and Sheboygan Avenue remain fluid.

11. The board elected Anita Sprenger to serve as Parks director for the remainder of the term of office, through October 2019. Upcoming issues might include Robin Parkway, which touches on our neighborhood--neighbors inquired about possible improvements at the Gregg street end of the park.
12. Newsletter by Kathy Thompson. Kathy sent billing notices for most recent newsletter. Remits go to treasurer. Article deadline is February 15.
13. Report on Santa visit by Jacki Lawton. Roughly 100 children received visits from five Santas. Interest in the program remains strong. We might want to add a sixth Santa.
14. Planning for Spring Social by Jacki Lawton.
 - a. Thursday, April 12, 7pm. Peter will arrange room with Covenant.
 - b. Presentation Topics: Leaf Removal Study on Kenosha Boulevard, related to phosphorus in ground water. Peter and Jacki will discuss speaker.
15. Neighborhood Oral Histories by Jacki Lawton. Jacki will contact the State Historical Society investigate collecting oral histories from original and long-time residents.
16. Earth Day at Rennebom Park by Nick Schweitzer. Earth Day is Sunday, April 22, 2018. Turn-out has been low in recent years, so we will discontinue the UHFA event this year.
17. Additional Items
 - a. Open Board Positions (Nominations/Facebook Post?)
 - i. Vice President
 - ii. July 4? Understudy year?
 - iii. Membership/Directory? Understudy?

Next meeting is May 12, 2018, at 9:00 a.m.

18. Meeting adjourned at 11:14 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by Ron Harris, Secretary.