

## ⇒ Minutes of Council Meeting ←



Tenney Lapham Neighborhood Association

<b>Meeting Title</b>	:	Tenney Lapham Neighborhood Council Board of Directors Meeting
<b>Date</b>	:	December 22, 2011
<b>Time</b>	:	7 P.M.
<b>Place</b>	:	Tenney Park Apartments, 302 N. Baldwin Street
<b>Chair Person</b>	:	Richard Linster
<b>In Attendance</b>	:	<p><b>Internal:</b> Richard Linster, Patty Prime, David Wallner, Joe Lusson, Pat McDonnell, David Waugh, Carol Weidel, Tim Olson, Richard Freihoefer, Jim Roper, Lia Vellardita, Dave Grace, Ben Halfen, Thuy Nguyen</p> <p><b>Visitors:</b> Alder Maniaci, Dawn O’Kroley, Heidi Weglighter, Aleen Tierney, Nicole Craig, Joe Mathers, Adam Plotkin, Brian Bedford</p>
<b>Absent</b>	:	<p><b>Internal:</b> Michael Ryanjoy, Jim Wright, Denise Breyne, Jesse Mulhall, Susan Baumann-Duren, Echnaton Vedder, Gay Zeilske</p>
<b>Minutes Submitted By</b>	:	Joseph Shumow
<b>Minutes Submitted On</b>	:	
<b>Next Scheduled Meeting</b>	:	<p><b>Date:</b> January 12, 2012</p> <p><b>Time:</b> 7 P.M.</p> <p><b>Place:</b> TBD</p>

### 1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 P.M. by Chair Linster, having provided due notice of the meeting and with a quorum present.

### 2. Approval of Minutes

Joe Lusson moved approval of the minutes of the Board meeting on November 16, 2011. Tim Olsen seconded the motion. Motion passes unanimously.

### 3. Report of Neighborhood Officer

None.

## ⇒ Minutes of Council Meeting ←



### Tenney Lapham Neighborhood Association

#### 4. Guests

Chair Linster introduced candidates running for County Board: Brian Bedford, Adam Plotkin, and Heidi Weglightner. Brian Bedford thanked the Board. He noted that he previously served on the City Council. He is a resident of the Emerson East neighborhood and has worked in human services across Dane County for about 25 years, which he noted is about half of the County's budget. He was recently diagnosed with cancer (though his prognosis is, thankfully, very good). Adam Plotkin lives in the western part of District 2. He worked for Rep. (and then Sen.) Coggs and now works in the public defenders' office. He was on DMI's Board of Directors and chaired Capital Neighborhoods, Inc. He is motivated by his 10 month old baby. He is frustrated by the cuts to Health & Human Services for Dane County. Heidi Weglightner thanked the volunteers in the room. She is a resident of the Emerson East Neighborhood and is an active member of neighborhood. Her husband is a small business owner. She is a public interest lawyer, serving low-income persons in housing; she's the President of the Board of Tenant Resource Center. She's an avid soccer player and coach and a card-carrying union member.

There was also a group in attendance related to the community gardens, including Aleen Tierney, Nicole Craig, and Joe Mathers. Jim Roper joined the group to make a presentation as well. Jim reported that a grass-roots (pun intended, perhaps) group formed to create a garden. Urban Land Interests ("ULI") is open to the idea, as land lessees of the land. The small group (and ULI) prefers to use land behind Lincoln School, as opposed to on top of the underground garage. The small group is requesting a letter of support and that the Board request that Alder Maniaci push the issue at the City. Alder Maniaci indicated that Parks Superintendent Kevin Briski objects to the community gardens concept. Tim Olsen expressed some concerns with using public park land funded by 211,000 Madisonians, particularly waterfront parkland, for exclusive use for 30 gardeners. David Wallner took credit/blame for suggesting the current area and gave a brief history of community gardens in parkland, as well as exclusive use of parks. Joe Lusson pointed out that the proposed space would be less than 1% of James Madison Park and that the benefits of this community garden would outweigh the downfalls of it. Joe Shumow indicated he would be more supportive of a garden that is more viewable from higher-frequented areas (i.e., the rooftop space) and that doesn't eliminate open lakefront space. Ben Halfen supports the idea of the gardens but would prefer the rooftop space or, perhaps the space between the 646 Gorham and Blount Street. David Waugh is enthused by the chance to promote urban agriculture, but he wanted to make sure that no one would be displaced by the lakefront site (and doesn't support the rooftop site as much); David expressed support of the hilltop location between 646 Gorham and Blount Street. Jim Roper acknowledged that the land is "expensive" but noted that its use is limited; he noted that there are flowerbeds in the park that are "exclusively" used; he is concerned with the rooftop site due to potential leaking.

