

TLNA Council Meeting  
February 8, 2018

Festival Foods Conference Center, 7:00 pm

Present: Patty Prime, Tyler Lark, Martha Classen, Jonny Hunter, Marta Staple, Jessi Mulhall, Cameron Field, Keith Wessel, Bob Hemauer, Senay Goitom, Meghan Conlin, Karla Handel, Andy Adams

Absent: Bob Klebba, Elena Satut-Duncan

TLNA Liaisons and Guests: Alder Ledell Zellers, Jessica Becker, MaryBeth Collins, Richard Linster, Ken Snoddy, Marsha Cannon, Emil Sanchez, Eva Janssen, Vern Stanman, Jack Chandler, Shari Galitzer David Wallner, Dirk Entenmann

Call to order 7:08 pm

\*\*\* moves to approve \*\*\*'s minutes, \*\*\* seconded. Minutes approved unanimously. See <http://www.tenneylapham.org/web-data/news/minute/082017.pdf> for minutes.

Agenda:

1. Approve January minutes  
Marta moves, Senay Seconds - Patty calls the question, ayes votes all around.
2. Introductions
3. Neighborhood officer report

Officer Ken Snoddy is taking over for Officer Lewis. Has printed off a report Robbery on 21st that involved a gun. A young man was going home after the bars and was confronted by a couple of men, he was robbed but not physically injured. Incident is still under investigation.

A prolific graffiti perpetrator was recently arrested.

Officer Ken does not have any information on the Bernies Rock Shop break in.

No news on a sexual assault that occurred on Mifflin Street.

The police are doing a "coffee with a cop" project. Tuesdays on Noon at JPH and at Madison Sourdough at 10am.

Jonny asks if Ken has any role in traffic enforcement and can help with getting a crossing guard for Lapham Elementary.

Test team that tries to address issues of failure to yield to pedestrians. Officer Ken suggests shooting an email to MPD to give a block and a time to do enforcement of failure to yield to pedestrian activities.

### 3. Remodeling at 1244 Sherman Ave. - seeking support

Emil Sanchez is here and is planning remodeling of his house on Sherman Ave. There are no conditional uses required but he is looking for support from the Council. He is requesting a letter of support from the council for his upcoming land use meeting.

At the intersection of Sherman and Baldwin on the north side of the street. They have a detached garage that is in need of work and an old sunroom that is attached to the house. They are looking to expand the sun room and attach the garage. Both would be teardowns and rebuilds, with then landscaping of the remaining area. Looking to build an attached three-car garage to the side of the house that would be visible from street.

Will break ground in May. Construction will be about 2 or three months.

Has approval from neighbors on both sides, will be providing notice to neighbors across the street.

Cameron motions to write a letter of support, Marta seconds.

Aye votes in favor. One abstention. Motion passes.

### 4. Maria's seeing support for later hours, 18+ events

Jack is here. He looked into 18+ rules and found them to be pretty difficult. Is just looking to expand hours. Is at 10pm M-Th and 12 F/S. He wants to be able to be open until 2 am now. He would need a change of condition on his entertainment and liquor license.

Tyler poses motion to write a letter of support to extent the hours of Marias until 2 am. Cameron seconds.

Senay asks what Marias can do to educate people to be safe when leaving early in the morning and walking home. His general concern is an increase in activity makes people easy targets.

Richard Linster comments that he likes the venue but is concerned Jack keeps coming back incrementally and asking for more. Jack says he has never opened a bar before so things are

going incrementally. He mentions the neighborhood is evolving, all businesses are progressing and expanding and changing incrementally.

Jonny asks if we can look into something that would end concerts at a certain time but allow people to leave until 2 am.

Tyler is open to amending the motion to a 2 am ending of liquor sales and a 1:00 am ending of entertainment.

Patty calls question, second, Meghan seconds.

All ayes, Cameron abstains.

#### 5. Finalize 2018 budget

10 minutes

Marta added a 500 dollar budget item for the 100 year party in Tenney Park. She is proposing that we agree to add that in. It would be in addition to the 2100 dollars that will be submitted to be covered by City grant money.

Senay suggests a 100 dollar donation to Salvation Army as an act of good faith. Patty notes there has been a proposal to increase our contribution to the schools from 100-200 dollars. Senay thinks we should start with 100 dollars as a sign of good faith.

Keith moves to approve budget as amended. Martha seconds.

Richard raises the point he is not opposed to give contributions in the neighborhood, but he questions contributing to organizations we think should be fully funded by government or other organizations. Richard doesn't think TLNA should be funding groups that should rely on larger funding sources.

Martha disagrees with Richard's position, and sees it as a humanitarian donation.

Bob H. notes that the Salvation Army (SA) has had some political and human rights positions in the past, specifically gay rights, that causes apprehension in him to give them a donation.

Karla notes that if we donate, it should be for a specific use or purpose, not a blanket donation to SA.

Meghan proposes to add a line item for "charitable giving" broadly, and the council can decide at a later date where to send money to.

Jonny notes we have significant funds and should focus on a larger community focused project to dedicate resources. Patty says that is one of her goals this year.

Marta states that perhaps a future meeting could have a committee that looks into this. Richard said that you need to establish criteria for any charitable donations, as you currently have none.

Motion to support budget as is with Marta's addition of 500 dollars by Jonny, Cameron seconds. Carries by aye vote, Senay opposed.

## **6. Proposed contract changes for Breese Stevens**

There has been a proposal made to amend the contract between Big Top and the City for the use of Breese Stevens field. Patty says we represent the neighborhood and thinks it is best for us to weigh in on these factors, to reflect the opinions of the neighborhood. So Patty thinks we can weigh in on each factor and provide a letter in support.

