

## **Christianson, Eric**

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**From:** Scott Thornton [sbthornton@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 21, 2013 4:19 PM  
**To:** Christianson, Eric  
**Cc:** Zilavy, Jennifer; Woulf, Mark  
**Subject:** Support for Plan B  
**Attachments:** Bd\_MNA\_minutes\_13-02-21.pdf; MNA\_Agenda\_2013-2-21.rtf

May 21, 2013

Members of the Alcohol License Review Committee  
City of Madison

Dear Committee Members,

I'm writing to you today to express my support for Plan B, an important business in my neighborhood. I was very disappointed to learn of the letter that the Marquette Neighborhood Association (MNA) sent to your committee asking for separation of their license. I urge you to deny that request.

Plan B has been a valuable member of my neighborhood since they opened. They have contributed thousands of dollars to neighborhood events and non-profit organizations. They have opened their doors to fundraising events for numerous charities. They have hosted art shows supporting small independent artists on winter Sunday afternoons. They have introduced Fruit Fest to celebrate LGBT Pride Month annually in June. The 900 block of Williamson Street experienced a renaissance after they moved into the largely abandoned building that was once Star Photo.

It is significant that Plan B has taken its place on Madison's iconic Eastside Street in the neighborhood that purports to be "The Place for all People." It is significant that they are not hidden away from view on some back alley or industrial area. They are an important part of the community. No hidden doorways or blacked out windows. They are our neighbors.

The letter from the MNA board states that there is a "serious concern for neighbors and the broader Marquette Neighborhood for approximately four years." I take exception that statement, as a resident of the neighborhood and as a member of the MNA. I was in attendance at the February MNA board meeting where they voted to send this letter. I walked in during the discussion and was quite taken aback by the fact that they were discussing this action without notification to the neighborhood and without even inviting the owners of Plan B to the meeting. I've attached the agenda that was posted to a listserv barely 24 hours prior to the board meeting. You will note that there is no indication that any action was being taken on the 5-minute item "Plan B Update".

Plan B has met continually with neighborhood representatives and city staff since they opened. Most of the discussion has been cordial and productive. Plan B has put up fences, bass traps, added insulation above the dance floor, changed the swing of an exterior door, conducted sound studies, installed a limiter, to name a few, many at the suggestion of neighbors, and yet you will hear that they aren't doing anything.

I still recall a voicemail that I received from a resident of the 900 block of Jenifer Street when I was president of the MNA. It stated simply, "We need to shut Plan B down." And in spite of statements that seem supportive, that is the message that continues to come through. After each step, each improvement, it is never enough.

Plan B has been subject to a constant smear campaign the past few years. If Plan B is guilty of anything, it has been for poor public relations in the face of these attacks. This is a case where "Turn the other cheek," hasn't been effective.

Please end the constant jeopardy of Plan B's license and approve its renewal and reject the request for separation.

Sincerely,

Scott

Scott B. Thornton  
1104 Jenifer Street  
Madison, WI 53703

Cc: Jennifer Zilavy  
Mark Woulf

Marquette Neighborhood Association (MNA) Board

February 21, 2013

Minutes

**Board Members attending:** John Coleman, Nicole Craig, Carl Durocher, Joan Frost, Todd Jensen, Ralph Kuehn, Chris Lukas, Mike Soref, Anne Walker

**Absent:** Tom Boos, Michael Jacob, Cheryl Solaris

**Others Attending:** Scott Kleinfeldt, Matt Magolan, T. R. Loon, Marsha Rummel, Amy Miller, Lynn Lee, Richard Guyot, Patrick Robbins, Julie Spears, Scott Thornton, Lindsey Lee

**Madison Police Update – Matt Magolan**

Officer Magolan reported little new activity in the neighborhood. He works out of the central office and gave contact information: [mmagolan@cityofmadison.com](mailto:mmagolan@cityofmadison.com) and phone: 266-4248.

**Approval of December and January Meeting Minutes**

Carl moved to approve the December minutes (meeting rescheduled to January 3). Joan seconded. The motion passed unanimously. However, there are changes, noted in Festivals Fundraising and Finance.

Carl moved to approve the January minutes, Joan seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**Approval of Treasurer's Report**

Cheryl was absent, but had sent in the following report:

Deposits: \$1,120 in donations/festival support minus \$25.54 Paypal fees for net of \$1,094.46.

Interest received on money market account - \$19.25

Checks written:

Marquette Elementary School - \$1,000 (\$500 to music program, \$500 for misc)

City Treasurer - \$762.96 (Orton Park security applied to accounts payable accrual)

January net income \$113.71

Jan 31 balance for cash \$93,164.70

**Paul Heenan Shooting Update – Amy Miller**

The Federal District Attorney is reviewing the shooting for violation of civil rights. Neighbors asked Chief Wray for an investigation that would be independent of the Police Department.

