Minutes

Board Members Attending: Denise Aldrich, Bridget Allan Ales, Abhi Andley, Lori Brostrom, Ellen Eichten, Andy Gesell, Liz Gibba, Hayden Howland, Gary Huffman, David Kratz, Sonja Mason, Pat McMorrow, Shannon O’Toole, Peter Rhodes, Andy Rorvig, Susan Schultz, Anthony Swichtenberg

Members of the Public Attending: Juliet Branca, Jacob Collins, Samantha Hodges, George Gause, Jason Koenig, Michael Stone, Brian Wenger

1. No additions to the Agenda.

2. The Board approved the Minutes for the March 8, 2018, meeting without addition or correction.

3. New Business:

   3.1 Jason Koenig, chair of the 2018 House Tour, updated the board on the houses and buildings on the tour and encouraged members to help obtain more house south of Summit for the tour. Tickets on sale include a new VIP ticket with special access, and brunch at Dixies. Jason’s graphic designer is doing work pro bono for the tour.

   3.2 George Gause, Historic Preservation Commission Director, spoke and answered questions about the proposed changes to Chapter 73 of the St. Paul Code, relating to historic preservation. He also distributed a handout (attached). Board members had had a chance to review the changes and asked questions. The proposed ordinance will come before the Planning Commission May 24, and the City Council most likely in mid-July.

   3.3 Sonja Mason, board member, attended the SPPS Facilities Master Planning Committee meeting and reported on what SPPS is planning.

   3.4 Juliet Branca, neighbor, distributed materials and spoke about Midwest Renewable Energy Association’s solar group purchasing program.

   3.5 Jacob Colling (a lawyer and renter), Samantha Hodges (a grad student looking at a career in banking and a renter), and Mike Stone (CPA and homeowner with Sophie Rupp) each spoke about why they wanted to serve on the board. Presently there is one open seat, but another is expected soon. The board elected Jacob, with Samantha and Mike as alternates.

   3.6 The board elected Shannon O’Toole interim Secretary as Amanda Karls has taken a leave of absence. The position will last until Amanda returns or the term expires in November.

4. Staff Report. Monica reported that St. Paul Police are willing to speak to neighbors, and the board suggested that a community meeting be organized as crime prevention is an item of concern in the neighborhood survey results. In addition, GABA will hold mandatory training on May 16 and May 17 for Grand Old Day volunteers selling wristbands. Exact time and place information is coming.
5. Committee Reports

Zoning and Land Use Committee. Lori reported on the on-line survey that SHA instituted to determine the opinions of neighbors affected by the city’s changes to permit parking. The board discussed the results at some length, and former SHA president and neighbor Brian Wenger talked about considerations at play 25 years ago when he was on the SHA group that brought permit parking to the area. After exhaustive discussion, the board voted to make no recommendation and to allow the survey results speak for themselves at the city. Also, Red Rabbit has a legislative hearing at which SHA will appear in Red Rabbit’s support.

Development Committee. Hayden reported that May 5 will be a busy day as the Plant Sale, Garage Sale and Progressive Supper will all occur that day (park clean-up will as well).

Environment Committee. Susan reported that April 21 is the park clean-up (changed to May 5 due to snow) and a Linwood School girl scout group will be participating. The Plat Sale will take place over 2 days, May 4 and 5. The Rain Garden maintenance/field day will be May 23. Val Stoker has met with the Committee regarding proceeding with restoration of the Sam Morgan Prairie, and she is doing further research and contacting Great River Greening. The Committee next meets Tuesday May 1 at 4:00.

Pedestrian Safety/Traffic Calming Committee. The committee’s main focus this year will be parabolic mirrors at selected alleys. The committee will also look at stop bars at alleys.

Communication and Outreach Committee. Change in the size of paper for The Summit will reduce postage 50%. The last issue of The Summit netted $1900 in ad sales.

Neighborhood Comprehensive Plan. The Committee is sorting through thousands of comments received on the comprehensive plan on line survey. The next meeting will be April 30 at 7:00, and focus groups will be discussed.

6. Treasurer Report. Chris Trost will be providing assistance on the financials.

7. GABA Report. Grand of Day is shaping up with some additional vendors invited including Cookie Cart. Connie DeLage and Lori Brostrom met with the Northstar bike event people, and they have opted to use a Payne Avenue venue. Punch, Bravo, and Caribou have experienced significant power outages, perhaps due to aging infrastructure.

Meeting adjourned at 8:55 pm.