

**Greentree Neighborhood Association Meeting
Monday, February 4, 2008**

Present: Nancy Priegel (area 7), Erica Brumm (area 5), Rick Floyd (area 4), Danielle Gale (area 11), Steve Henningfield (area 10), Jeanne Howard (area 3), Durrell Ramer (area 2), Larry Sperling (area 1), Allen Youngwood (area 9), Linda Johnson (membership chair)

Treasurer's Report – Mr. Youngwood reports little change from our last meeting. The Neighborhood Association maintains an account balance of approximately \$4,000 and an additional \$6,000 in two \$3,000 CDs maturing in April and October 2008. Mr. Youngwood will investigate rates of return for the CDs before selecting a bank or credit union to renew the CDs.

Community Gardens –GTNA did not apply for a Community Garden grant from the City of Madison given relatively short notice of the application deadline, lack of commitment from community residents to use plots at the recommended site, lack of a coordinator for the project and general belief among board members that the site recommended by the city planning office (Hammersley Park) was too shaded and too hilly to serve as a viable site. The Board will seek recommendations from GTNA for potential locations of other viable garden sites before determining if there is sufficient community interest to apply for a grant in the future. The application would also be coordinated with the City of Madison Parks Commission. GTNA's strategy will be to find other available sites before gauging community interest. Mr. Ramer also discussed the history of potential grant money as an outgrowth of the Southwest Madison community planning process. The city's primary interest was investing approximately \$80,000 in capital improvements (brick and mortar projects) in the southwest area targeting portions of neighborhoods that would serve the greatest number of low-income families in the service area. The Hammersley Park garden site was one of several under consideration as well as gardening sites in Meadowood Park, the Prairie Hills portion of Lucy Lincoln Park and an additional site in the Park Hills area. Projects in Meadowood Park and Prairie Hills already had active coordinators and commitments from families to use the proposed garden plots. GTNA is certainly free to apply for such fees in the future as community gardens are consistent with city plans to encourage neighborhood-building activities. The Southwest Neighborhood Plan includes specific references to \$20,000 available for cleanup at improvements at Hammersley Park to augment lighting and paths (Chapter seven, page 8 of the plan). Concepts for potential improvements at the park were designed by a City of Madison Planning Department intern, Parissa Ford, but were not available for our meeting. Board members brainstormed other possible ideas for park improvements at this site including a splash park and park equipment for toddlers to complement playground equipment for grade school age children at the adjoining Falk Elementary School property.

Membership update –Ms. Johnson reports that slightly fewer than 300 families started or renewed membership in GTNA, down from the 350 families who joined during our 2005-7 membership drive. Current memberships run from Fall, 2007 through Summer, 2009.

Ms. Johnson also shared a proof of the biennial neighborhood directory that will be forwarded to the printer at week's end. Thanks to Ms. Johnson for her sustained work on the membership drive, records and directory.

GTNA representation for the vacant Area 8 – Mr. Floyd will contact potential families who might have an interest in representing this part of the neighborhood on the GTNA Board.

Stump newsletter update and neighborhood communications – Ms. Howard briefly reviewed the latest issue of the Stump that members received on February 5th. Ms. Johnson agreed to publish a supplemental e-mail correspondence to GTNA list serve recipients to:

- remind them of the opportunity to sign-up for the GTNA adult party at Vitense Golf and
- provide deadline for families potentially interested in T-ball and coach pitch baseball for their children as well as potential participation in the West Madison Little League summer and fall programs.
- Agenda for the GTNA annual community forum to be held Monday, March 3rd at the West Madison Police Station on Gammon Road.

Deadline for articles for the next issue of the Stump is March 15th.

Continued

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GTNA annual meeting agenda - Ms. Priegel outlined a proposed agenda to include a summary of the Southwest Madison Community Plan by Mr. Ramer, an opportunity for short platform presentations by the two final candidates for Dane County Supervisor following the results of the February 19th primary, an update from the West Madison Police Department, an update on proposed West Beltline renovations from a Department of Transportation representative, and question & answer opportunities for attending neighbors. Mr. Floyd will run the meeting. Mr. Sperling will contact primary winners for the Dane County Supervisor seat to offer an opportunity to speak with assembled neighbors.

Other business – GTNA will assess if neighbors are interested in continuing a neighborhood garage sale in early May. No one has expressed interest in running the event.

The Greentree Garden Club is interested in starting an annual plant sale in May that would alternate each year with the established neighborhood garden tours.

Neighborhood Watch – Ms. Brunn expressed interest in revitalizing a neighborhood watch program and inviting police spokeswoman Mary Anne Thurber to make a neighborhood presentation this April on the program as practiced in other Madison neighborhoods.

Meeting adjourned approximately 8:10 p.m.