

# TLNA Council Meeting

## April 8, 2021 at 7:00 PM on Zoom

**Present:** Jonny Hunter, Michael Donnelly, Nick Crowley, Madeline Kasper, Pat Kelly, Marta Staple, Tyler Lark, Keith Wessel, Meghan Conlin, Julia Levine, Evelyn Atkinson

**Guests:** Maddie from Veritas Village; Jason Hack; Matt Krueger, Joette Pearson, Amanda Burch, Caroline Alexander, Patrick Heck, Erri Hewitt

Call to order: 7:05 pm

### Agenda

#### Welcome and Introductions

#### Approval of March meeting [minutes](#)

Tyler makes a motion to approve.

Nick seconds.

Motion passes in unanimous vote.

#### 720 E Dayton St

Maddie from Veritas Village gave a presentation about repaving the parking lot at 720 E. Dayton St. Maddie says the space has been a parking lot under various owners since the 1930s. Applied for CUP to pave with asphalt and to add a rain garden and fence. 26 parking stalls. Landscaping plan exceeds requirements.

Tyler asks what they need from us. Patrick says they need the CUP to move forward. Want to make the parking lot legal.

Michael reminds the council that Veritas Village had said they were going to talk to us about various options for the space and then turned around and made it a parking lot, which the council had not been in favor of.

Maddie says they are in a dispute with the city; part of the settlement is that they need a CUP from the city. Clarifies that the litigation is currently stayed but they were asked to apply for CUP and if they receive it that would resolve their issue with the city.

Joette (neighbor): Went from thinking parking lot was not approved to suddenly approved overnight. Issue with putting the parking lot in. Used to be a Reynolds Parking lot they used to come in the mornings and leave in the afternoons. The difference now is that drivers pull in and out at all times of day. The lights shine directly into their bedroom. Concerned what will be along the side of the property. Also concerned that the city has allowed buildings to build higher to have parking underneath. Worries also about flooding. Asks what the point of neighborhood input is if the developers do whatever they want to do anyway?

Patrick: When someone applies for CUP it is Plan Commission that decides whether it should be granted or not. Plan Commission uses a set of criteria but also likes to hear from neighbors about what they think. TLNA council could attach conditions, such as regarding the type of fencing.

Amanda Burch (lives on the other side of the parking lot): There's been some crime in the parking lot. People setting up lawn chairs in the parking lot and drinking. Not crushed gravel it is asphalt that has caused water issues. Not completely against it being against a parking lot, just worried about crime and water. Doesn't like how Veritas Village went about it; said they were going to do one thing and then went forward with the parking lot.

Matt Krueger (doesn't live immediately adjacent to the parking lot but lives on the 800 block of East Dayton): How it went down didn't sit right with him. Hard to believe that a parking lot is the best use of that spot. The pace of development has really changed the character of the neighborhood. Knows that there are compromises we need to make but can't believe a surface parking lot is the best use. Neighborhood does not have a lot of faith in the parking lot.

Maddie says they wouldn't be putting lights in and they would be putting in a fence and a gate that could only be opened with a fob.

Joette wonders if the city needs to look at the parking requirements if they are not adequate to meet needs of apartment buildings.

Jonny notes that research shows that increasing parking increases traffic and other problems.

Patrick notes that while it is true parking lots result in more traffic, eliminating the parking lot will result in 26 more cars on the street.

Jonny asks if Patrick received any additional feedback on the parking lot. Patrick said only the neighbors in the meeting are the neighbors he has heard from.

Pat makes a motion to send a letter indicating we do not support the CUP for the parking lot. Keith seconds.

Marta says it is not only important to state that we oppose the parking lot but also to reiterate some of the priorities of the council: flooding mitigation; increased affordable housing; traffic mitigation etc.. Marta makes a friendly amendment to say, should this be approved, we ask that consideration is made for: safety, light pollution, flooding mitigation etc. Make sure we amplify the voices of these neighbors. Pat accepts friendly amendment.

Patrick - Back when he was TLNA development chair, they would often frame things as: "If it does move forward, we want these things addressed." So he thinks this is a good strategy.

Motion passes unanimously.

## **TLNA branding**

Evelyn, Tyler, and Stefan met to discuss TLNA branding. Sent it out to the council, haven't heard anything. Went over broader message and purpose.

Jonny likes this plan as a starting point.

Evelyn suggests people email Tyler, Evelyn, and Stefan with further suggestions.

### **Plans for the newsletter**

Area reps will meet as a subcommittee to discuss.

### **Sliding Scale Membership**

Keith: Now that we are allowing people to pay for membership on the website, Patty asked to have on the agenda to ask about whether it is okay to have a flex sliding scale option. Have also added a donate button in many places. Wanted everyone to be aware that this is out there.

Tyler thinks we can make the change and update the bylaws accordingly later this year.

Council agrees that we don't need a bylaw change right away.

Pat thinks Jonny should send a reminder about the website.

### **Replacing Council Members**

Transportation and Safety and our Green Area Rep seats are vacant.

Joe Lussen (sp?) may be joining the council as an area rep. But we still need to find a Transportation and Safety Chair.

Pat comments that Bob had a lot of things that he was working on and had built up a lot of contacts and he would continue to work on these things but just not as a member of the council. Pat thinks it is crucial that we have someone in the position as soon as possible. Pat suggests Adam Wood, or wonders if he might know somebody. Jonny will ask Adam if he knows of anybody who might be interested.

