



BOARD MEETING – Thursday, November 20, 2025
Curry in the Box, 3050 Cahill Main, Madison, WI 53711

Attendees: Jackie Bastyr Cooper, Aaron Eicher, Lisa Fernandez, Chuck Friedrichs, Ashley Gibson, Nanci Horn, Cathy Means, Caroline Thompson

Approved absence: Sheri Carter

Guests: Jeff Buhrandt, Erich George

I. Approval of October Annual Meeting Minutes – Cathy

First motion to approve: Jackie

Second motion to approve: Nanci

Motion Passes

II. Treasurer's & Membership Report – Jackie

A. Membership

1. Final 2025 membership total was 153 (membership year 10/01/2024 through 09/30/2025)
2. 28 members so far for 2026

B. Budget

1. The budget is looking good; some factors are:
 - a. Expenses for events is way down
 - b. Many members pay more than the minimum in dues

***Follow-up:* Ashley to contact Brian from Minuteman Press regarding the envelopes.**

III. Events – Group Discussion

A. Recap Annual Meeting (also known as Annual Gathering)

1. Overall, went very well; the group had positive comments
2. Suggestions for next year's annual meeting:
 - a. Ask a couple of speakers to present longer
 - b. Plan a reception prior to the meeting, 6:00-6:30 pm
 - c. Offer child care
 - d. Do the neighborhood signs again – may have helped with attendance this year

***Follow-up:* Ashley to make notes in Google Docs with suggestions.**

B. Recap Halloween Parade & Trunk or Treat

1. Great turnout despite the cool weather!
2. Suggestion to look at doing it on Halloween in 2026 as it is on a Saturday

C. Holiday Lights Content Logistics

1. 3 judges:
 - a. Ric and Linda West (last year's winners)
 - b. Board members Caroline and Jackie
 - c. Jolene Chadwick
2. Gathering submissions and tallying results: Caroline
3. Notifying winners: Caroline and Jackie
4. Review judging criteria (winner does not have to be a paid member):
 - a. Unique design and creative use of lights/decorations
 - b. Storyline or theme
 - c. Display and placement of decorations, animated objects, etc.
5. "People's Choice Award" voting will continue for this year
6. Monetary awards: first place \$50, second place \$35, third place \$25, people's choice \$20

Follow-up: Ashley to connect Ric and Linda West with Caroline and Jackie.

Follow-up: Chuck to do an email blast.

IV. Winter Newsletter – All

- A. Sent to Printer 11/20/2025
1. NOTE: Working with the printer to ensure postal carrier(s) are delivering to every residence as part of EDDM mailing (heard a number of people did NOT receive fall newsletter in their mailbox)

Follow-up: Chuck to send an email confirming that everyone received their newsletter.

- B. Really Need Newsletter Editor!

V. Meeting Schedule for 2026

- A. Everyone likes the current schedule of the 2nd Tuesday of the month, 6:30-8:00 pm

Follow-up: Ashley to send calendar invites for 2026.

VI. Plan for Onboarding New Board Members

Follow-up: Ashley to send emails to people involved with the onboard plans.

VII. Holiday Party

- A. Cathy and Chuck will host the holiday get-together on Saturday, December 13, 1:00-3:00 pm

VIII. Fall Leaves

- A. The City of Madison has a commitment to pick up fall leaves from every neighborhood 3 times. As long as it does not snow, the crews will come back to Arbor Hills to pick up leaves an additional time, if needed.

IX. Adjourn

First motion to adjourn: Jackie
Second motion to adjourn: Nanci
Motion passes