There are internal complaints against Officer Heimsness, but no public information on the complaints.

Neighbors are continuing to pursue a change in state law.

The letter that MNA resolved to write probably has not been sent. Todd will follow up with Michael Jacob, and draft a letter.

### **Plan B Update**

Plan B and the neighbors went before the Alcohol License Review Committee (ALRC) recently. The neighbors are not satisfied with soundproofing done by Plan B. Plan B insulated the part of the ceiling over the dance floor, covering about one-third the area. According to the neighbors, Plan B is still noisy, except when there is a lot of snow on the roof. The ALRC directed Plan B to continue to meet with the neighbors, with the meetings organized by MNA. Todd will ask Corey Gresen to schedule a meeting.

John moved that MNA notify Plan B that MNA will submit a letter to the ALRC requesting separation of the renewal of Plan B's license if Plan B does not sound-insulate the building to the satisfaction of the neighbors. The ALRC renews licenses in the middle of the calendar year. Anne seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Aldermanic District 6 Candidate Statements**

Both candidates gave brief statements.

### **Alder Report**

Madison City Planning is developing a concept plan for the Yahara Parkway. The plan is intended to prepare the area for further development and to support recreational use of the parkway. The plan will be based on the five neighborhood plans that include the parkway.

### **Committees**

#### **Traffic**

The reconstruction of Atwood and Winnebago Streets is scheduled to begin in 2015. The Winnebago Atwood planning committee consists of representatives from the Schenk Atwood Starkweather Yahara (SASY) Traffic Committee and from MNA. Anne moved that the MNA board support the Winnebago Atwood planning process. John seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

The committee reviewed the neighborhood portion of the city's plan for the bike path and bike boulevard.

#### **Preservation and Development, Public Art. D**

Mike Soref gave an update on the proposals for the North 800 block of East Washington Avenue.

#### **Public Art/Values/Membership/Parks**

Public Art: Todd received agreements from the city for installation of the tree sculpture and for the grant for the sculpture. The agreements will be reviewed before Todd signs them.

There will be a spring Membership Committee meeting. The Parks Committee did not meet.

## Finance, Fund-Raising and Festivals—Chili Dinner, Orton Park

The Chili Dinner will be March 3.

The application for the 2013 Orton Park festival went before the Parks Commission last week. Parks approved the application with the same conditions as the previous year's plan. Parks requires two meetings with neighbors before MNA submits the final plan, a meeting in March and the second meeting in April. T. R. Loon pointed out that the application was the same as last year's, in spite of neighborhood discussion of the festival. Joan volunteered to compile information from the follow-up meeting to the last festival.

Correction to the minutes from the December meeting about the resolution on Bob Queen's Orton Park festival role:

[Bob Queen]...proposed that he continue to arrange the music, lead the set-up of **the stage**, do stage management, and fundraising (i.e., line up sponsors), as a consultant...

Bob proposed that he receive a minimum fee/commission, but with additional payment if the ~~net-profit~~ **sponsorship** reached a threshold...

Other

The Willy Street Coop went before the Plan Commission for its renovation. John will tell the coop that its plans do not fix the walkway in the side parking lot.

Adjournment: Mike moved to adjourn, Anne seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Submitted by Mike Soref, Secretary, MNA Board

# Marquette Neighborhood Association Board

Wil-Mar Neighborhood Center, 953 Jenifer St  
Thursday, February 21, 2013  
7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

## Agenda

### Notified absences:

Item	Time	Vote?	Topic	Minutes
1	7:00		Welcome and Introductions	5
2	7:05		MPD Update - Matt Magolan	10
3	7:15	X	Approval of <u>January Minutes</u>	5
4	7:20	X	Approval of Treasurer's Report	5
<b>Main Order of Business</b>				
5	7:25		Paul Heenan Shooting Update - Amy Miller	10
6	7:35		Plan B Update	5
7	7:40		Aldermanic District 6 Candidate Statements	20
<b>Committee Reports</b>				
8	8:00		Traffic Committee	10
9	8:10		Preservation and Development	10
10	8:20		Public Art/Values/Membership	10
11	8:30		Finance, Fund-Raising & Festivals - Chili Dinner, Orton Park	10
<b>Alder Report</b>				
12	8:40		Alder Report (Marsha)	20
13	9:00		Adjourn	

MNA Board Meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month. The next meeting is Thursday, March 21, 2013, 7-9:00 p.m. at Wil-Mar.