### **Chair Reports**

Pat (parks): Has recruited 15 people who are willing to help with Earth Day clean up. Planting around the building will happen this summer with money from the council.

Julia (mutual aid): Received a notice from the city last week to remove the community fridge and pantry from the yard by today. Through the support of Patrick they were able to get a 30-day extension. Don't want to remove the fridge without putting up signs about where it is going to be moved. Talked about maybe moving it to Christ Presbyterian Church but there are some concerns there. Needs to be somewhere that is not zoned residential and it can't be too close to the sidewalk. Patrick notes he would like to continue working with Julia to find a solution.

Julia also notes that the mutual aid fund was used to support neighbors for housing and for Festival Foods gift cards.

Marta (events): Some iteration of Party in the Park will take place on June 6. Parks gave the go ahead to draw circles on the grass for BYO picnics. Going to get together to talk about it. Happy to incorporate mutual aid efforts. Someone named Ian who does pop up bike tuning does same day bike tuning, wants to get connected with the neighborhood. Marta is going to use the TLNA accounts to promote the pop-up bike tuning.

## **Elected Official Reports**

Patrick Heck

- Excited about the project at The Breese. Always seems like an island in the neighborhood and wants it to be a more part of the neighborhood.
- Tenney Park shelter before the landmark commission.
- On 4/20 the new council will be seated. May will be dealing with: lack of action for location for the men's shelter; body worn camera report; zoning report.
- Encampment along Yahara River cleared by MGE. Still some people staying at James Madison Park, community development working to get them in housing.
- Doesn't want TE to look at traffic issues on a piecemeal basis anymore. Going to work on making neighborhood not a cut through neighborhood.
- 12 N. Few St. likely to be at Design Commission on May 12th.
- New alcohol license application for Red Sushi. Another one coming for the Johnson Public House restaurant that will be in the former chiropractor building.
- There was a police chase by Maple Bluff Police that went through Tenney Lapham. Maple Bluff does not have to follow rules of another jurisdiction.

## **Adjourn**

Michael moves to adjourn.

Motion passes.

## **Attachments**

- TLNA branding proposal

## **TLNA Brand meeting:**

### Strategy:

1. figure out new goals/mission
2. develop tagline/brand to help communicate our mission, etc.
3. propose edits to bylaws to consider at next annual meeting. Update to include:
  - a. connection;
  - b. equitable representation to city;
  - c. do well for community (investment, grants, redistribution)

### TLNA broader mission/purpose:

- 1) connecting the community (neighbors?) with each other
- 2) advocating for and representing the community
- 3) promoting community health, welfare, equity, and well-being

### TLNA Vision: “A safe, healthy, equitable neighborhood for all”

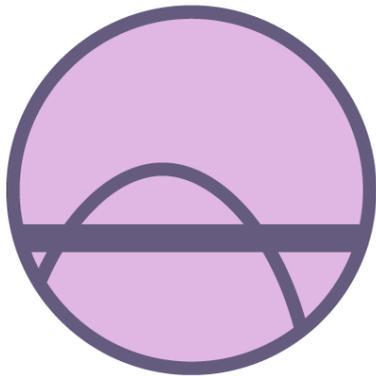
### Potential TLNA taglines \*Favorite three options bolded

- **“We are You. We are Tenney-Lapham.”** (is it too corporate? like an MGE/Festival slogan?)
- “TLNA: Connecting Community”
- “TLNA: Nourishing Our Neighborhood”
- “TLNA: Reflecting and Connecting” (better as annual theme than tagline)
- **“Bridging Connections”** (using our bridge logo)
- “Tenney-Lapham: Home”
- **“Representing and Connecting”**

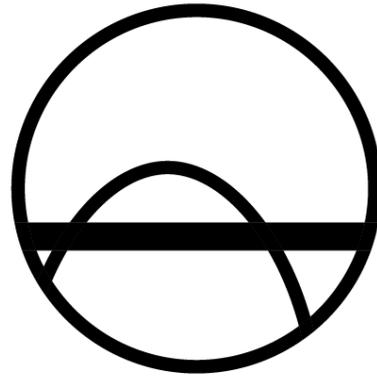
### Goals for this year:

- Refocusing on connection
- Reorienting our methods of representation

Possible updated logo / brand:



**Tenney-Lapham**  
neighborhood association



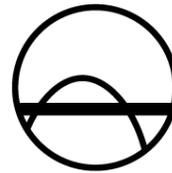
**Tenney-Lapham**  
neighborhood association



**Tenney-Lapham**  
neighborhood association



**Tenney-Lapham**  
neighborhood association



**Taglines:**

Representing and Connecting  
Bridging Connections  
We are You. We are Tenney-Lapham

**Old Bylaws** (don't fully reflect what seems to be our new mission)

“Section 1. The primary purpose of the organization is to improve the neighborhood through democratic citizen participation and involvement.

Section 2. The organization will work for the achievement of this purpose by generating and sustaining a spirit of neighborhood among area residents through all appropriate means including, but not limited to:

2.1 - Foreseeing and calling attention to emerging neighborhood trends and problems prior to their reaching crisis proportions.

2.2 - Fostering neighborhood interest and participation in planning.

2.3 - Providing means for widespread study and discussion of all issues and questions pertinent to the neighborhood.

2.4 - Educating neighborhood residents about the neighborhood, its rich history and its future potential.

2.5 - Serving as an advocate for those policies and programs that seem to its membership, after appropriate analysis and discussion, to be in the neighborhood's best interest.”