

TLNA Council Meeting
November 14, 2019 at 7:00, Festival Foods

Present: Jonny Hunter, Pat Kelly, Michael Donnelly, Keith Wessel, Bob Klebba, Marta Staple, Gwen Shales, Nick Crowley, Madeline Kasper, Ann Sullivan, Wes Garnett, Evelyn Atkinson, Patty Prime

Guests: Tim Olson, Alder Patrick Heck, Tim Stumm, David Staple, Ryan Schudlach, Greg Stroupe

Call to order: 7:03 pm

Agenda:

October minutes

Patty moved to approve. Marta seconded.

Passes via voice vote.

1. Welcome and introductions

- Jonny wants to keep the meeting moving quickly - strict agenda timelines
- We're going to explore using a consent agenda
- Updating communication & web site
- More people moved into our neighborhood in the last 5 years than any neighborhood in the state

2. Neighborhood Officer Report

Canceled.

3. Baldwin/Elizabeth St. Stop Signs

Presentation by David, Tim and Ryan:

- Want council support to keep stop signs at Baldwin & Elizabeth permanent.
- Also want to add crosswalks
- Temporary stop signs in place already at their instigation due to increased traffic from construction on Johnson.
- Concerned about speed and amount of traffic, lots of kids crossing for school, has noticed appreciable benefit from temporary stop signs.
- Sherman to Gorham stretch of N Baldwin.
- Survey of neighbors on Baldwin
 - They went out on two occasions and spent 45 hours knocking on doors in the 300 and 400 blocks of N Baldwin
 - Overwhelmingly in support of permanent stop signs
 - 21/45 neighbors came to door and took survey

- 75% said saw decreased auto speeds and safer driving, 99% said safer pedestrian crossing; 90.5% in favor of making stop signs permanent; 20/21 said support reflective crosswalk.
- Jonny got 16 emails in support of keeping stop signs, 0 against, 5 add'l neighbors spoke with and were supportive.

Discussion:

- Jonny: Traffic Engineering in process of considering whether to keep signs permanent
- Keith: move to write letter to make permanent
 - Marta: second with move to amend that support adding crosswalks
- Patty: clarification no crosswalks at all there
- Pat Kelly: concerned with asking Traffic Engineering for this when we're about to ask them for a whole list of stuff re traffic calming; would rather include this issue in the list than write the letter
- Patty: TE said want to take care of neighborhoods that are less advantaged then we are; but asked what we wanted and we said temporary stop signs, easy for them to do
- Patrick: advice – concerns about equity, if we get this, there is possibility could impact our success at advocacy in the future, but as David said the stop signs are already there, it's a question of whether TE is going to take them out, so would like to take advantage of it; one thing to consider is whether was a demand for stop signs before construction; but overall doesn't think it's a big request to make the existing signs permanent
- Bob: I'm conducting evaluation on traffic issues in neighborhood, two meetings coming up, by mid-Dec should have prioritized neighborhood-wide traffic/transportation safety issues that we can take to Traffic Engineering dept.;
 - has talked to TE about this issue, not a done deal that signs remain in place; Madison Metro goes up Baldwin and has significant input, may have concern that stop signs are slowing down their times; sympathetic to neighbors saying already there leave it there, but not heard from rest of city depts.
 - asked TE if could keep stop signs on Baldwin till end of January so could evaluate these signs in conjunction with what rest of neighborhood wants
 - should demonstrate that signs are effective (no studies done on before/after stop signs), through study done by TE
 - recommend put off endorsing this until February meeting when Bob's study is done
- Keith: amend motion to write a letter letting TE know we're considering neighborhood input and requesting that they not remove the current stop sign till study is completed (February 2020)
 - Pat Kelly: second
- Jonny: did this issue of traffic exist before construction?
- Tim: Yes, definitely, gotten worse with construction; would agree that best process for traffic calming is overall evaluation, but feel that this is a separate issue because stop signs are already there and are proven to work in our experience, don't want to risk losing this
- Jonny: TE is considering this now, if we wait till January might have made their conclusion and we won't have another chance to weigh in; TE doesn't go through process of looking at comprehensive plans, they only take it on project by project, so we're going to have to squeaky wheel project by project anyway
- Nick: so for TE we don't know what the timeline is?

- Bob: I got commitment from TE to keep stop sign there through January
- Jonny: but are evaluating right now, based on correspondence I saw
- Wes: this is about advocating for safety more broadly right?
- Pat: pedestrian crossing islands and stoplight half a block away?
- Baldwin residents: not enough (Marta concurs)
- Wes: but how can we advocate for safety in absence of stop sign
- Patty: not a conflict between two things, writing a letter saying in support of stop signs while also working on plan, doesn't think harm to write a support letter
- Tim Olson: extract promise from city to leave it there? PR campaigns – march kids/bikes at safety issue areas, invite TV coverage – did all this in the past
- Keith: if get them to delay removal, will become status quo, maybe less likely to remove later?
- Jonny: but they're evaluating this now (Bob contests this); need to vote on whether support amended motion to ask TE to wait for removal of sign
- Keith: to restate: Motion is to write letter saying considered neighborhood input and consensus signs would be good to keep, but pending study ask that not be removed till March
- Motion passes.
- Patrick: Citywide plan to deal with Traffic Calming, city wants information to figure out how to allocate resources (use a ranking system for what's highest need, limited \$ in the pot; current ranking system being reconsidered); not as easy as just asking
- Patty: just voted to write letter to maintain stop sign, delay on removal

4. Communication and Automation - Patty

(Posters)

Communications inc:

- Membership
 - Currently Linster goes door to door
- Newsletter
 - Format
 - Distribute
 - Ad management
- Web site
- List serv
- Facebook page (not group)
- Instagram
- Nextdoor
- Twitter?

