

CONA MEETING NOVEMBER 20, 2013  
Minutes

Jon Lawrence & Jan Sorby, Bryan Park; Don Granbois, Blue Ridge; Elizabeth Cox-Ash & Paul Ash, McDoel; Carol Gulyas & Dave Gulyas, Near West Side; Bill Milroy, Old Northeast Downtown; Jack Dvorak, St. James Woods; Cynthia Bretheim & Patrick Murray, Prospect Hill; Tim Mueller & Jenny Southern & Eric Sandweiss, Elm Heights; Carrie Winkel, Crescent Bend; Elspeth Thibos, Arden Place; Georgia Schaich & Ann Kreilkamp, Green Acres; Gene Defelice, Waterman; Stefano Fiorini, Sycamore Knolls; Debra Morrow, Broadview, broadviewneighborhood@gmail.com.

CALL TO ORDER: 7:02. In absence of Sandy Clothier, Secy, Cynthia Bretheim took minutes.

### Introductions

**Approval of minutes** Cynthia Bretheim moved to approve. Jan Sorby seconded. Approved.

### Current Planning

- University Courts. Bill Milroy, Old NE, summarized a document their neighborhood is writing to the University. Meetings will be held as public input in a church. They're going to the Historic Commission meeting, since 3 public meetings have been held to designate the University Courts houses.
- A developer is trying to buy a strip mall at 11th & Walnut (currently owned by the Bomba family). Originally, Bomba tried to move a historic house on the property to another area in the neighborhood but was not allowed to move the house.
- Eric Sandweis, from Elm Heights & on the Bloomington Historic Preservation Commission & IU Preservation Committee. The IUPC has been briefed on University Courts. It was helpful that the committee and HT received letters in favor of saving Univ. Courts. **Please keep the letters coming.** He will bring members of the IUPC to see the houses, and discuss the issue. The hope is for a statement to IU President in favor of saving the houses. IUPC has not yet taken a stand, but they're working on it. IU is still holding to the old mission statement. Eric is studying the mechanics of planning, ownership, and university ownership. Will bring this to Faculty Council. The six lots have to be put up for bid. IU has been trying to get FIJI property on 3rd ST since 1946.
- Woodlawn corridor to 17th ST is at stake, and IU plans to raze them. **University Courts is a test that may set up difficult precedent.** Who owns that land, and if IU owns it FIJI can rent it, use it, build or whatever.
- Growth Policies Plan (GPP) Jan Sorby & Patrick Murray. Take survey on City's site: Imagine Bloomington. Nate, from Planning, is organizing the revision of zoning codes in January. Zoning codes will have a huge effect on neighborhoods. A note will come through googlegroups, encouraging neighbors to comment on zoning codes through a survey form on different topics, so it's easy and understandable. The survey takes ~ ten minutes. **WATCH FOR THE GOOGLE NOTICE and participate.**

### Reports

- Bylaws Committee. Postponed until next meeting.
- Education Committee. Georgia Schaich, CONA VP & Green Acres. On Thursday, Nov. 14 the HAND Department, ITS and CONA hosted a workshop called "Technology Tools for

Neighborhoods". Good turnout. This is one of our objectives--to educate and set up connections between neighborhoods.

- Treasurer's Report. Elizabeth Cox-Ash, Treasurer & McDoel. Don Granbois moved to accept. Carrie Winkle 2nded. Approved.
- Outreach/Membership. Don Granbois, Blue Ridge, is setting up an event to bring together neighborhood associations and City officials. Set for: Monday, Jan. 27, 7pm, Fountain Square Ballroom. The Mayor, City Council, Public Safety, HAND, and others. A revitalized and energized CONA's coming out. The new deputy mayor may be the liaison between CONA and the City, and may be introduced at the party. Background music may be arranged. Please invite neighbors and representatives from neighborhoods. There is room for ~200, and there may be RSVPs.

### **New Business**

- Google Groups Protocol. Jon Lawrence, Bryan Park, met with other committee members. They drafted that there would be three main topics: Announcement, Calls to Action, Questions of Interest. Not allowed: endorsement of candidates, solicitation of funds or sales, no abusive comments. Always: list a subject relevant to CONA, maximum of 40 words(?) The main group would be: CONA GOOGLE GROUPS to everyone. The second group would be: CONA GOOGLE GROUPS DISCUSSION for more far reaching conversations.
  - **Rules must be set to prevent chatty comments not for everyone.**
- CONA gift receipt for donations. Subcommittee studied several aspects and wordings for our receipt so that donations could be made to neighborhoods and a receipt could be given. Draft copy was passed out. We could use a lawyer's input. We need to set guidelines so that the form is processed properly.
- Websites for neighborhoods. CONA would like to help neighborhoods set up websites, but individuality is important. There are problems setting up templates. The further one individualizes the website, the more difficult it is when that person moves, and another neighbor has to pick up responsibility. There could be direct contributions to CONA, and that would be helpful and secure. We do not want the City to oversee our technology projects. IUIITS may have interns could set this up for the benefit of all, with enough options to satisfy creativity and varied interests.
- Success Stories. Postponed until next meeting.
- McDoel and Prospect Hill are dealing with changes to conservation district designations. Current City Legal found that the neighborhoods were not in keeping with State regulations, and the City ended up moving conservation district designations into historic district designations in hopes of making regulations more in keeping with the original intent of conservation district, which has more lenient guidelines for neighborhoods. Legal Counsel would like to address it in order to protect people.
- Materials Recovery Facility (MRF). Gene Defelice announced that Steve Volan is going to present a resolution at the next Solid Waste Management District meeting. **Watch for the announcement, and attend if you can.** The feasibility study from 2010 needs to be redone, including fees for permitting, engineering, and development of operational plans. Revenue bonds would cover the operation, building, and machinery.