

ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday October 11, 2022
Arbor Covenant Church

President's Report & Bylaw Updates- Ashley Gibson, AHNA President

- a) History
 - i) Arbor Hills became a Neighborhood in 1956, was then on the outskirts of Madison. In 1963 there was a garden club created. That org grew to 50 members in 3 years. Maintained the landscaping, organized events and coordinated with local officials.
- b) AHNA Today
 - i) Over 180 members this year. No longer on the outskirts of Madison and overall an awesome place to live
 - ii) Our Mission: to create a sense of community by holding events and developing spaces that are welcoming and inclusive for all residents.
 - (1) We've held lots of events towards this mission this year
 - (2) Communication: quarterly newsletters, regular emails, Facebook page, Nextdoor posts
 - (3) Connect with city officials
 - iii) Challenges
 - (1) Cost of printing the newsletter. Our neighborhood designer left the neighborhood and we had to pay for a newsletter designer. As a result this is the first year in many that we have not ended the year in the black
 - (2) Newsletter distribution. Block captains pick up and deliver these. Then walk door to door to hand out newsletters. Life happens and as a result these are sometimes late.
- c) AHNA Board & Members at Large
 - i) 13 board members who work to make all the above possible!

New Website & Membership updates: Jackie Bastyr Cooper, Membership Coordinator

- i) New website at arborhills.org
 - (1) Many challenges with our previous website provider. Much easier to navigate now. Thanks to Ean Gibson, who volunteers his time to manage our website!
- ii) 2022 Membership Summary
 - (1) Exceeded our 2022 goal of 175 members! (Currently over 180)
 - (2) 2023 Goal 185 members
 - (3) New membership levels: \$20 - Seed, \$30 - Sapling, \$50 – Tree
 - (4) Options for payment: Cash/Check: (no fees); PayPal App: (1.99% + \$0.49); Online: (3.49% + \$0.49)

Bylaws updates: Ashley Gibson, AHNA President

- i) Proposed change 1:
 - (1) Proposal
 - (a) Current: Membership Year: The membership year of the Association shall begin on **January 1 and shall terminate on December 31** of each calendar year.

- (b) Proposed: Membership Year: The membership year of the Association shall begin on **October 1 and shall terminate on September 30** of each calendar year.
- (2) Discussion
 - (a) Concerns about the budget and revenue. Clarification: this will be our membership year, our fiscal year will not change.
 - (b) All in favor, none opposed. Motion passes.
- ii) Proposed change 2
 - (1) Proposal:
 - (a) Current: Section 1. The officers of the Association shall be the President, Vice President, **Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary**, Treasurer, Newsletter Editor, Block Captain Coordinator, and Events Coordinator. Up to four additional officers at-large are permitted. The officers shall constitute the Board of the Association and shall be elected to the Board for a term of two (2) years by a majority vote of the membership present at the annual meeting.
 - (b) Proposed: Section 1. The officers of the Association shall be the President, Vice President, **Membership Coordinator, Communication Coordinator**, Treasurer, Newsletter Editor, Block Captain Coordinator, and Events Coordinator. Up to four additional officers at-large are permitted. The officers shall constitute the Board of the Association and shall be elected to the Board for a term of two (2) years by a majority vote of the membership present at the annual meeting.
 - (2) Discussion
 - (a) Will the Bylaws be on the website? Yes, the Bylaws are posted in the resources section and will be updated shortly after this meeting to reflect the changes.
 - (b) Who will be responsible for the taking of meeting minutes? The communication coordinator
 - (c) Bylaws also have the explanation of each position. We are also changing the description of each of these positions in the bylaws.
 - (i) This is important for new folks who are interested in being on the board and so the membership understands the responsibilities
 - (d) All in favor, none opposed. Motion passes.

Treasurer's Report & Budget Vote- Mary Sara, AHNA Treasurer

- a) Review 2023 Proposed budget
 - i) Proposed Updates:
 - (1) Remove corporate donation line (this was not being used)
 - (2) Remove Zoom fee (we no longer need this as the Board has moved back to in person meetings whenever possible)
 - (3) Remove the neighborhood improvement line - this has not been used, and we will instead propose specific projects to which we would like to allocate funds.
 - (4) Addition of a neighborhood block party line - the Board will determine how to allocate these funds.
 - ii) Discussion:

