
DMNA Council Meeting Minutes for 1/04/23

6:45 pm, Zoom remote call

IN ATTENDANCE

Diego Saenz, Catherine Jagoe, Lisa Grueneberg, Marie Trest, Dennis Trest, Shawn Schey, Kathy Engebretsen, Tim Thompson, Carole Kantor, Tom Huber, Daryl Sherman, Tag Evers, Josh Napravnik, Marcia Diamond, Michael Schneider, Annie Balch, Marc Gartler, Lynn Bjorkman, Ann Clark, Sandy Stark

PROCEDURAL

- Call to Order: 6:45 p.m.
- There was a unanimous vote to approve the agenda.
- There was a unanimous vote to approve the December meeting minutes.

ALDER'S REPORT

- Judge William Conley ruled in favor of the City and dismissed Edgewood's religious discrimination lawsuit in its entirety. The release of the ruling was unexpected—it came late on Friday December 30, right before the New Year's weekend. Judge Conley issued a 28-page decision which gave Edgewood no quarter. They may still appeal at Circuit Court, but Tag has a hard time imagining on what grounds. Or they might go back to the Plan Commission with another proposal.

Tag is very happy with the decision, and grateful to those who worked on this process by offering public testimony. The news made the front page of Tuesday's *Wisconsin State Journal*. Tom Huber read all 28 pages and recommends sharing the link with others who don't understand the case well; the Judge's "Opinion and Order" (final ruling) for the case is here:

<https://storage.courtlistener.com/recap/gov.uscourts.wiwd.47288/gov.uscourts.wiwd.47288.105.0.pdf>

- Common Council last night: Complete Green Streets policy was finally approved unanimously after 3 years in the making. It emphasizes pedestrian and bike safety. Misinformation was spread that the City was set upon removing urban canopy. In fact, in some instances the streets will become slightly narrower to reduce traffic speed, which would increase terrace width and allow for larger trees.

- City is proposing changes to the "Family" occupancy definition for zoning purposes—Tag spoke to the Mayor, who agreed to defer the decision until June so the neighborhoods can understand the changes proposed. If you wish to oppose this, be strategic and do not merely cut and paste a prewritten email but research the issue and write your own letter.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Dennis reviewed DMNA's income and expenses for December.

Income: Total \$2,955.75
Expenses: Total: \$2,379.13
Current Membership: 751

Our December 2022 income included an extremely generous \$1,000.00 donation from Richard and Pat Friday, and a \$250 donation from Thrivent. We are grateful for both.

The treasurer's report was accepted by unanimous vote after a correction was made.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- Diego has been talking to Garth's Brew Pub on Monroe Street about hosting a DMNA social event there in February. More details at the February meeting.

AGENDA ITEMS

- **Class B alcohol license application** – Tim Thompson. Tim spoke to the Council about his vision for a new restaurant, "One and Only," on the premises of the former Brasserie V. Tim lives nearby, at 622 Stockton Court, and has an accepted offer on the Brasserie V building. He owns several restaurants in the area, one on Randall Street and others in Fitchburg, Middleton, and Maple Bluff. His plan is to offer a modern American bistro that combines some of the features of Brasserie V with new elements. He hopes to open in early summer. They will not be offering outdoor seating; however, they will have retractable glass panels on the front windows, which creates an open-air feel in good weather. They are applying for a wine, beer & liquor license, planning to serve craft cocktails, craft beers and a large wine selection. They will not sell takeaway alcohol. Hours: 6-7 days/week, lunch and dinner, closing time at 10 pm during week, possibly till midnight on weekends. Application will be reviewed Jan 19 at the Alcohol License Review Committee meeting and then at Common Council. Ann Clark voiced concern about the hours and liquor license leading to noise from drunk patrons leaving late in the evening, as has happened near the Laurel Tavern, but Tim argued that a restaurant is different from a bar and there should not be disturbance to the neighborhood.
- Josh moved (seconded by Shawn) that DMNA support One and Only's application for a liquor license at the upcoming ALRC Meeting. The motion passed.
- **Update on Edgewood lawsuit** - Daryl Sherman spoke on behalf of the Edgewood Liaison Committee, which is very happy with the judge's ruling that there was no religious discrimination against Edgewood by the City of Madison. The 28-page ruling is thorough and doesn't leave any loopholes. Daryl hopes that Edgewood will come back to working with DMNA and the other neighborhood associations. Shawn asked if Mike Elliott is still the high school president. Marie said that he retired and has been replaced Kevin Ray. However, Mr Elliott is still active in Edgewood affairs (but not the stadium). Marc thinks Mr Elliott moved out of state.
- **Proposed Family Occupancy Zoning Changes** - Josh Napravnik
Tag mentioned this briefly earlier. The vote on this has been delayed until June. A quick overview of what's being proposed and why: in many zoning districts, five unrelated individuals are allowed in an owner-occupied house. However, if you are renting the house, you are only allowed one other unrelated person. The zoning change is intended to level the status of owner- and renter-occupied properties (one owner/renter plus four others). There is concern that college housing renters will take advantage of this to expand into Vilas and DMNA. Greenbush residents are concerned that their

neighborhood will become all college houses with 5 unrelated students partying every day. The thorny issue is how to reconcile college and city zoning.

Diego said there are many rental properties in Greenbush and downtown that are legally allowed to have more unrelated individuals because they are grandfathered in under old requirements. There are lots of student houses in TR1 zoning areas in Vilas and Greenbush—so people are either breaking zoning law, or there is a loophole, or they are grandfathered in. Marc thought that Mound St might be where the cutoff point is? Is that a separate zoning area? City of Madison law says you cannot discriminate against students in terms of housing, as they are a protected category.

Katie Bannon is the new zoning administrator (replacing Matt Tucker).

Shawn asked if a duplex could have 10 adults and 5 children? How do they define households? Also, the city says a household would need 100 square feet per person. Does that mean that an 1800 square foot property could hold 18 people?

Josh said the City will be looking at other college towns to see how they manage zoning and student housing issues.

Marc pointed out that this change would affect UW staff. A lot of people work on campus and nearby housing has become less affordable. Staff would prefer to live closer to campus if higher density is possible. Does UW have data on their workforce housing? Where would the UW like their staff and graduate students to live? The only obvious source of data is the UW commuter survey every other year, which asks where staff are commuting from.

Shawn has tallied up the occupations listed in DMNA directories over last 20 years. One of the most common professions is professor. Many professors, lecturers and staff live in Dudgeon-Monroe.

- **DMNA's Annual General Meeting (last minute addition): Carole pointed out that February 3 is the deadline for submitting an announcement about DMNA's annual spring meeting, which needs to appear in the March Hornblower. Marie said we need to come up with a new location, as last year there were difficulties booking the room we have used in the past, at Edgewood College. The Quaker Meeting House might be a possibility. Diego said we should talk amongst ourselves about the date, location, presentation topic, and speaker; however, no one volunteered or was delegated to take responsibility for the decisions to be made.**

Tom moved to adjourn. Catherine seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8:11 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Catherine Jagoe.