

**Little Bohemia Neighborhood Association**  
**Meeting notes, October 1, 2015**

**Meeting hosted by Aaron, 374 W Sturgis St, 7:00 PM**

Chaired by Mark Fangmeier

**Bike path update.** We have 30 trees that will be listed on the Tree Trek. This is a mapped tour of unique species developed by the U of M, with a QR code for smartphones. Check the Web site: <http://ufoutreach.weebly.com/tree-trek-trees.html> 3 carpenters are submitting bids for a sign/bulletin board explaining Tree Trek and our neighborhood. If you know carpenters who are interested, please contact Jen Gelhar.

The city has ceased watering for the season. The water-retention bags must be removed before temperatures plummet. We have protecting wrap for the trunks. What to do about water next year? Will the SPFD water occasionally if we ask them?

Journeys thinks the DNR Forest program would be a good one for their students. This may help with long-term maintenance of trees on the bike path.

The U of M is donating 5 more trees as part of Phase I. We will get them soon, and must plant them quickly.

Next month (November) we may vote on a name for the bike path.

MNDoT will start Phase II soon, going up the St. Clair hill. Our ideas will be welcomed, perhaps at a public meeting.

It is not clear when we will get CPIB funding for water along the bike path and other areas. ‘Water’ includes lighting and new paving! We do not currently have a maintenance plan—neighbors have turned out informally as needed—but we may need to create one, similar to how we handle the garbage can in Pleasant Park.

**Housing update.** The Charles Palmer house has moved from Smith, beside the Stone Saloon, to 41 Douglas Street. We have presented an RFP for 314 Harrison and 376 Sturgis: these are vacant lots on corners. We are waiting to hear back from the city. There’s no further news at this time about the Goodrich duplex. The Forbes properties are coming right along.

**Journeys playground update.** No one has heard anything. There is no set date for the old playground demolition, though we had heard it would be “before the snow flies.” The school is supportive of whatever we are interested in doing, but they have no funding for us. The preschool at the Salvation Army also uses the playground: they had not heard it was scheduled for demolition, and are willing to join with us on this issue. We have heard that the Parks Board and county schools can “swap” properties, both being governmental entities.

**Trailer parking ordinance.** Council member Thune got an ordinance passed requiring trailers to be parked on the street to be attached to a vehicle. This was aimed at keeping trash-filled trailers parked on the street. Council member Tolbert is getting some pushback from people who want to park boats and trailers in front of their houses, and want to move the ordinance

back to 48 hours. There will be a public hearing at 5:30 PM on October 7 at City Hall. Those who may wish to express opinions are cordially invited to attend.

**Heading Home Ramsey presentation.** Deborah Padgett presented on this program. It's an initiative to end homelessness in Ramsey County by 2020, and end veterans' homelessness by the end of this year, 2015. The board is a collaborative group of service provider agencies, housing providers, community leaders, law enforcement—the entire range of people who provide services to the homeless, and assess gaps/barriers/needs for homeless people. The group is actively recruiting. Deborah passed around a card with information. See <http://www.headinghomeminnesota.org/>, or call 651-266-4116.

**Vision for LBNA's Facebook page.** Yes, we have one. It's been primarily a community bulletin board, with events, art crawls, items for sale, etc. Local business are getting more interested in posting to it. We have not gone the path of the "West 7<sup>th</sup> Cool Kids" in formulating specific policies. Do we need some? The general consensus seems to be that we're doing pretty well without.

Special note: the Department of Public Works is currently examining its winter streets maintenance and snow emergency operations and would like your feedback. You can find their survey here:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1oLYZT7KQYGvMEkci38i13t3Svkyo5yLfDi1dCY0H8k8/viewform>

**Problem properties:** 275 Erie Street, the former church that was always zoned as a single-family home. It has been (illegally) a triplex, and the current owner is trying to get neighbors to agree to a variance and make it a duplex. Neighbors are unwilling. The owners may be approaching nearby renters for signatures, who cannot legally agree to support such variances.

**Safety concerns:** Nikki and Katherine have suffered a theft of a bicycle from their garage, through their back alley gate. Please be vigilant!

Remember to call 266-8989, and report nuisance properties to the City.

We need a host and site for November's next LBNA business meeting. Send agenda ideas to [info@littlebohemiaspaul.org](mailto:info@littlebohemiaspaul.org)

If you find glaring errors in these notes, please send corrections to [sisk@macalester.edu](mailto:sisk@macalester.edu)