Challenges:

- Bob Shaw and Jessi M. no newsletter
- Linster stepping down from membership/door knocking
- Area boundaries changed – block captains
- Yahoo groups in decline
- Membership form out of date

- New admins?

Priorities:

- Add join/renew option to the web site
- Leave yahoo, new listserv (groups.io – Marquette uses)
- Newsletter
 - Keith and Karen will help format & edit
 - Send ad bills by email
 - Simplify ad rates (some people don't pay; complicated set up)
 - Patty will be asking us for articles – area reps 1 article/year, need something on traffic meetings, whatever is going on
 - Wants to recruit someone to take on newsletter responsibility, gather stories etc.
- Area reps
 - Reassign block captains
 - Find new block captains
- Add join/renew membership to web site
 - Redo website (lower priority?)
 - add/renew membership should be top priority
 - Gwen: can use square for membership and ad billing too
 - (other input – Patty wants folks to brainstorm with, makings of a subcommittee here)
 - Jonny, Gwen, Wes, Michael, Ryan, Ann's husband

5. Traffic Calming Meetings – Bob

- Meeting at Lyric 11/19 at 7 pm, to identify issues with traffic in the neighborhood
- Going to present findings on Dec. 9 meeting to decide priorities (yikes)
- Will present to council on Dec. 12 meeting
- Encourage us to email concerns/attend meeting
- Want to come up with a plan, next time have construction/etc can refer to plan to see about incorporating ideas; living doc adjunct to neighborhood plan
- Conversation with Wes/Pat/Patrick –
 - very few of our wants will actually be funded by TE
 - Anything is more likely if we can include it as part of a development project
- Jonny: let's keep in conversation with surrounding neighborhoods/presidents/alders to integrate plans
- Patrick: need to encourage TE to take holistic approach too; also consider methods of ranking (most impact for safety? Most expensive? Etc)

6. Parks Input – Pat Kelly

- Any concerns about parks?
- Ryan: Excited about project to make swimming area
- Patrick: County has control over lakes; city is parks themselves/beaches
- Pat: mossy steps by the beach seem dangerous

- Tim: needed to retain sand on the beach
- They aren't supposed to be steps into the water
- The city brings in truckloads of sand every year
- Patty has a connection who's active in park volunteerism - Gigi Holland - and will hook her up with Pat
- Ted Olson – Ed Jepsen does volunteering for Tenney Park, spearheaded lots of projects
- Evelyn: trash in Reynolds Park – Patrick has info for Pat on this
 - Bob: Streets should be able to put a trash can on the terrace

6A. Chair Reports

- Gwen: Nothing to report for Business
- Patty: We got a nice card from Marquette School
- Jonny: Want to support Events chair more
- Marta: bring back Spaghetti Dinner
- Nick: funds at UW now under Jonny & Nick's control; putting together budget committee; participatory budgeting – looking into will report more later
 - Bob: want budget sheet/treasurer report for each meeting; Nick says ok

7. Elected Official report – Patrick

- City budget just finished
- Approved funding for first steps of working towards Vision 0 (approach to road design that focuses on reducing crashes that involve bodily injury and death – designing around people rather than cars)
- Defeated – Alder Rummel asked for TID \$ from Cap East to put in infrastructure to allow RR not to blow horns; Patrick opposed bc thinks whole community should be involved in figure out how to use this money (affordable housing, traffic safety etc, donate to more impoverished neighborhood)
 - Alder Rummel and Patrick directed funding for a study for community engagement to see how should use \$
- Dec 2, 5-7 – public meeting at Grace Coffee for input on liquor license
 - Jonny wont chair liquor license meetings, ask for volunteers to come to meeting
- Salvation Army dev approved by Plan Commission; still have to raise \$\$ so lots of hurdles still
- East Gorham sewer replacement from Franklin to Livingston going to happen in 2020, will be pubic process
 - Could be a three month project
- Dec 8 Santa Run
- Funding for bike path clearing on Weekends
- The city will file action about the illegal parking lot
 - They've been fined every day starting November 1
- E Johnson construction should be done November 15 (tomorrow)
- Funds for 3 new police officers, independent police monitor

- City started this budget cycle \$11 million in the red and will likely get worse b/c of state legislature limiting the ability to raise revenue.

8. Adjourn

Michael moved to adjourn. Pat seconded.

Adjourned at 8:50 p.m.