

MINUTES OF GPA GENERAL MEETING -- SUNDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2021

Call to Order/Attendance – taken from Zoom meeting roster by Bob Keck. We had barely a quorum at this meeting.

Agenda

Inner Loop North: Bergmann & Associates has given the City a sixth concept drawing (the City didn't like their first five proposals). They are calling this their "preferred concept". Their next presentation is on Nov. 2nd with the Community Advisory Committee. Many of us attended the Tues. Oct. 12th Hinge neighbors workshop and viewed it there and made comments. There will be meetings after Nov. 2nd for community input. GPA members should go prepared with statements.

Suzanne reported on this concept. The difference here is that it follows most of the former grid of the region before the Inner Loop was constructed and sliced the region apart.

There are 27 acres in the total project. There are parcels available for development, such as where ILN intersects with Union St., at Andrews Park, sections of University Ave. and the triangle of land abutting East Main St. and the new ILN entrance from Union St. The school will have some green space that is supposed to be accessible by the general community in some fashion.

At the Post Office the concept adds North to South street to join Cumberland Ave and a bicycle path. Olmstead Park across from the Post Office will be revived. Some streets shown do not yet exist.

Suzanne will send the screen shots she showed today so that we can develop our comments. *Do NOT forward this to others!*

Issues GPA should monitor. What should be developed between Delevan and Lyndhurst (which is now one-way). The ILN destroyed over 200 houses there. Our neighbors want to see single family homes. They want the project to "bring back what we lost". They want to keep the one-way streets as is.

Sandy asked – if University Ave. is straightened that will make it a major thoroughfare. Even now, it's treated as a speedway by motorcyclists. Suzanne said, since they're adding connections to Delevan and Central Ave. that should alleviate that. But we need to advocate for traffic controls, like signals, speed bumps, etc. There will NOT be traffic circles.

Richard said – The ILN was created when the City population was much greater than now and traffic in the City was congested. What Concept 6 creates are two uninterrupted streets from east to west – Delevan and Central (as well as University Ave). He's concerned that we will have more traffic on Delevan and University, especially during rush hours. There's no traffic consideration in this proposal. Richard proposes that GPA advocates for a traffic study.

Concept 6 has two options – one with no access road to 490W (preferred) and one with a partial access. Some are worried about access to 490W and the airport. There will be access through neighborhood streets and already there's good access from Union to Howell and across Chestnut St.

University Ave. Protests: Sandy Mayer reported that GPA members on University Ave. are bombarded on a daily basis by the presence of the Planned Parenthood protesters. The PP CEO is not amenable to getting involved. The PP Security head is more sympathetic but can't act if the CEO won't. The police don't enforce the incessant noise ordinance violations and the No Honking signs (\$200 fines). The City

thinks that the protesters are expressing religious and/or political speech. But Sandy noted that none of the three groups of protesters have registered as such.

The neighbors have decided to contest actions of the Planned Parenthood protesters and the lack of City enforcement of noise ordinances. They met with an attorney to see if he could research their standing to bring an action.

Sandy proposes that the University neighbors could solicit pledges for donations from individual GPA members and other concerned neighbors that would be payable as legal fees are incurred. There are at least 22+ people in the neighborhood affected by these quality of life issues.

Sandy said they also need our voices at City Council. The City noise ordinance has an exemption for religious and political speech that we believe should be eliminated. There are no exemptions in other ordinances, such as Brighton.

141 Gibbs Street: This property is neglected by its owner who does not properly maintain the property. Tom Fink reported that he appeared virtually before the Supreme Court to request enforcement actions. The Judge agreed to issue an order requiring the owner to go to jail for not complying with the required standards under law, as well as for failure to pay years of real property taxes due.

Potential acquisition of downtown real estate by University of Rochester: Clayton Jones is the new UR Community Relations Manager. He met with Suzanne and Richard to discuss UR's desire to obtain more real estate downtown. It's unclear where - Block F, RG&E building, the YMCA property? The UR is sending out ambassadors to certain property owners. Suzanne is worried that the UR will not be a good neighbor and that it will potentially be land grabbing. GPA should monitor these actions.

New Venues for Future GPA Meetings: Suzanne and others discussed with Jamal J. Rossi (Dean of the Eastman School of Music) our lack of meeting space and asked if ESM can help us. Can we use the Miller Atrium (owned by UR)? Another option: the Lutheran Church on Chestnut St. (that's been sold to another church).

Parking permits: Bob DiPaola raised the issue again regarding lack of parking permits on Grove St. area streets. The City has allowed Corn Hill and other places to have parking permits. But the current mayor has been unresponsive so we must wait for Malik Evans to succeed her. Then we must see who he appoints as his corporation counsel, chief of police, and other department heads.

Treasurer's Report. Rick McGrath reported that we have \$7,647.19 on balance in the GPA bank account. Presently we have 57 paid-up members (we had a total of 88 members for last year).

Beautification Committee. Pam DiPaola – city clean-up date for leaf pick-ups. We want to replace Grove Place banners and will hope to complete that in the spring.

No reports from Development, Membership and Art Committees.

The next General Meetings will be Nov. 21 and Jan. 16th (no meeting in Dec.) -both on Sundays at 4pm on zoom.

Meeting adjourned at 5:20pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Loeb