

**Little Bohemia Neighborhood Association**  
**Meeting notes, June 4, 2015**

**Meeting hosted by Erica Hazelett, 528 Harrison Avenue, 7:00 PM**

Co-chaired by Lindsay and Mark.

**Introductions!** Around the room meeting our neighbors.

**CIB (Capital Improvement Budget) Grant Presentation update.** We have not been recommended for a grant. Only the top 6 projects got funded; we were number 11. You can still put pressure on Mayor Coleman to add ours to the budget! We may yet get moved up the list; more news forthcoming. **\*UPDATE as of 6/8/15: Our proposal has been recommended at full funding!**

**Pleasant Place and CRP (Community Roadside Partnership) Grant update.** This is our “bike path improvement” partnership with MNDOT. Prep night is Friday, June 12, 4:00 to 7:00 PM. Meet at Pleasant Place. The actual work is on Planting Day, Saturday June 13, 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM (9:30 AM for team leads). Sign up at <http://www.volunteerspot.com/Group/1256951682080/>. The more volunteers we have, the quicker and easier this project will go!

Home Depot has donated \$300 worth of equipment, including shovels, buckets, a cooler, etc. toward this project. Volunteers are encouraged to bring tools and gloves. There was discussion about putting up a small ‘LBNA garden shed’ to store community tools. Journeys School is launching a Forestry program, and may be willing to host such a shed on school grounds. We have a little money from grants and T-shirt sales, about \$500, for a shed and tools. Could we match this amount? We hear that Home Depot is currently working to sell off TuffShed display models—we’ll check into this.

One neighbor raised a question about ongoing maintenance, with runoff, drug deals and portions of the path that are collapsing. Perhaps this grant and the lighting will help some of those problems. Too, once MNDOT and Parks & Rec put some money into the bike path, maintenance may be a higher priority.

**Fiscal Agent update.** We are ready to go with having the *Community Reporter* as our new fiscal agent. Mark is going to wait until after Planting Day to make the switch. This will enable us to keep the dedicated (restricted) planting funds separate from regular LBNA funds, and make things easier for the new Agent. Once we have an Agent, we can legally raise funds!

**Housing update regarding HRA (Housing Redevelopment Authority) properties.** Tom has talked to Joe Musoff. Joe suggests that a developer specializing in smaller homes may be interested in 47 Douglas and 67 Garfield. Jeffrey Austin may also be interested. Joe thinks the city may be willing to negotiate pricing to get some deals done. 29 Douglas, the ‘moved’ house, has been sold! To a resident family! This should make it possible for the Forbes rehabs to sell for higher prices, once they’re completed.

**Question:** what about the vacant 2-story house on Sturgis? Is this city-owned? *The bank that owns it had not started the foreclosure process, so it could not be sold. Jeffrey Austin, owner of the River Garden Yoga studio, may be retaining a lawyer to push the bank toward foreclosing—so that he can then proceed with buying and rehabilitating it.*

**Pleasant Place sign: what partners to add?** We have an awesome sign created by John Yust. Are there partner groups we'd want to list, on small plaques? Suggestions include: MNDoT; Home Depot; MN Nature; Journeys School; Public Works; Little Bohemia Neighborhood Association (of course); Fort Road Federation.

**National Night Out planning.** NNO is Tuesday, August 4, 6:30 PM until 9:00 PM at the intersection of Garfield Street and Harrison avenue at Pleasant Place, along the bike path. What would we like to do this time around? Be thinking about this. Flyers will be distributed before our July meeting. Lindsay has put in requests for police, mounted and K9 units and firefighters. Live music? A DJ? (Lindsay volunteers.) Bouncy house? A sand/salt truck? Sumo wrestlers? Yard games? The Tachenys? One or more food trucks? Local restaurants (Chris & Rob's, Glockenspiel, Day by Day, DeGidio's)? Potluck? BYOB? Will we need to run electrical cables from Journeys, or bring one or more generators? Tom notes that anyone with a folding table is sincerely requested to bring it.

**Problem Properties/Safety Concerns.** Erica notes that last Friday (May 29), her garage door had been pried up. Some items had been rifled through but nothing stolen. Erica filed a notice with the police. Make sure your garages, sheds and doors are locked.

There has been a Facebook post about a young black man with dreadlocks, Marcus, who had been talking about selling drugs and exhibiting some erratic behavior. Some people in the neighborhood know Marcus, who he is, his Listening House connections, and what his circumstances are. There's been no actual criminal action, just odd behavior. There is no restraining order against Marcus. Take note.

If you see anyone engaged in suspicious activity, please call the police. If you're out back mowing the lawn or relaxing on your patio, lock your front door.

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

**Question:** have we heard anything further about the 'garden' plot on Richmond, the guy who was thinking about building multiple tiny houses? *No, we've not heard anything.*

**Question:** the small house next to the Stone Saloon on Smith is going to be moved. We think it's going to be put down at 41 Douglas and then rehabbed. What's the timetable? *It was supposed to have been done already. Presumably it'll happen "real soon now."*

**Upcoming events of note:**

\*West 7<sup>th</sup> PetPALS Benefit Concert, 6/12/15, 7:00 to 11:00 PM, Schmidt Artist Lofts  
Brewhouse—live music, food & drink, donations accepted at the door (email  
[w7thpetpals@gmail.com](mailto:w7thpetpals@gmail.com))

\*West End Neighbors' Garden Tour, 6/20/15, 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM  
([www.fortroadfederation.org](http://www.fortroadfederation.org) or 651-297-9000)

\*Grand Oak Opry with Brad Senne, 6/27/15, 7:30 PM, 273 Goodhue Street

The next LBNA business meeting will be 7:00 PM Thursday July 2, hosted by Sara Diedrich at  
421 Goodrich Avenue. 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)