

Heart of the City

December 10, 2007 – Police Station

Present: Kitty Welch, Steve Tesmer, Jill Kessenich, Joan Callan, Lue Ehinger, Mary Linton, Kathy Kaufman, Josie Gobel, Joanne Moon, Margaret Martin, Roger Martin, Steve Clein, Leslie LaMuro, Beth Gehred, Rodell Lee, Ron Noe

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm by President Kitty Welch.

Approval of November meeting minutes.

Truth to Power Moment: Kathy Kaufman read from a Christmas card received today about simple living.

Treasurer's report:

None.

Projects Committee report:

Main project currently is finding ways to use the garbage cans we collected. Contact with art teachers discussing having students decorate cans. Parks department is interested in using cans, they have indicated that they could use a minimum of 60.

Community Garden brochure is being updated, plot map is being developed for reserving next year's plots. HOC received a letter of thanks from Peggy Sundquist for work done at the garden.

Speakers for future meetings:

Leslie LaMuro suggested getting Educators to talk at next meeting about Focus the Nation.

Old Business

Big Heart award nominations: Steve Tesmer will collect all of the nominations from past meetings and present for next meeting.

Video Presentation

Design e² video on community based wind energy projects. Focused on Southern Minnesota initiatives.

Discussion:

R. Lee: Owns a farm between Fort and Cambridge, also has land in New Mexico, where a wind farm is currently being developed. For various reasons, Wisconsin has not been as receptive to wind farms. Objections have been visual impact, noise, danger to birds.

Announcements

Kathy K: County will be developing a master plan for the Mason Farm. Chad Dallman is a new employee of the county parks dept, he is very open to new ideas and encouraged HOC to submit ideas to him.

Kitty: Rock River Coalition is planning a sustainability conference for September of 2008, in Oconomowoc. They have invited HOC to present at the conference.

Kitty was contacted by a representative from Neighborhood Electric Vehicles, they may present to HOC at a future meeting.

HOC representatives will be attending a future Chamber of Commerce Retail Committee meeting.

Beth: Tomorrow (12/11 7:00 pm) Jefferson County board will be meeting to discuss a potential exemption to county agricultural zoning. Tombstone business displaced by bypass wants to relocate business to a piece of land currently zoned agricultural. Encouraging local attendance & input.

Jill K: Next meeting of Comprehensive Plan steering committee will be Joint meeting with City Council & Planning Commission. Monday January 7, 6:00 pm.

Next Steering Committee Meeting: January 28, location TBD

Next General Membership Meeting: January 14, Café Carpe

Adjournment: 8:40 pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Steve Tesmer