



City of Madison

City of Madison
Madison, WI 53703
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Meeting Minutes - Approved EMERSON EAST-EKEN PARK-YAHARA NEIGHBORHOOD PLAN STEERING COMMITTEE

Wednesday, March 25, 2015

6:30 PM

Bashford United Methodist Church
329 North Street

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Present: 7 - Arthur M. Hackett; Amy L. Klusmeier; Adrienne Sella; Anne V. Gassere;
Douglas J. Buege; Aaron E. Onsrud and Daniel S. Grubb

City Alders and Staff: Alder Larry Palm, District 12; Alder Ledell Zellers, District 2; Linda Horvath and Angela Puerta, City of Madison Planning & Community & Economic Development.

APPROVAL OF March 11, 2015 MINUTES

A motion was made by Buege, seconded by Hackett, to Approve the March 11, 2015 Minutes. The motion passed by voice vote/other.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ethan Safran from W. Gorham St., John Koch from E. Washington Ave., and Indira Ceylan from Upham St. attended the meeting. There were no public comments.

DISCLOSURES AND RECUSALS

None.

1. [32851](#) Plan Development

- Introduction to the new member of the Steering Committee, Anne Gassere, current Co-Chair of Emerson East Neighborhood Association.
- Draft Plan Chapters
 - Parks, Recreation and Open Space Chapter
Buege submitted a marked up draft to staff. He suggests incorporating native plantings, fostering environmental education for school groups, adding living fence for Demetral Park along Pennsylvania Ave. and implementing other activities in parks such as canoe and kayak rentals. He also suggests engaging students either at high school level or younger in caring for some of the plantings. He indicated that there are misspellings that should be corrected on some parkway signs along the Yahara River; also suggested improvements to the soccer field surface at Burrows Park and adding a portable restroom.
 - CDBG funds available in this planning process: \$145,888
Horvath presented some of the previous projects done with CDBG money in the Arbor Hills-Leopold Neighborhood Plan and the Northport-Warner Park-Sherman Neighborhood Plans. Enhancements such as pedestrian street lights, expansion of community gardens, underground water lines, park shelters and public furniture,

Feed Kitchen and artwork to brand neighborhoods.

SC shared ideas for expenditure of CDBG during the current planning process:

- Eken Park: Larger park shelter, water fountain, gathering space with historic features (matching existing green lattice shelters), solar lights.
 - Washington Manor Park: Expansion of community gardens, shelter (flooding issues) picnic tables, power path light (to make music madison) and benches.
 - Neighborhood signs: add a sign at North/Commercial intersection and replace existing sign at East Johnson/East Washington; create a new neighborhood logo; add neighborhood signs at bike bridges; consider metal banners identifying neighborhood.
 - Yahara area: develop branding and identity for this area including specific locations like Fordem Ave./E. Johnson St. and Fordem and Sherman corridors; consider adding welcome to Madison signage in transitions between Maple Bluff and Madison; consider creating a neighborhood association for Yahara area, or appending it to an existing association.
- Recommendations from Emerson East Neighborhood Association for public art and neighborhood identification
 - Community gardens (raised beds possible), bio digesters, composting; check soil contamination and other suitability factors
 - Butterfly monarch waystations
 - Beautification for fences along Packers and Pennsylvania Aves.
 - Refresh Demetral shelter with bright paint, artwork on floor (hopsotch), skylights, remove low wall around shelter to open it up
 - Emerson playground welcoming entrances
 - Fitness stations, parcour course, bocce ball, etc.
 - No-name park welcome sign (parkspace along E. Johnson near First St.)
 - Bike fix-it stations
 - Other ideas for CDBG dollars:
 - Home ownership loan programs; purchase of units for affordability (like 6-12 units at Sherman Terrace); tiny house assistance
 - Other City grant funding ideas to leverage:
 - Madison Arts Commission public art grants; Neighborhood Grant Program for things like neighborhood association startup, neighborhood signs, etc.; Façade Grant Improvement Program

2. [32852](#)

Next Meeting

April 8, 2015, 6:30 p.m., Bashford United Methodist Church, 329 North St.

- SC Chair and vice chair election
- Discussion about voting rights of Chair
- Yahara identity, neighborhood association formation
- Draft Plan Chapters
- 3D Sketch Presentation by Lunde Williams, LLC

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Hackett, seconded by Grubb, to Adjourn. The motion passed by voice vote/other.

Funding for the Emerson East-Eken Park-Yahara Neighborhood Plan project is supported by the City of Madison Department of Planning & Community & Economic Development, Community Development Block Grant and the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development.