

Notes April 2004

April 22, 2004, Thanks everyone for attending.

HEART OF THE CITY - Citizens for a pro-active process for community vision and planning.

WHAT'S NEXT

- The group agreed to continue Heart Of The City as an unincorporated non-profit association. (Similar to many neighborhood associations.) Initial discussions generated a desire to begin thinking about the Master Plan that will come up again in 2007.
- Anne Penfield offered to establish and maintain the e-mail list. We need to establish use of this list in a responsible manner. No one has time for multiple, multiple e-mails and e-mail replies. Web forum might help. . .
- Next meeting is Thursday, June 24, 6:00pm at Café Carpe.
- Jill Ottow has volunteered to be our Public Relations volunteer. She will send out a press release before the next meeting.
- The group is encouraged to attend and observe city meetings.
 - o City Council meets the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month at 7:30
 - o Planning meets the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month at 4:00
 - o Zoning meets when a meeting is called usually Thursdays at 4:00
- Steve informed the group about a workshop he learned about through "1000 Friends of Wisconsin"
Policy, Planning and Practical Strategies For Creating Active Community Environments, Monday, June 21, 9am-3:30pm in Madison. Specific details at the end of this message. Steve, Jill K and Ann E are currently planning to attend. If you are interested contact Steve.

WHAT'S HAPPENED

- Citizen Clish arranged an interview with Steve Tessmer on WFAW 6:30am news on Monday 4/26 to talk about the initial discussion and extend an invitation to the community.
 - Ann will be in touch with John Wilmet to let him know about the good will of the group, the interest for the city to be involved and extend an invitation for someone from the city to attend the Madison Workshop.
- Other discussion items included:
- The desire for the group to provide an opportunity for civic discourse where citizens are partners in community planning
 - A place for different viewpoints to be civilly discussed

- Invite and include city staff and council members
- Include members of other groups and community organizations
- Better understanding of how planning decisions are made
- How to support city staff when state or county regulations may not be in the best interest of the city
- Finding resources that will help gather information on issues
- Enlist the assistance of the UW-Extension
- A greenbelt around the city
- Dialog based on thoughtful concerns for the greater community good
- The desire to be non-confrontational
- How to recognize the good work of the city staff
- To have time to be thoughtful about change and development
- To better understand the reality of economic limitations
- It takes a city to make a city
- An interest in having the agendas for the City Council and Committee Meetings more visibly publicized
- Explore a web site that will provide basic information and maybe a discussion forum
- Clipping articles regarding issues that will help inform the group
- Review the current Master Plan. Ann E. and Steve T have copies and the Library has a copy to check out. Or Available at City Hall for \$25. Includes great maps.
- The opportunity to use the e-mail list for other possible civic issues (Full page ad participation on issues)

WORKSHOP DETAILS - Policy, Planning and Practical Strategies For Creating Active Community Environments; 9am-3:30pm, \$18 registration fee includes lunch, two breaks and materials. Monday June 21 - Madison

Warner Park Community Recreation Center, 1625 Northport Drive, Madison

Why You Should Attend: Come and Learn:

- Common policies and practices of communities that invite walking and bicycling
- Link between land use, transportation, physical activity and health
- Effective strategies to stimulate and sustain change at the local level

- Techniques for getting others involved; building momentum

What You Will Do

- Examine legal/policy barriers and incentives
- Learn from your peers in rural, suburban and urban areas
- Receive practical information and materials you can use
- Network with citizens and professionals
- Acquire skills for engaging neighbors, youth and older adults
- Draft an action plan for your community

Presented by Department of Health & Family Services-Division of Public Health, Wisconsin Walks, Health Promotion Project, University of Wisconsin-Madison. In collaboration with AARP of Wisconsin, Bicycle Federation of Wisconsin, 1000 Friends of Wisconsin, WI Department of Transportation. Registration materials will be available in April. For more information, contact info@wisconsinwalks.org, 262-375-6180