

City of Sheboygan
2018-07-17

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CITY OF SHEBOYGANMAYOR'S NEIGHBORHOOD LEADERSHIP CABINETTuesday, July 17, 2018

Chad Pelishek called the meeting to order at 6: 30 pm at the Senior Activity Center at 428 Wisconsin Avenue. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Members present: Director of Planning and Development Chad Pelishek, Neighborhood Development Planner Nancy Maring, Alderperson Trey Mitchell, Alderperson Dean Dekker, Jody Kraemer, Scott Hanson, Tom Binder, Peter Sjollemma, Henry Capetillo.

Others present: Captain Jim Veaser, Officer Jeff Mares, Wendy Schmitz, Beth Counard, Jean Grade.

Minutes: Motion by Scott Hanson, seconded by Dean Dekker to approve minutes of May 8, 2018 meeting. All ayes.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION ONLYFeature

Presentation:

"Sheboygan For All, the city's entry into an international network of communities focusing on becoming a livable community for all" Wendy Schmitz. The World Health Organization and AARP began the initiative to create a network of age-friendly communities because they realized that by 2030 one out of every five people in the U.S. will be 65 or older. First the first time in history, older people will outnumber children in the U.S. Currently 1 of 3 Americans is age 50 or older. In April 2012 the AARP network of age-friendly communities joined the World Health Organization's global network of age-friendly cities and communities. How did Sheboygan get to know about this? City Administrator Darrell Hofland learned about the age-friendly communities initiative at a conference and brought back info to Wendy and said we're going to be the next one! Wendy teamed up with Neighborhood Development Planner Nancy Maring to get in contact with the AARP regional director. They learned that Sheboygan was already doing a lot of the things that AARP was looking for to be designated as an age-friendly community. Sheboygan applied and was accepted in August 2017. At that point, Shorewood and Greendale were the only other communities in Wisconsin that had been designated therefore Sheboygan is technically the first city in Wisconsin to join the network. We got together a task group of leaders in our community and embraced the term livable community rather than age-friendly because people tend to associate a negative connotation to age people don't like to think about aging. Generally, whatever is good for older people is good for younger people, disabled people, families, etc. A livable community is safe and secure, has affordable and appropriate housing, has transportation options, and offers supportive community features and services. AARP produces a livability index that is used for rating communities. The AARP website shows all of these ratings that are calculated based on their set of livability categories. Sheboygan recently made AARP's list of the top ten most livable U.S. communities by population size, Sheboygan ranked # 2 in the category for small communities. We are currently in the first two years of

membership into the network, these are the planning years. We involve a diverse group of citizens in all stages of the process. We conduct a baseline assessment of the community. We develop a three-year community-wide action plan. AARP recently awarded us with a \$4,000 grant to assist with conducting a community survey. This survey will be released later this year and we truly need input from everyone, we want a diverse group of people to participate. AARP sets a stipulation that we have to capture at least 500 responses from people age 45 + by the end of this year. The results of this survey will help to develop the three-year action plan. The task group will take the action plan to the City leaders and the department heads who will the plan in motion.

Another thing we re doing is community listening sessions. They last 90 minutes and ask questions that are similar to what s in the survey, but they re more interactive and creative. Citizen engagement is imperative. One of the exciting things coming from these is connecting with people who have lived here for their whole lives but never realized that this is such a great place to live until they see it all written down. We will then commit to implementing the plan which involves the Common Council. We will submit a progress report at the end of five years. Another project that AARP is supporting is bike fixation stations that we will be installing on bike trails. We have received a grant for \$8,500. After attending a national conference Wendy received an email from an intern at Kohler Company asking to meet with her to learn about doing some age-friendly work. The intern and his boss are from the Human Experience team at Kohler Company and they have become a big part of this project.

Neighborhood Association Reports

Gateway Henry Capatillo reporting: They were going to do a car show but they found out that there was one happening at Moose Park on the same day. Henry received at least 75 - 80 calls asking when the car show was going to be and he had to explain each time about the schedule conflict. Based on the feedback from all the people who were disappointed that the Gateway Neighborhood car show didn t happen, they will definitely be bringing it back for next year. They are going to try to work with the owner of Brennan s next year because they do two car shows in their lot and they want to see about combining efforts. The bar owners in the neighborhood asked Henry about doing a block party but he said that would only happen if they could get a group together to put it together. Henry and Steve had organized a block party in past years, but it is too much work for just two people to continue without participation from the bar owners to help. Many bar owners are still not happy about the limitation of not being able to extend their liquor license onto the street. Henry has talked to the Police Chief to see if there would be any way to extend their liquor licenses onto the street, but it will not happen. Henry stated that they will plan to do a block party next year where they will sell beer and food and have bands.

