

Notes from Green Bay Neighborhood Leadership Council (GBNLC)
Meeting
August 1, 2013

1) Mayor's report

Mayor Jim Schmitt was not able to attend this meeting so there was no report from the executive office of the City.

2) Economic Development

Greg Flisram from the economic development office updated the group on all the activity in the City:

- a) Schreiber Foods facility with an early summer 2014 occupancy
- b) Children's Museum
- c) City Deck
- d) KI Convention Center expansion to start this year along with the Clarion sale and remodel.
- e) 84 unit apartment at Main and Washington to start this year.
- f) Washington and Walnut 93 unit complex to start this year.
This will have underground parking which is sold to the Nicolet building
- g) Titledown Brewing expansion in the old Larsen Canning facility.
This will include more brewing space as well as a banquet facility.
- h) Two other former Larsen buildings to be turned into apartments.
- i) Northland renovation expected to start this Fall at a total cost of \$35 million.
- j) Former Schauer & Schumacher building to be converted into retail with indoor parking. Construction to start this year.
- k) Heritage trail missing link through the main street corridor.
- l) Expansion of Lambeau field in process.

- m) VA clinic to open Aug 15. This is expected to create spin off projects in the area. Significant inquiries about property available in the area.
- n) Burlington Coat Factory will open in the old Cub Foods west building.
- o) Neighborhoods:
 - 1) University Ave plan in process. This is running concurrent with the downtown plan. An outside consultant has been hired to help in the process. One of the main opportunities is the repurpose and redevelopment of the former Packerland Packing site.
 - 2) The East Town mall area is a focus. The property has been placed in receivership. Not enough traffic is getting off the highway to patronize the merchants. City will invest in highway signage.
 - 3) University Ave new business starts may be eligible for forgivable seed loans up to \$7500. The same is true along Velp ave.
 - 4) The I-43 park is essentially built out with a number of large projects under way this summer. The next focus will be the University Heights Park at 54/57
- p) Work is underway for a grocery store downtown being put together as a cooperative. The organization needs 1000 members and already 800 have signed up. This will be near the bus station. This sometimes is a chicken and egg situation since people shop where they live not where they work so many larger chains are reluctant to do anything until the population is in the area.

3) Fire Department

The new Fire Chief Mr. Litton was introduced. He has only been on the job about 4 weeks. He had spent 31 years in the Chicago Metro

area with 25 years as a paramedic. He has family in the Green Bay and Appleton area. He will be residing in the University Park area.

The fire at Hilltop was just ahead of his start date. Although the cause has not been determined, that fire had burned for at least 30 minutes before they were notified. He listed steps everyone should take to preclude fires in their homes:

- 1) Clean the dryer lint vent and the exhausting vent
- 2) Do safety inspections of the wiring, furnace and chimney
- 3) Need fire extinguishers and be sure they are up to date
- 4) Smoke detectors
- 5) Carbon monoxide detectors. Many units are sold as a combination smoke detector and carbon monoxide detector. That is not good. Smoke rises so the smoke detectors should be located near the top of the wall but carbon monoxide is a heavy gas so a carbon monoxide detector should be located at floor level.

4)World Record Zumba

A local group is organizing a Zumba Day by the Bay to be held Saturday Sept 14, at 2pm in the Lambeau Field parking lot. The goal is to get 10,000 people to participate. This is being monitored by Guinness for world record status for the world's largest Zumba class. This is being done to encourage physical activity and promote healthy life styles. This is the day before the home opener. People have been signing up from as far away as Chicago with some addresses from South Dakota. All communities in Northeastern Wisconsin are already represented. There will be a separate area for Neighborhood Associations. There will be 100 instructors. The current record is 7000. Assuming this attempt at the record is successful, it could turn into an annual event although scaled down

and not necessarily seeking record status each year. There is no fee but admission will be an item of canned food.

5) Operating Grants and other city staff comments

Operating grants were discussed and are due end of August

The neighborhood staff talked about the organization in general. The Association has to be inclusive and not a social group. Staff will attend as many annual meetings as possible. Recommendations are to bill the annual meeting as more social orientated and informative than business. Suggestions were to offer door prizes, and get a speaker on a hot topic.

6) Captain Bill Bongle city police department

Capt Bill Bongle talked about an emphasis on preventing bicycle theft. Officers will be issuing citations if the cycle is not registered. Riders will be stopped and checked under this initiative.

Social Media is an important tool in fighting crime. Facebook postings of suspects' pictures have been very helpful. An armed robbery suspect was recently identified and arrested within one hour after the posting on facebook. The police received a call from a local lodging establishment and given the room number where the suspect was staying. On a more humorous note, one suspect was arrested after he was identified after committing a crime and being photographed by a security camera while wearing a shirt with his name embroidered on it.

The landlord training was attended by 75 people and will be held again in October.

