



Neighborhood Association  
MONTHLY MEETING AGENDA  
Wednesday, March 10th, 2021 @ 7PM  
ZOOM

**Call to Order**

7:03

27 people present

Minutes approved from last meeting

**Chair's Report**

- Wisconsin Act 67 looks to be a barrier for overturning the Plan Commission decision on the Airbnb on Oakwood Place
- If the TWNA pursues an appeal, it would pit TWNA against the city.

**Treasurer's report**

- Total: \$3,584.86
- Garden: \$1,730.
- Balance: \$1,854

**Conditional Use Permits**

- Kevin had been under the impression that if the TWNA voted against the conditional use permit, that the Plan Commission would reject it.
- Given Josh's information, it seems the opposite is true: The people seeking the conditional use permit have a leg up on those trying to stop it.
- The burden of proof is on the people trying to deny the permit.
- Key element is "substantial evidence," not someone's feelings or thoughts.
- We need an expert or a realtor to evaluate the situation.
- We went in naively, and the applicant had an attorney.
- The only way we can stop this now is to sue the City of Eau Claire, which is why Doug Hofer will not help us now.
- Tim Kohl concerned with security and welfare and health of the neighborhood. Also concerned because Jim Seymour is on the Plan Commission.
- Tim Kohl reiterates sequence of events re: cargo van trucks.
- Tim Kohl filing FOIA request for city communication around this issue. Looking into penalties, taxes, paperwork.
- Kevin states that this Airbnb has nothing to do with the other ones in the neighborhood, or why they may have been approved. It's a different situation.
- R1 is a suggestion rather than an ordinance. Question of whether the city would beef up protections for R1.



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- Steven wants an attorney to look at the issue to help guide a response.
- Tom Siedow has talked to an attorney in this area. Dan Gustafson. Gustafson believes there are reasons to bring this to an appeals court. It may not be easy.
- Appeal deadline is March 17.
- We can always withdraw the appeal.
- Question of whether we can introduce additional evidence as part of the appeal.
- Dan's rates are \$250/hour.
- Claim that Ryan had given us false information at a recent meeting. He said the conditional use permit was forever and that it went with the building.
- City staff gave the people on the plan commission the idea that they had no choice but to vote for the CUP.
- Joe Seymour says he had been traumatized by the TWNA meeting. Kevin had coached him and believes he had been treated well.
- Anyone concerned about this issue can also make a personal donation.
- Kevin believes we should fundraise for this issue.
- Motion to use up to \$1,000. of TWNA funds in support of appealing the Plan Commission's CUP decision.
- Motion passes by 4-7 (?)
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**Third Ward City Council Representative Candidate Forum**

**Jeremy Gragert**

- Has served on council the past three years.
- Served on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Ward steering committee right out of college, from 2006-2008.
- Has been attending neighborhood association meetings in the East Hill and Putnam Heights.
- Convinced city manager to include in the budget a 200-dollar yearly stipend to support associations, to level the playing field.
- Has supported and navigated street projects and the library addition.
- Big goal: affordable housing and transportation. Half price bus fare for anyone with an income challenge. Reduces parking strain on neighborhoods and is sustainable. Looking into Sunday bus service in coming years.
- Supported and championed the city council public comment period and at every committee or commission. Anyone can come talk about any item even if it's not on the agenda.



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**Josh Stanley**

- Born and raised in Durand and Eau Claire
- Moved to Carolinas for 13 years, last 10 served as a firefighter
- Returned when his dad passed away a year and a half ago
- He has two kids, 2 years and 3 months old
- Important issues: fiscal responsibility and supporting small businesses.
- Would have voted against the CUP. Believes city should have talked to neighbors around the property.

**Announcements/Open Forum**

**Someone from ECPD will be in attendance. They will try to answer any questions.**

- Driveway CSA announcement. Rachel Keniston on behalf of Solheim Market
- Garden Pickup normally at Coffee Grounds – will also be offering pickup from driveway at 408 Lincoln.
- Anticipated days would be Wednesday afternoon or Friday morning.

**Adjournment**

**Next Meeting**

Wednesday, APR 14th, 2021 @ 7pm ZOOM