The family block party is currently being planned for the end of August/the beginning of September, they don't want to advertise it too much though because all the food is free and they can be inundated with too many people. The family block party last year was attended by approximately 300 people.

They recently did a neighborhood cleanup that included every alley. They had about three truckloads of branches and yard waste that they took to the drop-off site at the Municipal Service Building. They also had a lot of trash that they put in their own dumpster. There were about 50 - 60 volunteers that encompassed diverse age groups, there were also 4 - 5 police officers.

Ellis Wendy Schmitz reporting: They had a neighborhood block party on June 14 which was sponsored by the Senior Activity Center. The SAC got the liquor license and the band. They applied for a grant from Thrivent and received \$250 from that. They collected more than 170 donations of personal hygiene items as a service project for a neighbor, the items went to Catholic Charities.

Maple Heights No representatives present.

Near North Tom Binder reporting: The block party is scheduled for August 30 at Deland Home. The group is in the process of formulating a number of questions for the City regarding funding and grants. Chad directed Tom to work with Nancy to channel funds through Sheboygan Neighborhood Pride.

Indiana Corridor Dean Dekker and Peter Sjollema reporting: They had their annual meeting and elections at the beginning of May. They had a neighborhood cleanup on May 19 which was successful in picking up a lot of litter. They are exploring the possibility of adopting Moose Park, they are optimistic about making improvements to this underutilized park. The purpose of the Adopt-A-Park program is for the neighborhood to provide guidance to the DPW for what they would like to see in the park, then the DPW can plan for capital improvements or apply for grants to make those things happen. It is essentially master planning for the park. Residents could work through the Adopt-A-Park program to pursue corporate sponsorships since those types of initiatives are generally more well-received when they come from residents rather than from the City.

King Park Scott Hanson reporting: They had a brat fry at Festival Foods in late May/early June and made \$500. They are happy with the work that the DPW did

last year on the north end of King Park to clean-up overgrown areas. In the transitional area between the beach and the grass, there were native species planted that didn't stay alive. Joe Kerlin concluded that the contract for those plants covered them for one year, so they should be replanted at no cost. They are happy that they don't have to pay for replacement plants.

The kite boarders who use the Optenburg property just north of King Park are looking into getting together a coalition to approach the City to see if there is a way to maintain it as a waterman's park moving forward. The kite boarders also want to know who they should go to get permission to be there, they have been working with police to ensure that they aren't trespassing or causing problems. People who use personal water craft have also been working to utilize the area staying within the limitations of where they can launch and how far off shore they need to be.

Next month will be elections for the board, it is good that there has been growing interest and membership at meetings is increasing.

Memorial Jody Kraemer reporting: They had their first block party on June 22, it was a great success with about 40 - 50 people. Hot dogs were donated by Old Wisconsin and grilled by Officer Mares.

There is a special meeting that will be held on July 19 regarding the food trucks because there is a neighbor that has voiced some concerns.

Sheboygan Neighborhood Pride Update Penny Weber was not able to attend but provided updates via email to Mayor Vandersteen. The National Night Out will take place on August 7 at End Park from 5: 00 pm to 7: 30 pm.

A general discussion among meeting attendees touched on the need for increased communication about how residents can obtain information about the various meetings the take place among the neighborhood associations. Nancy Maring stated that the yard signs have been effective for raising awareness about the neighborhood associations. It seems that when there is a problem in a neighborhood is when they see the biggest increase in attendance at meetings, after the issue is resolved then participation tends to drop off. How do we keep people engaged?

Vollrath/North Point Beth Counard and Jean Grade reporting: Last fall they did a historical walk that involved going to six homes (did not go inside) and the home owners told the group about the history of their home. They were expecting 30 attendees and it turned out to be about 60 - 70 attendees. Since it was so successful they are planning to do it again this year on October 6.

