

Minutes
SW Neighborhood Steering Committee
Greentree-Meadowood-Orchard Ridge-Park Ridge-Prairie Hills Neighborhoods
Tuesday, February 27, 2007
West District Police Station, 1710 McKenna Boulevard
6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

SW Neighborhood Planning Website: <http://www.cityofmadison.com/swnp/>

SW Steering Committee Members: Kara Boeldt; Sandy Erickson; Durrell Ramer; Ernie Horinek; Christie Howell-Yrios; Tim Johnson; Douglas Kammann; Joel Kupferberg; Marge Liss; Larry Luther; Tom McKenna; Karen Sielaff; De’Kendrea Stamps; Rick Stirr; Lisa Subeck; and Bryan Summ.

Absent: Ann Barker and Susan Clay.

Others: Karen Deaton; Tony Fiore; Duane Hinz; Joan Horinek; Jeanne McClellan; Marlys Miller; Marge Pifer; Tony Smick; and Dale Tessmer.

City Staff: Archie Nicolette and Linda Horvath (Department of Planning & Community & Economic Development); Mary Charnitz (Community Development Block Grant Office); and Lorri Wendorf (Office of Community Services).

I. Announcements

II. Approval of February 13 Minutes

Approval will occur at the next meeting on March 13.

III. Updates/Status of Neighborhood Activities

- The Community Action Coalition is continuing the community garden grant application process with site visits by the selection committee in the next couple of weeks.
- Lorri Wendorf of the City Office of Community Services described the faith-based initiative for the SW plan. As a first step, letters will be sent to area faith-based organizations introducing the SW plan and its efforts to build relationships between neighborhoods and the faith community.
- Tim Johnson attended the Youth Activities Fair, which was also held on Saturday, February 17. He got the message out at the Fair about our Open House. He recognized one family that attended the Open House as a result of his invitation. Tim has recently developed a Youth Activities Newsletter, which he will send to the Steering Committee.
- There will be a youth activities day at Memorial High School on March 7. This is another event where information about the SW neighborhood plan could be shared.

IV. Review/Discussion of Neighborhood Issues

Meadowood on the Move!

Tim Johnson provided an overview of the status of the Meadowood on the Move! project. The group has finished an initial round of interviews and a report on the initial survey results was distributed at the meeting. Meadowood on the Move! developed the survey questions with community input. The group has now completed interviews with 39 renters and 19 homeowners. The purpose of the interviews is to develop an initial snapshot of the neighborhood; to begin to identify the assets and interests of the residents; to develop relationships between renters and homeowners; to develop a neighborhood vision; and to create a list of dynamics that people like about the neighborhood.

Community Services

Lorri Wendorf of the Office of Community Services described the many different community service programs available to the SW planning area. City staff handed out a draft community services inventory that includes descriptions of services and contact information for many different programs. Staff encouraged meeting participants to provide comments on the draft. Some available community services programs discussed by Lorri include:

United Way

- 1) The 211 phone number is a 24-hour hotline that offers resources for people needing help right away or just for informational purposes. The website is located at <http://national.unitedway.org/211/>.

Dane County

- 1) The Joining Forces for Families (JFF) program is a Dane County resource. Social workers assist people with housing, child neglect, domestic disputes and health issues. The JFF office is located at 5818 Russett Road.
- 2) CUNA Mutual has recently announced that it will offer a Kinder Ready program which will be administrated through the JFF office. This is a kindergarten readiness program will primarily serve children of Hispanic backgrounds.

Falk School

- 1) Falk School is now offering English as a Second Language classes once a week. The school Social Worker, Sarah Knueve is the contact for this program. *Some participants at tonight's meeting are wondering how they get information about what they need to the right people at the right time.*

SW Neighborhood Resource Team

- 1) The SW Neighborhood Resource Team (SW NRT) is a group of representatives from various City departments who meet regularly to share information with each other. Community residents could share their concerns with this team by emailing the team leader, Al VorHees, at avorhees@cityofmadison.com. The SWNRT website is located at <http://www.cityofmadison.com/nrt/Default.htm>.
- 2) Alderpersons may also be contacted with neighborhood concerns.

YWCA

- 1) The YWCA Second Chance Tenant Workshop is a 6-hour course on what it means to be a good tenant. It is free and its offered two times each month. The program takes referrals from landlords (landlords may require tenants to attend). Call 257-1436 for more information.

Madison Area Urban Ministry (MUM)

- 1) Madison Area Urban Ministry Journey Home Program has taken the lead in efforts to assist people with the transition from jail into society. Its possible that the Steering Committee could partner with this program. *The overcrowded apartment issue directly relates to helping people recently out of prison find places to live. This is also part of the homeless issue.*

Wisconsin Youth and Family Center

- 1) The Wisconsin Youth and Family Center
 - Is funded in part with CDBG funds – the CDBG funds cover base costs including space, heat, lighting for programs like Neighborhood Girl Power, and the Boy

Scouts and Girl Scouts. 2007 is the first year when a program will be funded with CDBG monies – this will be a school program.

- The Wisconsin Youth and Family Center received a grant from the Madison Community Foundation for winter activities at Elver Park. Unfortunately these activities will not start until next winter due some administrative problems.
- The Wisconsin Youth and Family Center has a wonderful collaborative community advisory board. Lisa Subeck has agreed to send the program for the Center to the Steering Committee along with the numbers of kids that are served by the Center.
- The SW Neighborhoods planning area needs quality programming for kids. Is there room for expansion of the Wisconsin Youth and Family Center programming? *It should be noted that staffing for programming at the Center and space are two of the primary limiting factors.*
- Volunteers are welcome at the Center.
- Are there programs for kids with disabilities? No but some do participate in the regular programs.

Grassroots Leadership College

- 1) The Grassroots Leadership College provides leadership training workshops to Madison and Dane County residents and neighborhood leaders.

Other

- 1) Need to find a way to get the message out more broadly to parents about available youth activities programming.
- 2) We need a commitment from the City to evaluate/develop a youth center in the SW Neighborhoods planning area.

V. Debriefing of Open House

- The Open House on February 17 at the Meadowood Shopping Center was well attended and participants provided a lot of useful input through the dot voting and the input forms. Staff distributed results at the meeting. In the coming weeks the SW planning team will continue to pursue a greater diversity of input by going to Toki School for a meeting with middle school kids, beginning the faith-based initiative through the Office of Community Services, attending Family Night at the Wisconsin Youth and Family Center, along with other efforts.

VI. Other Business

The neighborhood planning process has been extended to allow more in-depth discussion of issues and strategies. There is also more out reach that we would like to do to help ensure the broadest representation of input from the community.

VII. Next Meeting

The group decided to have two additional Steering Committee meetings (March 13 and March 27) to continue issues and strategy discussions. For the March 13 meeting, Steering Committee members will think about their vision statement for the neighborhood plan. They will each bring their thoughts to the meeting on March 13. The vision should include general statements about desired outcomes. The final meeting is scheduled for April 24. Meeting locations will be forthcoming.

VIII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.