

Grove Place Association
January 31, 2016
Meeting Minutes

Attendance: 47 + 3 guests

Meeting Minutes: Posted on the GPA website

Treasurer's Report: Rick McGrath reported that we had a starting balance of five thousand seven hundred seventy-five dollars and eighty-three cents (\$5,775.83). We deposited three thousand four hundred and ninety-five dollars (\$3,495.00) as follows: dues equaled two thousand one hundred dollars (\$2,100), art fund equaled one hundred thirty dollars (\$130.00), beautification equaled one hundred sixty-five dollars (\$165.00), and income from the Holiday Party was one thousand one hundred dollars (\$1,100.00). Expenses were one thousand nine hundred ninety-seven dollars and eighty cents (\$1,997.80) as follows: three hundred twenty-five dollars (\$325.00) to the YMCA, and one thousand six hundred and seventy-two dollars and eighty cents (\$1,672.80) for the Holiday Party (food, wine, entertainment). The balance in the account as of January 31, 2016 is seven thousand two hundred seventy-three dollars and three cents (\$7,273.03).

Guest: Chris Pape brought us up to date on the changes to the Monroe Lithograph building(s). The 39 Delevan St. building has been renovated and now houses 190 climate controlled self-storage units, named "Gibbs Street Self Storage". The business opened on January 1st. He stressed that the storage units are clean, safe and secure. The building has the capacity to take in tractor trailer loads as it has loading docks. Temporary storage without a long term commitment is also available. Chris handed out a coupon for Grove Place members to receive a fifty dollar (\$50.00) VISA gift card for their own rental or if they refer a friend. The next phase of the project will be to renovate the upstairs of the building for office space. There will be ten (10) thousand square feet of handicapped accessible space available with subdivision of the space possible. The former Northside Furniture Building presents bigger challenges regarding renovation.

Book Club Report: The next meeting will be held on March 8th at 7 p.m. at Vern Hanson and Barbara Wager's home, 60 Windsor St. The book to be discussed is Roger Angell's This Old Man.

Hospitality Report: Suzanne Mayer suggested that the reception following the February GPA meeting might be held at Kirkpatrick's Restaurant. There were no objections to that possibility with one member suggesting, though, that Kirkpatrick's become members of the GPA before we have a function there.

Security Update: The crime report for the City of Rochester indicates that there were two car break-ins in the neighborhood.

Beautification/Artwork: Barbara Wager informed us that flower pots have been cleaned out. One of the pots on Windsor St. was damaged by a car and will need to be replaced in the spring. Regarding the neighborhood banners, John Lovenheim will get us an estimate for the purchase of twelve (12) additional banners and the installation ironwork needed.

Regarding Art, the emphasis of the Committee is on places in the neighborhood that have little or no art at the current time. Roz Goldman worked with Mr. Len Urso, Endowed Chair of Metals at RIT, who in turn had his graduate students design art pieces for our neighborhood. The Art Committee voted and selected a piece created by Mr. Yu-Chi Chien and both the artist and a

rendering of the piece was presented to the group. It has been decided that the piece will go on the wall of Nancy & Jim Martin's home on University Ave. The piece, although mounted on their home, will be the property of the Grove Place Association. A motion was made to allocate four thousand dollars (\$4,000.00) and seconded so that the selected piece can be purchased. The motion passed unanimously.

Roz explained that there was a second art piece that the Committee really liked and a picture of the piece was shown to the group. It is proposed to go on the Eastman dorm property. Suzanne has approached the Eastman School about the piece and further talks are expected to take place concerning some type of collaboration on the piece of art. The cost of the piece is six thousand dollars (\$6,000.00) and members were asked to make pledges such that the piece can be purchased. Members who want to pledge money toward the purchase of this piece should contact Roz Goldman or Suzanne Mayer. It was suggested that we might look for a matching grant. Roz has inventoried all the art pieces in the neighborhood that belong to the GPA and the inventory will be posted on the GPA website.

Real Estate and Development Report: There is no update of the RFP for Block F. Suzanne Mayer has notified the University and the Eastman School that the GPA wants to contribute to thoughts about the proposals.

Regarding Charlotte Square, Kim Russell informed that builders are progressing with the build of 72 rental units, consisting on one, two, & three bedroom apartments. The building will have a fitness room, a community room, and music practice rooms as well as a "pocket park" between the two buildings (building #2 has yet to be constructed). The second building will have 10 for-sale units. Kim was not sure when the street will return to two-way traffic but she will get the information.

An update was provided by Suzanne Mayer concerning the Inner Loop project. The East Avenue bridge will be closed one week following the St. Patrick's Day parade and is expected to be closed for sixty to ninety (60-90) days. The Broad Street and Charlotte St. portions of the Inner Loop fill-in are open and will remain open during the closure of the East Avenue bridge. We can expect new traffic patterns as a result of the closing. The final meeting for the Inner Loop project is scheduled for Wednesday, February 3rd at the Monroe Square building on Monroe Ave. This is the last opportunity to give input on the project.

Real Estate update:

- #124 University Avenue continues to be on the market with a price now of fifty-nine thousand nine hundred dollars (\$59,900.00), which is well below the original asking price.
- #143-145 University Ave. is currently having construction work done on it. The roof has been repaired and other projects are ongoing.
- #146 University Ave. (former Blessed Thistle Bakery) has had siding repair done. The building is currently being used for storage.

Code Enforcement Task Force: Examining ways we can request the City to raise fines for landlords who do not keep up their property and to improve code enforcement. It was noted that Mr. Bill Johnson, former mayor of the City who has been appointed by the current mayor, will be examining code enforcement as part of his job.

Announcements:

- Kirkpatrick's Restaurant is now open on Charlotte St.
- Members are encouraged to patronize local businesses such as Kirkpatrick's, Hart's, Downstairs Cabaret Theater, and to purchase the cards that Gloria Weyerts has at every meeting.
- The Grove Place Jazz Project is coming up on its one year anniversary. The students love it and participation from student musicians and vocalists has been strong. The last two shows have had an audience of thirty to forty (30-40) people in the audience. Admission is five dollars (\$5.00) for GPA members and the music is excellent.
- Many thanks to Sandy Shapiro for legal work and tax filing done on behalf of the GPA.
- A Family Medicine practice has been opened in the building across the street from Manhattan Square. There are four physicians in practice there. The practice is affiliated with the University of Rochester. A U of R Lab will also be there.
- Lead testing of the water in the neighborhood was conducted with the results being well below the EPA standard for acceptable lead content. This testing is conducted every three years.
- The "Eastman Presents" series has been outstanding this year and members were encouraged to look at upcoming concerts and to attend the remaining events.

Respectfully Submitted,
Pam DiPaola
Secretary

Handouts: Downstairs Cabaret Theatre event brochure; Gibbs St. Self-Storage coupon