- (1) Membership Dues: They currently assume everyone is at the minimum tier of \$20.
- (a) Question posed by Bob Alt: Should we be considering an overall increase in dues across all membership?
- Answer from Ashley: We had a lot of discussion about this as a board and initially thought this would be the year that we would raise dues as our costs are rising. However, we worked backwards looking at what we want to do as an association over the next year and found that we can do what we need to do without raising dues.
- (2) Out of 600+ households in the neighborhood we are at 183 member households
- (3) Discussion about corporate advertising revenue for 2023 - it looks like this is high.
- Clarification from Josh Grotheer, Member at Large and owner of our corporate partnerships: The 2022 ad revenue line does not reflect the total amount of ad dollars for the year. We have received more since this report was printed. So the amount projected for 2023 is not much higher than 2022 ad revenue.
- (a) There is no restriction on the advertisers coming specifically from within the neighborhood bounds.
- (4) Why is it a priority to keep a printed newsletter? Should we move to only sending digital copies?
- (a) Advertisers expect that there are print copies being sent out
- (b) It's an important part of our marketing as an association. It leaves an impact on people to get it printed.
- (c) This is something that we are discussing and will continue to discuss as a board.
- (i) Informal poll: About 50/50 split on folks who would prefer a digital version and folks who prefer a paper version
- iii) Vote to approve the budget:
- (1) Bob Alt moves to approve the budget, Seconded by Jolene Chadwick.
- (2) All in favor, none opposed. Motion passes

AHNA Board Member Elections

- a) Proposed Board Members for 2023 & 2024:
- i) President - Ashley Gibson - Current President running for reelection
- ii) Communication Coordinator - Rebecca Koerschner - Current Communication Coordinator running for reelection
- iii) Membership Coordinator - Jackie Bastyr Cooper - Current Membership Coordinator running for reelection
- iv) Block Captain Coordinator - Lisa Fernandez - Currently serving as Member at Large
- v) Events Directors* - Nanci Horn and Aaron Eicher
- (1) * Nanci and Aaron began unofficially serving on the board in November 2021. This vote is to formalize their role for the 2022-2023 term.
- vi) Newsletter Editor - OPEN
- vii) Member at Large - Josh Grotheer - Current Member At Large running for reelection
- viii) Members at Large – Linda Szabo, Mary Vanleuven
- b) If you or someone you know is interested in getting involved as a Board member or volunteer please reach out!

- c) Discussion:
 - i) We do not require a nomination for the OPEN positions. We have a few folks who are interested in the open roles,
- d) Motion from Jim Cortada to approve the slate
 - i) Second from Bob Alt
 - ii) All in favor, none opposed, motion passes

Notes from our Alder, Yannette Figueroa Cole, District 10 Alder (Not able to attend; update shared by Ashley)

- a) This morning the Mayor released the Executive Operating Budget:
 - i) Youth Employment under community service funding was increased
 - ii) CARES was expanded
 - iii) A Parks Alive Coordinator position was created -Parks Alive was a very successful program ran throughout this summer
- b) Please sign up to my update page to get the latest information including additional budget details
 - i) <https://www.cityofmadison.com/council/district10/blog/>
- c) To contact me feel free to call me or email me:
 - i) Phone: (608) 318-3838
 - ii) district10@cityofmadison.com
- d) I was really looking forward to being here, but we have a few people absent from Council today and I have to be present to meet quorum and avoid canceling the meeting. Thank you for your understanding!

MPD Updates - Lt. Justine Harris

<https://communitycrimemap.com>

- i) Allows you to identify particular incidents and the timeframe
- ii) Reviewed the crime map from 7/10/22-10/10/22
 - (1) Overall Arbor Hills tends to be quieter, and the police don't tend to get called here as often
 - (2) We are seeing an increase in stolen autos, but this is true across Madison
 - (a) If anyone who has a Kia or a Hyundai, MPD is giving wheel locks away to prevent theft
 - (b) Is this something kids tend to grow out of? There are interventions that can move kids along the right path
 - (3) Speeding on Grandview blvd
 - (a) Will follow up on this
 - (b) No longer have a community policing team due to budget cuts
 - (c) We as a board wrote a letter advocating for additional officers with the addition of the town of Madison

<https://www.cityofmadison.com/police/data>

Compost bin giveaway

- i) We received 4 free compost bins from the city! These were awarded at the end of the meeting based on a drawing of names from people interested who are present at this meeting or who submitted an application in advance.
- ii) Winners were announced by two of our young neighbors: Piper and Wren. Thank you both!

iii) Winners: Jolene Chadwick, Erica Fletcher, George Reizner, John Diehl

Discussion and Q&A

- a) If there are any additional questions folks can stay after and discuss with Ashley

Adjourn

- a) Motion to adjourn, motioned seconded. Meeting adjourned at 7:58.