On July 31 at 6: 30 pm at First Congregational Church they are meeting with the food truck vendors and Alderperson Todd Wolf to hear all points of view about concerns regarding the food truck events.

Info from Penny Weber: Their first neighborhood board election was held in June. They are/have submitted their application for recognition to the Common Council as a neighborhood association. They will be the 8 th association.

Franklin Park They are planning a neighborhood social in July sponsored by St. Peter Claver and Reinbold Novak Funeral home. They hope to meet lots of new

neighbors.

Historic Grant They will elect an initial neighborhood board in July. They will then apply to the Common Council for recognition as a neighborhood association.

End Park They have started meeting in End Park for the summer months. Communicating with neighbors about issues was training they received at their last meeting.

Swift They have decided to take the summer months off from meetings and resume in September.

Kuehne Park They have decided to forego the July meeting and meet again in August.

East Side No updates.

James Madison and South Lake No updates.

Kiwanis/KMD-South/Wildwood No updates.

CITY STAFF UPDATES

Police Chief s report given by Captain Veaser Two bike rodeos have taken place this summer and had about 100 children participate. Cops and Bobbers took place in June, officers take kids fishing who might not otherwise have that opportunity. There is going to be a session of active shooter training (also called ALICE) on August 8 at South High School from 5: 30 to 8: 30 pm. Citizens are invited, but it is primarily for representatives from local businesses so they can all get the training at one time. There are currently about 40 kids in the Junior Police Academy program. There is a new dog in the K 9 unit, his name is Max. He is with Officer Anna Taylor. Fourth of July activities went off without any major issues. The south side beach is typically a family-friendly area whereas the north side beach has more groups of younger people. The rain decreased the number of people who were on the beach during the fireworks. The department has been utilizing social media to ask for help within the community to identify suspects in lower-level crimes such as theft, this is has been very useful. The department is continually working on addressing issues with people who park trailers on the street, properties with tall grass, abandoned autos, etc. The police are working with Chad and Nancy on identifying neighborhoods that are in need of additional lighting. A question was asked about how noise pollution is being handled with regard to vehicles and motorcycles that have excessively loud exhaust pipes/mufflers. Captain Veaser stated that the police do pull over these vehicles and give them notice that they need to fix it. The same is true for vehicles with lout stereos.

Report from City Development Chad Pelishek and Nancy Maring There were

approximately 40 volunteers for Rock The Block on June 2 in the Kuehne Park neighborhood. The area included 60 homes and there were flowers planted, weeds pulled, mulch laid, bushes trimmed, etc. The next Rock The Block event will be on October 13 on South 9 th Street between Georgia and Broadway. For the properties on Indiana Avenue between the lakefront and 14 th Street the approval process to create a new TIF district will be starting soon. Next week it s going to the Joint Review Board and the Planning Commission. This would freeze all property values so owners will continue to pay their same property taxes and any new value that s generated the City recoups that in the district and uses it to pay down debt for infrastructure projects, developer incentives, or anything that would facilitate new development. This would primarily fund the proposed innovation district near the Koepsell property, there will be a parking structure and some other enhancements. Another TIF district is in the works for the former Richardson property on 14 th Street, this will be for a 32-unit condo development.

City Green is continuing strong. Attendance at the Levitt Amp concerts was about 1,200 last year and they are on target for about 2,500 + this year. Tuesdays have had events on City Green organized by Mead Library. There have also been yoga classes on City Green. On July 18 there will be an event called Picnic on The Green that will have free music. This programming has been very well-received and the City Administrator has agreed to put money into next year s budget for entertainment so there can be additional performing arts options besides music. There is a project in the works for a downtown bike share program. We have recently applied for designation as a bike-friendly community. The department has continually been working with the code enforcement officers to develop the baseline of how neighborhoods are and we can track our progress for the years ahead. The John Michael Kohler Arts Center festival is coming up on July 21 - 22 and Mead Library is doing a Mini Maker Faire on July 21. These will utilize City Green. There are also sidewalk sales in the downtown business district on July 21 - 22.

CLOSING OF MEETINGNext meeting date: Tuesday, September 18, 2018.

ADJOURNMotion by Scott Hanson to adjourn, seconded by Peter Sjollema, all ayes. Meeting adjourned at 7: 50 pm.