

ANNUAL MEETING

Astor Neighborhood Association, Inc. – Monday, March 16, 2009 – 6:30 PM
First Ev.Lutheran Church 743 S. Monroe Ave. Green Bay, WI 54301

- 1) **Welcome & Introduction of ANA Board Members:** Pres. Andrew Higgins; V. Pres. Jenny Schwenk; Sec./Treas. Pastor Paul Schleis; Jamie Danen, Jacqueline Frank, Christian Kime, Mike Van Handel, Jesse Sharp.
- 2) **March 2008 minutes, March 2008-March 2009 Treasurer's report**

M/S/C to approve the March 2008 minutes and the 2008_09 Treasurer's report.

3) **Mayor Jim Schmitt**

Astor Neighborhood Association is the oldest, of 31 neighborhood associations. We'll be able to keep the City Band concerts in St. James Park. About \$2.5 million, from the Obama stimulus bill, should be coming to Green Bay. Shoreline restoration, Hwy 54/57 Industrial park, road projects (Velp, Military, Webster) are suggested uses. In response to a question of using the money to move the coal piles on Fox River, Mayor Schmitt mentioned that relocation costs would be about \$25 million. We have funds for a consultant, and it's one of ten priority projects. We do not feel that any of our proposed projects are "pork", as we would plan to do them, anyhow.

We hope to find out this week, if the funding for Downtown projects is approved. On Broadway continues to be strong.

4) **Alderman Tony Theisen**

Tony thanked the volunteers in our neighborhood. We've had programs that have continued well, such as the Community Police and the Neighborhood Division. There's always going to be a need for house inspections and litter programs.

The Brown Co. library is the most publically used facility in Brown Co. A consultant has been hired to evaluate the use of its space. In response to a question, Tony Theisen strongly feels that we should continue to be proactive, and not just reactive, with properties problems and inspections.

5) **Our Community Police (CP) Officers Officer Brian Schilt & Officer Paul Van Handel, CSI Billy Baierl**

These officers now cover three different neighborhoods, from "river to river". There are still 18 CP positions, and a drug -detecting dog will be added. Calls for service were often traffic calls, and animal calls. Having two big hospitals also leads to some calls. The officers brought many free pamphlets of various programs and advice. In response to a question of noise levels from vehicles, if you are 75' or further away, and hear loud noise, it's in violation at a \$172 fine. The CPs are trying to get a sound meter, to make the determinations less subjective.

6) Bellin Hospital Presentation & Questions: John Rocheleau & Kim Evans
John and Kim had come to the Feb. 2009 ANA Board meeting, to talk about their proposals with Bellin's Emergency dept., and VanBuren, Cass, and Webster streets.

A PowerPoint presentation was shown. Ambulance and people traffic gets congested in the alley (old Lawe St.). The proposal is that patients would come into the Emergency Dept. on VanBuren, where present undercover parking is. VanBuren would still have two way traffic. Bellin's request is that the city would vacate the east section at VanBuren, and Cass St. between VanBuren and Webster, and designate the western section of VanBuren as an access street, closed to public traffic. The doctors' offices on west VanBuren would still have a VanBuren address. There were questions from the neighborhood about the value of the land that would be vacated. Tony Theisen stressed that the Traffic Commission is still looking at this, and no agreements have been made yet.

The proposal would be to move the access to ManorCare/Bellin would be 400' from Mason, as opposed to 500' now at Cass and Webster. Concerns were expressed about backing up traffic from Mason. Bellin feels that the pedestrian traffic would be clearer. Ambulance only would come off of Webster in the present entrance, and the stoplight there at Webster would be removed. Bellin claims they'd lose about 10 parking spots, total.

Neighbors expressed concerns about traffic and street at the proposed "bump out" near Van Buren and Lawe, snow build up on VanBuren, noise and headlight on the NW area parking, pedestrian crossing at present and future Cass/Webster. There's been no official opinion from City Traffic yet.

There's a Planning Commission meeting next Mon., March 23. The neighborhood would seem to like the Bellin presentation there to be just informational, and not a decision at that time. Bellin is asked to get their information out ASAP, and was thanked for their presentation.

7) Astor Neighborhood Year in Review: Jennie Schwenk. Will be published in the next Astor Outlook.

8) Open Forum

9) Elections: elected for two year terms in March 2008: Andrew Higgins, Pastor Schleis, Jenny Schwenk, Jesse Sharp, and Jacqueline Frank. Those who came on during the year: Christian Kime, Brent Weycker, Joanne Weycker.

M/S/C to reelect all the present Board members.

10) Adjourn. 8:35 PM.

Our next ANA Board Meeting will be Monday, April 20, 2009, 6:00 PM. at Howe Neighborhood Family Resource Center, 526 S. Monroe Ave., Green Bay, WI.

Respectfully submitted,
Pastor Paul Schleis, Secretary/Treasurer