

## Council of Neighborhood Associations (CONA)

### Monthly Membership Meeting

John R Hooker Room, City Hall, April 20, 2016

The meeting was brought to order at 6:01, and introductions were made. Attendees: Don Granbois, Windermere Woods, Dave Walter, Sixth & Ritter, Carrie Winkel, Crescent Bend, Carol Wisdom, Sunflower Gardens, Vickie Provine, HAND Department, Tim Mueller, Elm Heights, Paul Ash, MdDoel Gardens, Cynthia Bretheim, Prospect Hill, Jon Lawrence, Bryan Park, Sharon Yarber, Matlock Heights, John Kennedy, Spicewood, Judy Berkshire, Eastside, Terry Amsler, Sycamore Knolls, Bruce Calloway, Duke Energy, Sandi Clothier, Near West Side.

**Approval of Minutes:** David Walter noted that his name does not have an e on the end. Paul Ash made the motion to approve, John Kennedy, second; the minutes were approved unanimously.

**Treasurer's Report:** Jon went over the treasurer's report, explaining that CONA gets back the deposit of \$250 from the room rental. Don Granbois made the motion to approve, Dave Walter second; motion was passed unanimously.

**Duke Energy at the Banneker Center-** Bruce came to the meeting to talk about Duke Energy, he explained that Duke Energy did a small forum at the Buskirk Chumley, but they want to get out in to the neighborhood. They are interested in hearing what they do well, and don't do well, in communication with customers. Since the office is no longer open to the public, and there are simply phone numbers for reporting on outages and other issues, we keep hearing recurring themes. March 31 will be the first open meeting in Bloomington. Bruce talked about a few things Duke is doing, and answered several questions. Paul Ash asked about the proposed new substation to go in to Bloomington on the corner of 11<sup>th</sup> and Rogers St. on the west side. Bruce said this is a little triangle parcel, nothing currently built will look like this one; it will be 230 x 200 wide, up towards the tracks, there will be a bermed area, with vegetation, and will have a privacy fence of chain link and barbed wire, but with the berming you can't see the actual electrical grid. Questions were asked concerning lighting, security, and the choice of location and need for the substation.

**Vickie Provine-**Neighborhood Coordinator for the HAND Department gave CONA an update on things coming up soon for neighborhoods, including this year's Blooming Neighborhood event, which will be June 4<sup>th</sup>. This year's theme is Bloomington Neighborhoods are REDHOT! the hashtag is "**#b-town neighborhoods #redhot!**" This year, Liz Bernett of CJAM (Community, Justice and Mediation Center) and the Dean of Students from IU, will be at the Blooming Neighborhoods to share ideas with other neighborhoods. Vickie also talked with us about making sure we were on the City's schedule as a Non Profit group reserving the Hooker Room for our meetings.

**Demolition Delay Ordinance-** Jon explained that there are changes being proposed to the Demolition Delay ordinance; currently the Historic Preservation Commission has up to 120 days to review structures before either allowing partial or full demolition, or designating the building, the proposal being put forward is for the City's Historic Preservation Officer to do the review in 7 days for all matters related to contributing structures. There is a good chance that the 2015 SHAARD (the State Preservation Survey that the City received last year) will be used for the Demolition Delay ordinance. This is an ongoing discussion that the City Council is having, and they will amend, in some way, the current Demolition Delay Ordinance.

**Changes to Cell Tower regulation-** Jon Lawrence brought information on cell tower regulation to the group. He explained that a state law was passed that affected the Bloomington code; cell companies will now be seen simply as utility companies, which can put utilities in any utility easement or right of way, without the owner's permission. There is currently a proposal to put a number of cell towers, up to 40' tall poles, in any easement or right of way they chose. So, tonight the City Council will be looking at passing legislation to have control over their placement. The new law basically states that cities cannot treat cell towers in ways other than the way they treat other utilities, with the exception of having to not be taller than the height limit for structures within neighborhoods. Jon asked if the members would be willing to issue a statement of support for the City's efforts to regulate the installation of cell phone towers. A discussion followed and it was agreed that CONA wanted to support the City's efforts. The Motion is as follows: ***At tonight's public meeting of CONA, which consisted of 12 Neighborhood representatives, the members voted to communicate support for Ordinance 1606, and the Councils efforts to regulate utilities in the public right of way. We perceive this to be a necessary protection for all of Bloomington.*** Paul Ash, made the motion to approve, Tim Mueller, the second, and the vote was unanimous.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:21pm.