

ICON - Regular Meeting – October 30, 2017  
First Church of the Brethren  
2109 Yale Boulevard, Springfield, IL

PRESENT: Bill Basket (LPNA), Kurt DeWeese (HWSNA), Molly Berns (SSCRPC), Sam Cahnman (The Avenue), Bonnie Drew (City of Springfield), Curt Drew (IPNA), Paul Durand (visitor), Arlene Flury (VHNA), Joe Gooden (visitor), Rianne Hawkins, Leslie Horath (Grand Central), John Kelker (United Way), Carol Kneedler (IPNA), Mark Mahoney (City of Springfield), Dee Nelson (VHNA), Paul O’Shea, Polly Poskin (HPNA), Darrell Riffey (HWSNA & The Avenue), Sharon Riffey (HWSNA & The Avenue), Colleen Stone (Habitat), Andrew Proctor (Alderman Ward 5), Cathy Twyman (VHNA), John Williams (Sierra Club)

August minutes approved. Treasurer Darrell Riffey reported current balance \$6,213.67. Sharon Riffey provided the **City Council** report – Welcoming City, which ICON supported, was sent back to committee; will require supermajority to be reconsidered. Upcoming: Peoria TIF and Comprehensive Plan.

Bill Basket provided a **problem properties committee** update – committee met 10/18 at MJ’s in Enos Park. We are tracking 22 properties that are on admin court list; 5 were fined; 1 was 6-pointed; 4 were in “perpetual construction mode” (building permits with allowed violations) and 3 were possibilities for 6-pointing. Next meeting: January 17, 2018.

Marty Vandiver talked about the **Annual Meeting** to be held Dec 13 at the Inn at 835. Tickets are \$35 and include dinner and program. Darrell has tickets for sale. The speaker is Vasudha Pinnamaraju, the Executive Director of the McLean Regional Planning Commission. Nominations for Good Neighbor Awards are still open; we have 2 nominees so far; more nominations are welcome. Sponsorships are available.

Carol listed workshops she attended at the 2017 **Regional Neighborhood Network Conference**, which she attended. The 2018 conference will be Oct 4-6 in Dayton Ohio.

**ICON main artery street cleanup** 11<sup>th</sup> St from S Grand to Stanford was done on Oct 21. Next cleanup will be Ash from 11<sup>th</sup> to Southeast High School on Saturday, November 4 at 8am.

**City of Springfield Comprehensive Plan Presentation**

Bonnie Drew, Deputy Mayor, introduced the Comprehensive Plan. SSCRPC Associate Director Molly Berns provided an extensive review of the process. Bonnie, Molly, Public Works Director & member of Committee Mark Mahoney, Planning & Zoning Commission Member Joe Gooden and member of the Committee Carol Kneedler answered questions related to the plan. Many questions were related to the impact of the plan on older neighborhoods, but also the effect of the plan on sprawl and growth. Those include: creating and adopting neighborhood land use plans by reference into the Comprehensive Plan, neighborhood centers, and historic districts.

Speakers emphasized the importance of informing aldermen that residents support the plan and ask for it to be passed with provisions benefiting residential neighborhoods. Carol will send an email with talking points and/or a form allowing people to send comments to

[feedback@springfield.il.us](mailto:feedback@springfield.il.us), per a suggestion from a member. Planning & Zoning will have a special meeting on November 16 5:30pm to review the plan and provide feedback to City Council. The Plan has already had a first reading at the Council, so could be acted on as early the Tuesday after the P&Z meeting. The last Comprehensive Plan had 20 amendments by the City Council without any input from planners, from Planning & Zoning or from the public. ICON will request that there be input on amendments from P&Z Commission, from City staff, from SSCRPC planners and the public before amendments are adopted. Also suggested was an ordinance, rejected in 2000, that the City Council would require a supermajority vote to approve any zoning request that was contrary to the plan and for which P&Z and staff recommended denial. ICON will consider such an ordinance.

**Upcoming Dates**

- Problem property committee meeting January 17 at Dee Nelson's house.
- ICON November 27 meeting – Good Neighbor Award announcement.

Respectfully submitted,  
Carol Kneeder