

## MINUTES OF GPA ANNUAL MEETING - SUNDAY, APRIL 24, 2022

Call to Order/Attendance – taken from Zoom meeting roster by President Bob Keck. There are 18 members signed on.

### **Agenda - Elections of GPA Officers for 2022-2024**

The Nominating Committee, consisting of VP Sandford Mayer, Christopher Carretta and Secretary, Judy Loeb developed a new slate of officers. Sandy Mayer made the motion to approve the following officers for a two year term for the period May 1, 2022 through April 30, 2024.

President – Richard Rosen

Vice Presidents – Bob DiPaolo and Mark Wilson

Secretary – Judy Loeb

Treasurer – Richard McGrath

Any discussion? none. Any nominations from the floor? none

Motion seconded by: Scott Frame. A quorum is present. Motion passed unanimously by the 18 members present.

Ed Saphar expressed thanks to all of the officers for their leadership over the last two years.

**Rick McGrath, Report of the Treasurer:** Opening balance \$9,352.19. An insurance renewal fee of \$206 was paid. The ending balance for the fiscal year is \$9,146.19.

**141 Gibbs Street - Report by Tom Fink:** Mr. McPherson, the owner, no longer occupies the property. No word of his whereabouts. Tom will call Linda Kingsley of the City to ask why they haven't foreclosed on it since he has not paid a cent of city taxes since he purchased the property.

**University Ave. Protesters – Report by Sandy Mayer:** Six of the GPA members /neighbors went to City Council to report the noise problems. They asked for a revision of the City noise ordinance to remove the exemptions for religious and political speech. Sandy spoke to Linda Kingsley, Corporation Counsel for the City. She opined that changing the noise ordinance wasn't in our favor - and instead we should proceed to mediation with the Center for Mediation. *The problem with mediation is that it is NOT binding on the parties.* Linda will find a mediation attorney for us who will represent the neighbors pro bono. Linda mentioned Susan Gordon, who will attempt to get the protestors to come to the table. If not, that's another reason to request a revision to the noise ordinance. Mayor Evans and the City Council were copied in on Linda Kingsley's emails with Sandy Mayer.

Pam said the protestors' "Sunday service" is during times when PP is not open. So this is not protesting or counseling.

The protestors are still encouraging horn honking and are still using voice enhancers. Some stand in the prohibited zone where they are not legally allowed to stand pursuant to a long-standing injunction. Louisville KY is prosecuting protestors for violating the boundaries so we might contact them for how to info.

Mark Wilson opined that these people are not protesting, they are harassing customers and neighbors. They call themselves “counselors”. They use loud speakers aimed at the condos across Planned Parenthood, not at PP or their customers.

Suzanne said - we have asked Planned Parenthood to move their main entrance to Delevan Ave. but so far they have not done anything and with the ILN proposal that might not be feasible.

Sandy spoke with the Chief Counsel of NYS ACLU. He was not aware that there is an injunction in place. He suggested we try to get that opened. Sandy thinks we don't have resources to do that. Previously the protestors promised to be there one day a week but they have ignored that and have been on site 6 days a week.

**Beautification – Report by Pam DiPaola-** Clean Sweep is Citywide on May 7<sup>th</sup> 9am-noon. Meet at Rick McGrath's parking lot. Donuts and coffee supplied. Areas covered: Charlotte St., Haags Alley, Richmond St. and Pitkin St., the GPA historic streets, and East End from Scio to Chestnut St.

Flower pots – we need 42 of them. Committee plants 3<sup>rd</sup> week in May. GPA pots all labeled and numbered. Info will come out after Clean Sweep.

**Safety Committee – Report by Pam DiPaola** – no news. 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday in May there is supposed to be an in-person meeting.

**Hinge Neighborhood – Report by Suzanne Mayer:** Suzanne will send the latest report on ILN. Hinge gathered 10 points that were not addressed in the City meetings. The cut off for feedback for ILN is the end of April. Forward it to Kim Baptiste of Bergmann Associates or at the ILN website. “Stitch trail” is unknown but it's a path that meanders through the proposed ILN development.

Mr. Fritch is Deputy Commissioner of the ILN. Richard said he spoke with him. There's nothing in the official report but there is a notion to address land use and financing of affordable housing.

Hinge is looking to buy property in the neighborhood to create a co-op in certain of the vacant parcels.

June 5<sup>th</sup> Community event – They have requested that the City close Scio over the bridge for this event. This will show that the neighborhoods can be connected. Let Suzanne know if we can get a food truck there. A contact from NBC Lester Holt program is in touch with Hinge to plan for a TV report on June 5<sup>th</sup>.

**ZAP Update – Report by Bob Keck.** Another proposal is forthcoming and the City will allow comments, but it's never clear if they will listen. The topic will be on design. The City is trying to write a new code from scratch.

**Van White reported** – he has presented a proposal to the Preservation Board to build a garage for the bus that is sitting on his property, which is next to Rick McGrath's office. It is an educational bus available to the community at no charge. It's been vandalized several times. Also – he is a civil rights attorney. He's been approached by residents concerned that Y's are leaving city centers. They've asked him to represent them to protest the Carlson Y's closing.

**Notice of Signage Proposal by REDD restaurant** – they want an oversize sign for the property.

Motion to adjourn the meeting made and accepted at 5:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Loeb, Secretary