Minutes of Arbor Hills Neighborhood Association Annual Meeting

Welcome by president Jim Cortada began at 6:30
Talked a bit about Scott, neighborhood police patroller.  Stressed Seven Eleven progress and lower crime due to his presence. He will be rotating out of this job.
Listed highlights of the year:
6 food cart nights
4th of July event
Light bill decreased
We are within budget this year.
New web site created
Lots of new families have moved into the neighborhood.
Property values are rising

Board priorities:  explore a software package that will manage all our neighborhood information
Expand relationship with Leopold School
Work with police department especially while Fish Hatchery Road gets worked on.
Reminder to fill out census form this coming year
Participate in park events
Pay attention to south Madison.  We are bigger and more noticeable.

Treasurers Report by Neil Dinndorf:  163 members, we budgeted for 200.  We need to spread the word to new families.  We are trying to go digital.  Total cash this year $12,000 plus.  We are looking at ways to use those dollars.  We want to give back to the community.  There are forms for neighbors to fill out to apply for grants for ways to spend some of this money.  Summarized written report. Biggest cost is printing newsletter.
We will set number at 180 members for 2020.  There is no budget for a new directory for next year.  Possibly will do it online.  We do plan on keeping a printed version of the newsletter as of now.  Question from Bob Alt about dues still being $20.00.  He suggests it be raised by $5.00.  Another suggestion was to put speed posting signs in the neighborhood to slow down cars.  Budget was approved.

Sheri Carter:  gave a history of south Madison.  Arbor Hills had one of the first parade of homes with 3 homes in the 1950,s.   Arbor Gate started the redevelopment process.  There is a lot of new development coming in: Home to Home Hotel, Madison College, Royal Apartments to name a few.  We want to make sure our neighborhood remains accessible to many income levels.  How do we construct our goals for South Madison?  The infrastructure is different.  There will be a process.  She is looking at more lights in the neighborhood.  She is concerned about North Fish Hatchery redesign.  She is working with traffic engineering.  Residents should let Sheri know if they see problems.  She has been continually working with Captain Hanson. There was a discussion about the fast speed on Grandview and some other streets.  A resident noted trees need trimming on Todd Drive.

Mayor’s report:  Satya Rhodes-Conway:  it is clear we need “traffic calming” in many neighborhoods.  She is trying to engage in communities so was happy to be invited to our meeting.  There are “coffees with the mayor” instituted since she has been in office.  She instructs her staff to be engaged in what is going on in community.  Madison is growing, expected to add thousands of new jobs and traffic comes with that growth.  The Town of Madison may be incorporated into the city of Madison.  There will be an election right after this happens.  Spoke about the importance of being engaged in the south Madison redevelopment.  We need to think carefully about housing costs in the future.  Does not want people to be displaced from their neighborhood.  Top priority is affordable housing.  We need to be producing more housing, low income and start up housing.  Another priority is transportation to jobs.  There are good jobs available but people need to be able to get to them.  She used Exact Sciences as an example.  An investment in the transit system is essential.  People’s commutes are changing.  Increased funding for neighborhood gathering places, libraries, youth centers.  Storm water and flooding studies are being done to address issues.  Asked resident to please rake leaves out of your gutter.  We need to keep the leaves out of the streets and therefore out of the lakes.  She is hoping to get more time for foresters so more tree trimming can be done throughout the city.   She gave a plea to submit the census when it comes out.  There are over 100 city committees so come on down and join up.

Slate of officers for the board was presented, moved and seconded.

Captain Mike Hanson:  spoke about shootings on Churchill.  Gave a summary. Anger management issues is at the root of many shootings.   He is highly committed to neighborhood/community policing.  Gave a handout on crime data that compares neighborhoods.  Spoke to traffic issues.  One idea, have citizens record speeders with a laser gun.  Two people sit in car and one operates gun, one records.  Another idea, put a marked squad car on the street. A third idea is a speed net that flashed your sped.
Our community officer, Scott, will be put on patrol.  There is nothing in the budget to replace him.  There is a liaison officer in place.  Captain Mike offered to stay after if people had questions.

Meeting adjourned at 8:24 pm.