

Minutes
VNA Council Meeting
January 12, 2005
Monroe Street Branch Library

Members Present: Richard Scott, Peter Callies, Sarah Naughton, Julia Kerr, Mike Fleenor, Gary Weismer, Nancy Meier-Singer, Dan Graff

Others Present: Dan Feeney, Chuck Erickson and Fraser Gurd

Minutes: The minutes of the November Meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report: Nancy Meier-Singer submitted the Treasurer's Report. The Current Balance is \$5,210.65.

Reports

Julia Kerr: Julia reminded the Council of these issues being considered in the next weeks and months and the dates of the related Meetings. **February 9** will be the next Council Meeting. **February 23** will be the Vilas Neighborhood Meeting. Al Fish from UW will be at that Meeting to present and answer questions about the UW Planning Processes especially the Plans for the re-design of the Monroe-Regent Intersection.

Chuck Erickson

Our County Board Representative reported that **February 17** is the date for Primary Elections. There will be four people in this Primary for our Alder District. Two will advance to the General Elections. He also said that he is hopeful that the Countywide Comprehensive Planning Process will start moving ahead this year.

Membership

Peter Callies reported that the Neighborhood Association now has 120 paid Memberships. The target has been 200. There are 700 addresses in the Neighborhood. After some discussion, Pete will work with the current Block Captains to organize a mid-March Literature Drop including a letter to encourage Household Memberships.

Communications

The Membership discussion moved into a discussion of the effectiveness or usefulness of the Newsletter format as a Neighborhood Communications tool. Other formats mentioned were a Website, a ListServe and an Electronic Monthly Newsletter. No decisions were made. All of these possibilities require Technology and Technology Abilities for both producer (Council) and consumers (Vilas Neighbors).

Zoning-Joint Campus

Fraser Gurd and Mike Fleenor discussed the Issues that are being raised by the UW Campus Planning Processes. Some of these will be a part of the February 23 General Meeting.

Monroe Commons

Dave Keller, spokesperson for the Four Partners that have formed Monroe Common, LLC, gave the Council an Update on the progress of their hopes, designs, plans and negotiations for their Project which includes Monroe Street Housing and a Grocery Store. During and after his presentation, Council Members raised questions and discussed the effects that this potential new development would have on the Neighborhood and Monroe Street. At the end of the Discussion, Sarah Naughton moved, Julia Kerr seconded the following motion. The motion passed unanimously.

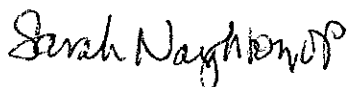
**Resolution Concerning Monroe Commons
1802 – 1864 Monroe Street**

The council of the Vilas Neighborhood Association voted unanimously on January 12, 2005 to support the Monroe Commons development with a grocery store as presented by Monroe Neighbors, LLC. It is our association's belief that this project will be an asset to the neighborhood and the City of Madison; we urge the city to support the development plan in order to allow this project to move forward as expeditiously as possible.

We would also request that the city consider any resolutions or statements prepared by our sister organization, the Dudgeon-Monroe Neighborhood Association. Further, once construction of the building is under way, we would request that the city and/or developer work closely with the public to prepare a design for the plaza at the eastern end of the site that results in the highest quality design and construction of this important element.

The Meeting Adjourned at 9:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Sarah Naughton, OP
January 17, 2005