

GTNA Meeting Minutes
September 12, 2022
6:30 – 7:40 p.m. meeting via Zoom

Attending: Helen Sheahan, Kathy Batha, Jay Russell, Dana Russell, Mayo Ewanowski, Dave Ewanowski, Ruth Paulson, Danielle Gale, Barbara Torres, Jeff Glazer

Meeting started at 6:30pm.

The **June Minutes** were approved.

Mr. Glazer, reintroduced himself as our County Supervisor. The County Board is working on 2 big items: the Jail project and the Zoo investigation.

The Dane County Jail project has been debated for 10 years. In March, the project scope was approved but now the issue is the rising cost due to inflation. Proposed as a \$160M project in March, it is estimated to go up by \$10M by August but that is not a firm figure. It is possible that they will use Dane County reserve money to handle the difference. The plan is for bids go out in the Fall and construction to start in Spring 2023. The Madison Public Market has a similar issue with rising costs due to inflation. Mr. Glazer is working on the Public Market, if we need more information, we can contact him.

The Zoo investigation. Supervisors are concerned about management and leadership at the Zoo. Some zookeepers have left. Mr. Glazer believes it can be handled from a process management standpoint – make sure employees are being heard. There were similar complaints in the Medical Examiner’s Office. Process management changes can also affect other county departments. Ms. Paulson asked if this like Badger Prairie Nursing Home she read about. Mr. Glazer was not sure as the Badger Prairie Nursing Home is not a county run operation.

Membership Update. According to Ms. Ewanowski, the GTNA now has 213 households which is up from 160 from about four months ago including 14 new members who signed up at the 4th of July event. This is due to turnover neighborhood where new families want to join and also as Ms. Sheahan walks through neighborhood and when she sees newly sold houses, she lets Ms. Batha know. Ms. Batha sends new neighbor packets to these families. Excellent work by Ms. Sheahan and Ms. Batha!

Welcome new Board members. The GTNA Board welcomes new Board Members Ms. Danielle Gale and Ms. Barbara Torres. Ms. Gale has been on the board before and we welcome her back.

New Membership Term Proposed Ms. Ewanowski proposed changing the GTNA membership term to start July 4 citing confusion by renewing members as to when the term starts and a few members double paying their membership fees due to confusion. The By-Laws state that the membership term runs for two years from Sept. 1 to Aug. 31 in odd number years. After a discussion, it was determined that we should keep the Sept. 1 starting date and notify people in the June issue of the Stump (during odd years) that the membership starts September 1. Next year (2023) we will be clear about the start date of the membership. In Spring 2023, we

should address polling the membership and also discuss whether or not to continue half price membership (first year free) for new residents.

Area Representatives. We will discuss this in the October meeting and determine who will be in what Greentree territory. Ms. Ewanowski will put together information and distribute it prior to the meeting so we can limit the discussion time in next month's meeting.

Holiday Lighting. The Board confirmed the changes to the Holiday Lighting contest.

- Judges review the decorations December 5-7
- Judges meet via Zoom on December 8 to nominate six houses to be voted on
- Members will vote via Facebook and email for their favorite nominees from December 9-15
- The three winners will be announced on Friday, December 16 and receive their prizes including a free GTNA membership for the 2023-2025 term.

To publicize the event, Ms. Batha will make signs and post them in the neighborhood as she does for the 4th of July event. Ms. Sheahan has signs used for the neighborhood garage sale. These signs can be used for the Holiday Lighting signs by covering the garage sale information. Ms. Ewanowski will send an email blast out at the end of November. An announcement will be made on Facebook at the end of November as well.

Treasurer Report

Income statement for July and Aug were sent. There was a net loss of \$537 in July due to the 4th of July event. This was anticipated. The net income for Aug. was \$37.14. Current balance in the bank account is \$3287.67. In a future meeting, we will discuss how to handle budgets in the future including Stump expenses.

Ash Trees. Ms. Sheahan provided an update on the treatment of the Ash trees: Six ash trees were treated by Capital City Tree Experts (now SavATree) for \$1251.00, three in Norman Clayton Park and three in Sunridge Park on August 4, 2023. The treatment was paid for by donations to the Madison Parks Foundation from Greentree neighbors. A generous Greentree family paid for the treatment of one ash tree in Greentree-Chapel Hills Park.

The amount of money remaining in the funds at Madison Parks Foundation as of 8/15/2022 are:

- Norman Clayton Park Fund \$338.74
- Sunridge Park Fund \$81.74

Halloween Bonfire. Mr. Russell will coordinate the Halloween Bonfire again this year. It will take place on Monday Oct. 31. An email blast will publicize the event.

GTNA Member Concern. A Greentree neighbor expressed concern that a private individual is buying houses in the neighborhood and then renting them out. The neighbor prefers owner occupied houses in the neighborhood. Based on feedback from local officials, there are no city rules regarding buying properties to rent and the GTNA Board is not in a position to address this concern. There are city rules about how many unrelated people can live in a single-family dwelling and duplexes, both owner occupied and rentals, rental upkeep, and response to renters' complaints.

For those who are interested, you can find the city's ordinances related to housing and rentals here: <https://www.cityofmadison.com/dpced/bi/tenant-landlord-rights-and-responsibilities/101/> and here: <https://www.cityofmadison.com/dpced/bi/tenant-and-owner-resources/45/>. You can find Zoning issues related to rental of single-family units here: <https://www.cityofmadison.com/dpced/bi/occupancy-standards/60/>

Other Topics:

There is vegetation that is blocking the view when turning left on Schroeder off of Laurie drive. Ms. Sheahan will address this.

The meeting ended at 7:40pm

The next GTNA Board meeting is scheduled for Monday Oct 3, 2022, starting at 6:30 p.m. The meeting will be held via Zoom.