



City of Madison

City of Madison
Madison, WI 53703
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Meeting Minutes - Approved NORTHPORT-WARNER PARK-SHERMAN NEIGHBORHOOD STEERING COMMITTEE

Thursday, October 23, 2008

6:30 PM

St. Paul Lutheran Church
2126 North Sherman Avenue, Rear Entrance

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Present: 13 -

Lydia S. Maurer; Pat Steele; Benjamin C. Cashin; Lorie A. Walker; Paul J. Van Rooy; Donald B. Bruns; Thomas C. Blake; Jacqueline M. Wilson; Jolena K. Presti; Anita C. Herrera; Jeffrey E. Shokler; Mary Schumacher and Betty L. Thompson

Excused: 6 -

Jenifer L. Carter; Cynthia M. Wood; Karen M. Thompson; Jamie P. Gratrix; Julie A. Savidusky and Edward (Ted) T. Krez

APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 7 MINUTES

A motion was made by Van Rooy, seconded by Schumacher, to Approve the Minutes. The motion passed by voice vote.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- SC Retreat this Saturday October 25 10:00am-2:00pm at Northport Community Learning Center, 1740 Northport Drive
- Northside Planning Council Transportation Forum Wednesday October 29, Warner Park Community Recreation Center, 6:30-8:30pm
- Northside Market Study Presentation Thursday October 30, Warner Park Community Recreation Center, 6:00pm
- Northside Planning Council Economic Forum Monday November 10, Warner Park Community Recreation Center, 6:30-8:30pm

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jack Hurst, 1629 Randy Lane Madison, WI 53704

Registered to speak on Agenda Item #1. Trying for a cement basin near the Trailway and Monterey Street corner of the Warner Park Lagoon. Has raised half of necessary funds. Requesting assistance in recovering the lagoon. Also would like to install some sort of carp control near Woodward Drive, aerator to bring more oxygen into the pond, dredge to fill low spots, accessible pier,

and organize kids fishing opportunities.

Concerned about road salt runoff into Warner Park lagoon and pollution from Rhythm and Booms.

Passed around photos of lagoon.

SC asked how City agencies could collaborate to help address these issues. City staff will investigate and report back to the SC.

1. [12194](#)

Parks and Open Space

Northside includes 28 acres of park space per 1,000 people. Most basketball courts are fairly new and most playground equipment was updated between 1995 and 1997. Parks Division planning to install some barrier free playground equipment in coming years.

Q: Windom Way Park has a baseball field but have not seen one baseball game played there. Could it be turned into a soccer field?

A: Dimensions of baseball field do not relate well to a soccer field. Although, in many cases soccer field dimensions are going down in size to 50'x100'.

Q: Could playground sets be made of transparent material to reduce their potential as hiding places?

A: Parks Division tries to address this issue with the placement of the equipment. Also, Parks very rarely plants low growth vegetation. Its possible that the Packers Apartment complex planted shrubs along Windom Way Park and apartment property boundary. Parks Division can remove this vegetation. Regular maintenance is on a 10-14 day cycle.

Q: Should Brentwood Village Neighborhood Association (BNA) maintain volleyball court in Brentwood Village Park?

A: Would be okay for the BNA to do this maintenance.

Q: Can neighbors that volunteer in the parks count the hours as an in-kind donation to the Parks Foundation?

A: City staff will investigate and provide this answer.

Q: Could Windom Way Park include a community garden?

A: There is a Community Garden Committee that approaches the Parks Division with these requests. However, the Parks Division has donated about as much land as it can for community garden space at this point. SC with support of neighborhood association could still could ask.

Comment: Please add Sheridan Triangle Park to the Park Inventory.

Q: Could a shelter be added to Eken Park as there is a Summer activity program held there but there is no shelter or playground.

A: Current policy is not to add park shelters to smaller parks unless neighborhood association donates money and/or volunteer time. Also, do not add water fountains to neighborhood parks.

Comment: But Eken Park has a water fountain.

Response: May have been installed awhile ago before current policy.

Warner Park Concept Drawing

- When the large parking lot is resurfaced, to use permeable pavement, grass - need to work with City Engineering on this.
 - Could add bioswale to parking lot, but would require removing a bay of parking.

Comment: Over the last few years, its been demonstrated that there are not enough parking spaces so removing a parking bay is not a good idea.

Response: The current concept includes 70 more parking spaces than the original lot (no bioswale in current concept). Will work to keep parking space loss to a minimum.

Q: How about adding a parking structure next to Mallard's Stadium?

A: Could explore doing this jointly with shopping center for use by both.

Comments:

- Road connection from Sheridan Street along the park to Monterey would make surrounding neighbors very upset.
- Really like walking trail onto large island and cross country ski trails.
- Winter destination with skating, skiing.
- Railroad trestle waterway great for kayaking.
- Walking audit showed a walking trail around perimeter of park, please note on map.
- Maintain balance between active and passive uses.
- Would like to maintain woods and add cross country ski trails.
- Community garden is a great idea.
- Path shown on Northwest side of Warner Park is too close to traffic.

Warner Park Beach still has lifeguards and is in the budget for 2009 but no plans for improvements.

2. [11254](#)

Northside Market Study

- Study uses averages to describe the Northside market conditions, but we need to move beyond averages and try to make our neighborhoods unique.
- Could use Warner Park as an identity starting point and look for economic strategies that will build off of this.
- Airport is a great resource.
- What about nutrition oriented businesses in mall with Manna, etc.

- Healthy recreation options better than healthy mall options.
- There are many things on the Northside to attract people to the area but attractions are disconnected.
- How about billing the Northside as the “green lungs” of Madison.
- Green living community with its proximity to transit, etc.

3. [09327](#)

Neighborhood Profile

Hallie Bennett of Planning Division presented neighborhood profile data. SC requested that staff add data for Sherman Middle School and comparison of citywide racial composition with the Northside.

SC needs to do two things:

- 1) Move forward with recommended identity plans and strategies.
- 2) SC should conduct a concerted public relations effort/.
 - SC could invite other communities to talk about how they were successful and marketing themselves.
 - Market study does not get it. Does not recommend how we can change the misperception of crime - we need to create our own perception of the community.
 - Northside Town Center is a gem in the rough with potential to be a great gathering place that brings people into the neighborhood.
 - Think about brands that define the Northside and ways of marketing the community's positive aspects in preparation for November 6 SC meeting.

4. [10062](#)

PLANNING PROCESS STATUS

- Remember to attend Retreat this Saturday, October 25 10:00am-2:00pm at Northport Community Learning Center, 1740 Northport Drive.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Walker, seconded by Maurer, to Adjourn. The motion passed by voice vote.