- Soccer

Big Top is working with a league call USL and is working with Minnesota United to handle player procurement. It would be two levels removed from major league soccer.

Meghan notes that she works with a lot of people that have young kids and live adjacent to the neighborhood. She notes people are more excited than she expected about the soccer team. People are really excited to have something to take their kids to and be outside.

Marsha notes this is what the donors wanted when they donated the land, to be used for sporting events.

- Support for East High Sports

Dirk Entenmann is here to support even more presence at Breese for East High School. Perhaps JV could also play there. He thinks it is important for the neighborhood, it is the only good facility for the kids at the high school.

Vern notes there are currently 26 high school soccer games at Breese this year. East has 32 uses of the field per year. Big Top has offered those 32 uses per year plus an additional 12 uses per year for free. East High School therefore has greater access to the facility than any other party, and those dates of use would be priority, they work with the athletic coordinator to organize and schedule events. The agreement for a total of 44 uses of an athletic nature, it is not tied to a specific sport.

Patty proposes that we write a letter that says we support seeing East High School athletics at Breese.

- Ending time for events

There was a proposal to end one event at 11 and one at 10:30. Patrick asks what a 10pm curfew means. Vern says music and alcohol sales stop at 10.

They are looking at it as an experiment to see if the neighborhood would tolerate it. It is not a deal breaker. Vern notes several festivals on the east side of town have later curfews.

Meghan thinks it would be neat for things to start later sometimes to get home and park before the crowd descends on Breese.

- Number of concerts: 14

Bob H. is speaking from perspective of someone who is on the Wil-Mar Board, who gets 43% of their budget from certain festivals on the east side throughout the summer. He thinks fourteen concerts a year is too much competition for those festivals and could have negative consequences. He notes that those organizations don't care about east side festivals that raise money for local organizations. He wants to see black out dates have ensure events aren't competing with non-profits that benefit from the community for their income. Karla is not in favor of increasing the number of concerts. She is not bothered by news from festivals that she knows are raising money for a non-profit organization. Jonny notes that this many new events is starting to get close to what was proposed at the Lyric, being a music venue, but traffic has not vote in this matter. Bob is concerned with city offering subsidy to an event that could compete with dollars going to non-profits.

Tyler raises that he thinks black-out dates would be a nice way to accommodate the festivals. Vern notes that for two years, the Irish music festival went on the same weekend as Orton Park and didn't make money.

Andy notes that he lives close to the park and enjoys the music festivals. He is a little concerned about the addition of soccer AND concerts. He is not too hung up on noise.

Cameron notes he approves of the gradual increase in concerts and envisions a Madison that can handle the capacity of multiple events on multiple nights, and the events and event organizers will ideally change and morph over time to adapt to demand and opportunity. The council should not be attempting to police the number of entertainment events in the city as a

whole, and restricting this one venue will not stop any other venue from competing with east side festivals. If festivals are losing money to competition from other for-profit ventures, the festivals should change to compete, rather than look for protection and preservation from neighborhood councils.

Jonny thinks it should be on the table that the number of concerts goes down.

Martha notes she would like to defer to the city for the length of the contract.

- Length of contract: 15 + option for 5 years

Richard asked Vern as to length of current contract which is 7 years. We are then only 2 years into it. While Vern has been very good at responding to concerns over that time, what is proposed by Big Top is approximately 3 times the length of the contract where only 2 years have elapsed. He felt this is too long.

Vern notes that the 15 year contract is needed for things like attracting a soccer team. Alder Zellers notes the city is very much behind a longer term commitment.

Meghan says she saw a perspective on the long contract that the long contract would only benefit Big Top.

Jonny notes the revenue brought in from Breese seems to be less than the city is investing. Jonny notes that he is flabbergasted at how low the rates are for rent. Patty notes that she wants to caution people from comparing the city to a business since it is looking after the public interest and it works differently than a private business.

Parks Commission President David Wallner says two points: the contract is currently 18 pages. Big Top has been exceptional at dealing with Parks Commission through its 17 years of working with the Mallards. David notes they work very well with the community.

Alder Zellers says that "preservation through purpose" is something to think of. She cares about the building, but it needs a purpose and use to preserve it.

David notes he remembers the million dollar investment for artificial turf, and he initially questioned it. But now he believes this building is a real success story, in part due to the work of Vern and his people.

Vern notes that the current and proposed contract are nearly identical and put immense pressure on Big Top to keep the neighborhood happy. They are obligated to keep neighbors happy. There are quick exit ramps to have capacity reduced or contract cancelled.

Marsha says Breese Stevens was built in the 1920's for baseball, which is very different that the new uses and she thinks we need to be concerned with the purpose of the structure.

Patrick asks Vern to describe if the contract requires him to come to the neighborhood council. Vern says the contract has specific language that he may be asked to come to the neighborhood association and should submit a neighborhood plan to the council.

- Allow liquor at public events

Vern notes they have met with MPD and they are in support of no more than 5% of the attendees having access to hard alcohol. They are not proposing to have the ability to do tastings or on-site ticketing for these tastings.

Bob H. again voices his opposition to anything that gives a private operator a competitive advantage over non-profit groups in the use of public spaces.

Vern says they need to make a commitment by the end of April to launch a soccer team.

Patty says she will conduct an electronic discussion of these for a week, and if that does not work, we will convene a quorum of the Council.

The topics not yet discussed are:

- Concert and non-concert decibel levels
- Allow concerts on school nights
- Allow demand pricing on tickets
- Traffic and Transportation

Motion to Adjourn by Jessi.