#### 5. Comments of President

Chair Linster reminded the Board of a January 5, 2012 meeting of the James Madison Park Surplus Committee. Going forward, we will meet the second Thursday of the month. January 26, 2012 will be a potluck for the neighborhood. Chair Linster suggested the Board consider sponsoring a discussion/roundtable of county board candidates.

#### 6. Reports of Officers and Committees

David Waugh (Development) reported that approximately 25 people attended the most recent meeting. The major issues include: opening the intersection at Livingston and East Washington; height of the apartment tower; uniform design of the development; and the "bareness" of the parking structure. Pat

## ⇒ Minutes of Council Meeting ←



### Tenney Lapham Neighborhood Association

McDonnell asked for an update on amending the TID to include the Gebhardt project. It's unclear whether the review board will approve the amendment.

David Wallner reported on the December 15 meeting of the James Madison Surplus Committee. There are three proposals on the 646 Gorham property and three proposals on the Collins House. Joe and Aleen are on track to close on their land lease with the City in April or May. The Board discussed how the proceeds of the leases would be used by the City, including allocating a portion to the Madison Parks Foundation and earmarking the balance for use in James Madison Park.

## 7. Unfinished Business

Chair Linster opened a discussion on the topic of community gardens at James Madison Park, behind the Lincoln School Apartments. Jim Roper moved that TLNA write a letter to the Parks Department (attn: Kevin Briski), with a copy sent to Alder Maniaci and the Mayor's office, supporting a community garden between Lincoln School Apartments and Lake Mendota. Carol Weidel seconded. Discussion ensued in line with notes set forth above. Patrick McDonnell suggested a friendly amendment that the location be broadened to add "or any location in James Madison Park agreeable to the parties involved" (with the rooftop and the property adjacent to 646 Gorham in mind); Jim rejected that friendly amendment. **Motion carried 8-5.** David Wallner abstained, due to his position on the Park Commission.

Alder Maniaci noted that the land lease funds are to be used for general fund, which are used for any park expenses throughout the City. Joe Lusson made a motion that TLNA officially support allocating 50% of the proceeds of the sale of 646 and 704 East Gorham, together with the land lease revenues, to the City Parks Department for use in James Madison Park and the other 50% of said funds to the Parks Foundation. Joe Shumow seconded. Patrick McDonnell noted that the allocated 50% of the funds for use in James Madison Park is in line with the neighborhood plan, but the plan is silent as to allocation of the other half of the funds. He suggested a friendly amendment to allocate only 50% to the James Madison Park maintenance, not the other 50%. The friendly amendment was accepted by Joes Lusson and Shumow. Some members expressed concerns about getting involved in the details of budgetary details. Ben Halfen noted that we may want to specify how the funds would be used. **Motion carries unanimously.** David Wallner abstained.

## 8. New Business

No further business.

## 9. Report of Elected Officials

Alder Maniaci reported on the traffic study for Johnson/Gorham. She gave a brief update on the Gebhardt property. She asked everyone to keep an eye on 919 East Johnson; a loose pitbull bit some children in the neighborhood. There is a bidding war for the commercial space across from the Caribou.

## ⇒ Minutes of Council Meeting ←



Tenney Lapham Neighborhood Association

### **10. Good and Welfare**

All is good and well. Happy Holidays!

### **11. Adjournment**

Tim Olsen moved and Joe Lusson seconded adjournment of the meeting. No discussion was permitted. Motion passed unanimously.