

Draft
Minutes
RCCA Board minutes
May 8, 2014

Present are board members Erin Anderson, John Howrani, Ruth Stump, Jim DeWitt, Joanne Russell and Liz Schweitzer. Absent are: Maria Zdybel Chisolm, Linda Dunn, Liz Harrow, Karen Hoene, Heather Rivera and Marci Schwartz. Also present are Officer Adrian Ojerio, and Ami Van Antwerp, our EL Neighborhood Partnership liaison.

Jim welcomes new board members sharing that we are the oldest neighborhood association in the city. We introduce ourselves. This is Jim's last meeting as he will be stepping down from the board as will Bill Hartwig and Deb Robinson. Joanne and Liz will continue but not as officers.

The agenda for this meeting are approved as are the minutes of the March meeting which is posted online.

Treasurer's report - Although Deb is not with us tonight, she has communicated that \$250 came in as dues at the annual meeting last month. She is working on getting some of the mini-grant money from the city to help defray expenses from the annual meeting.

Neighborhood Watch report - Adrian notes that there has been a lot of truck traffic on Trowbridge related to the FRIB construction at MSU. In 2002, Trowbridge was classified as an all-seasons road but this classification will be discussed again by the city. John Howrani shares that at 2:30 am last Sunday there was an attempted break-in at his back door.

Old Business -

Jim shares updates on the current proposal for Trowbridge Plaza. Liquor licenses for Hobies (class C) and for the new market were approved at the last City Council meeting. The current proposal's most problematic aspect is the 5 story height of the housing building which is proposed for the frontage along Trowbridge up to the sidewalk. It would require a city Special Use Permit since only two stories is allowed in this zone. There is no other 5 story residence in the city except for the downtown. Residents would be designated to park behind the defunct Chinese restaurant and likely would not. Our board, on behalf of the neighborhood, has drafted a letter to Council opposing this SUP. We are NOT objecting to further commercial or retail uses but oppose the height of this building and the fact it is housing. The building would be 2 stories taller than the highest electrical wires on Trowbridge. Joanne will send a copy of the letter out to the board.

Council of Neighborhood Presidents (CONP) meets monthly at Hannah. Jim did not attend the last meeting which examined the proposed CATA light rail system from the

Capitol to Meridian Mall using two designated traffic lanes along Michigan and Grand River.

MSU Construction Junction - Jim also attends this meeting on campus and offers to continue to do so. The meeting is monthly and although it is restricted to updates on MSU projects, often those projects affect our area. Thank you, Jim!

New Business

Board meeting dates/location - Arbor Forest clubhouse will still be available for our meetings. It is decided that, given so few board members present, that a special meeting will be called for yet this month to set meeting dates, elect officers, and other tasks as needed. Erin offers to arrange the meeting for this.

Meeting is adjourned.