

## Council of Neighborhood Associations (CONA)

### Monthly Membership Meeting

John R Hooker Room, City Hall, June 15, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 6:02pm, and introductions were made. Attendees: Elizabeth Cox-Ash, Paul Ash, McDoel Gardens, Don Granbois, Windermere Woods, Sandi Clothier, NWSNA, John Kennedy, Spicewood, Carol A Wise, Sunflower Gardens, Pam Gladish, BPD, Carrie Winkle, Crescent Bend, Cynthia Brethem, Prospect Hill, Judy Berkshire, Eastside, Sharon Yarber Matlock Heights, Lucy Schaich, Maple Heights.

The minutes were reviewed and approved unanimously; Paul Ash made the motion to approve, ??????? seconded.

The treasurer's report was presented by Elizabeth Cox-Ash, she noted a correction to the report, the date being the 15<sup>th</sup>, not the 20<sup>th</sup>. The report was adopted unanimously; Don Granbois made the motion to approve, Cynthia Brethem seconded.

Sergeant Pam Gladish, of the Bloomington Police Department, came to the meeting to talk with us about using the NextDoor to communicate neighborhood concerns to the police department. Nextdoor is a social networking site for neighborhoods, and the BPD would like all neighbors to use this site to communicate with the police, and to allow the BPD to communicate directly to residents. Sergeant Gladish said that if residents want to be able to have their concerns heard by the Police, this is the way to do it. Several CONA members expressed concern that they had very few neighbors willing to sign up for this site, and were concerned that this might mean that their issues wouldn't be recognized. Sergeant Gladish confirmed that this is a problem, and would like CONA to help get the word out so more people would sign up. According to the flyer "Nextdoor Polls allows Nextdoor agencies to quickly ask their residents questions and quantify the results. From straw polls to voting on community issues, gathering input from residents has never been easier."

#### **Legislative Issues- Demolition Delay**

Elizabeth explained that the HAND Department is going to be putting a workshop together to explain the Demolition Delay process. CONA had discussed putting this type of event together, but the City will now be doing this themselves. There was an informal agreement between CONA and the previous administration that CONA would produce an MOU, and

could receive up to \$2000 from the City, but our MOU was not brought in to the City before the administration changed, so there was no formal agreement that was made. It had been discussed that CONA might use the money to host an educational series, and that Demolition Delay might be part of that, because there was widespread misunderstanding and many concerns surrounding it. (CONA did, in fact, make a commitment to have an Education Series, and named the series after Georgia Schaich, for her commitment to the vital necessity of CONA, and to Bill Sturbaum, who has been a critical champion on Neighborhoods, and was part of the early days of Neighborhood Associations, dating back to the 1970's in Bloomington.)

**Education Committee**--Judy expressed interest in having the Education Series consider the topic of the City's Water Supply, to understand condition of the city water more fully. There have been concerns about the levels of lead and other contaminants in the local water supply, and it would be good to have a more complete understanding of the problem.

Sandi mentioned that the Unified Development Ordinance (UDO) as another topic for the Educational Series. The UDO, which is an update of all zoning ordinances in the city, will be coming to the Council for approval this year, and it is really important that CONA is part of that discussion and getting the word out about what we want and do not want to see.

### **Duke Substation Issue**

Lucy Schaich, of the Maple Heights neighborhood, came to the meeting to give us a follow up to the first meeting of City Council to hear the request by Duke for the Substation at 11<sup>th</sup> and Rogers. She gave an overview of what happened at the first Council meeting, and that the Council has "continued" the discussion to allow more time to talk with Duke and to see if there are ways for the City and Duke to come to a solution better than the one that Duke is offering. The next hearing will take place on Wednesday, July 13<sup>th</sup>, and the Council may be voting at that time, so Lucy encouraged all to continue to follow and to come to the meeting.

There was nothing to report from the Growth Policy Plan meetings, since none have been held, or on the Certified Tech Park, or on Bloomington Hospital.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30