

**Eastmorland Community Association Monthly Meeting
March 9, 2021
Agenda**

Meeting will be hosted on Zoom at 7 PM

<https://uwmadison.zoom.us/j/7824361243>

Board Officers: Kathy Soukup, President Fred Svensson, Vice President Dan Zimmerman, Treasurer Emily Mixon, Secretary	Board Members: Patrick Soukup Amanda McKaig Kris Whitman Breanna Illéné Emily Sprengelmeyer	Alternates: Carrie Ezzell Collin Roland
7:00 Call to order and call for changes to the agenda		
7:05 Review and approval of minutes of the February, 2021 Meeting		
7:10 Hi Neighbor Update		
7:15 Discuss Save the Farm request for letter of support		
7:20 Neighborhood grants		
7:30 Updates of city committees/commissions (Grant Foster, Alderperson, and Kristen Audet, County Supervisor, if present) Grant will discuss Milwaukee Street Special Area Plan rezoning decision?		
7:40 Updates from ECA committees (e.g., Facebook accounts, PayPal options, recommendations for By-Law changes, etc.)		
7:50 Treasurer's Report *Ash Tree Fundraising* *discuss zoom account?*		
8:00 Agenda items for April 2021		
8:05 Adjourn		

Board members present: Kathy Soukup, Patrick Soukup, Kris Whitman, Fred Svensson, Dan Zimmerman,

Others present: Ed Woolsey, Allison Bender, Michael Wilson, Grant Foster, Jamie Guyot

Absent: Breanna Illéné, Amanda McKaig, Collin Roland

1) Approval of minutes

Emily will fix spelling of Ed and Fred's names on 02/2021 minutes

Two agenda items to add:

Ed is adding an agenda item: discuss planting and distribution to neighbors

Ed and Fred have been discussing neighborhood grant about adding trees to parks

Carrie moves that minutes are accepted, Fred seconds, motion passes

2) Hi Neighbor Update

Allison: thanks for reading! Wants to encourage block captains to get involved in another way—keeping eye on neighbors, contributing items!

Next issue in May. Oona and Allison will communicate with us about schedule—2 in spring/summer and one in fall (?) working it out, very happy to have first issue out!

Anyone is welcome to write an article (email: hineighboreastmorland@gmail.com)
Copies of articles can be sent to or dropped off at 121 Bradford Lane (Allison's House)

Kathy is going to come up with activities for any block captains that reach out to keep them plugged into neighborhood.

3) Neighborhood Grants

Fred took the training, grant due March 15

Ed and Fred have been talking about ideas, timeline for next year's grant awards for additional projects

Ideas in February 2021 meeting minutes: vegetation for parks, updated neighborhood sign etc.

Kathy and Carrie suggest involving interested people from the block captains if they are looking for ways to be involved.

Ed: Ethnology of zone 4, all the edible shrubs that grow well in WI! He has talked with M. Dumas who has done planting at Eastmorland (border with marsh). Small group of people, work with Ed and Forestry Department to make a plan for next year.

Previous grant for Eastmorland Park

- (1) Re did playground (done)
- (2) Plant wildflowers along silver st greenway (done)
- (3) Behind woodmans (not done because of bike path re do)
- (4) Plant trees between engineering section and usable park (has not happened)

Think about Ontario park, along the bike paths, OB Sherry parks → do similar planting

4) Discussion about vegetable share (Ed)

Ed ran the teaching garden at Eagle Heights for 20 years! Introductory course + Department of horticulture not doing well, lost the teaching garden, now it is being used for other purposes.

Ed has lots of seeds from this effort, 100 varieties of tomato, pepper, flowers, other vegetables, some/many will die if not planted.

DC Smith greenhouse, temporary permission to plant, Ed will be doing 5 flats of tomatoes and peppers! (50 varieties of each). 50 plants per flat = ~250 plants of tomato, ~250 of pepper. Some might not be viable, but not all...

- (1) Have some neighbors foster out plants or plant flats
- (2) Pass them out in middle of May to neighbors (May 15th!)

Amanda Hammatt: opening day for Eastmorland Community garden on May 15, good place to pass out (?)

Can't sell the plants but could do a mini bake sale and coffee at same time to raise money for Ash Trees (or at least advertise the tree fundraiser!)

5) Updates of elected officials

Grant Foster, Alder D15:

- (1) Milwaukee street rezoning did not pass
 - Grant will be doing a re-attempt to limit 'harsher' industrial uses. Lots of steps to go through, keep on radar.
 - Suggestions during discussion at Council that this CCT zoning might be easier—wouldn't affect Amazon today but would prevent further undesirable uses.
 - Can't re-zone Voit until annexed by Madison
- (2) Two permits along Cottage Grove (Lake Edge side): (1) coffee trailer/food cart next to Red Lion (2) application to take over Jo Beck's alcohol license → both attending Lake Edge Neighborhood meeting.
- (3) Starkweather Drive + Garver Path projects approved: narrower road + shared use path and new bridge over to Garver for ped + bikes and replacement of Ivy St bridge. All this summer. Virtual meeting will happen once construction dates decided, Grant will share.
- (4) Parks purchased some of the homes on N edge of OB Sherry along Milwaukee → 3 lots, houses will be demolished.
- (5) Proposed zoning amendments around densities, technicalities, Grant happy to chat if people are interested, makes conditional use process more streamlined in places where already allowed. Additional proposal to make residential buildings permitted uses in mixed use districts, e.g. could take down a building with store fronts and replace with just apartments without retail footage (Grant thinks this is not ideal).

Related questions to affordable housing, rental vs home ownership.

Commonwealth Development (Fred): there are resources to help with home ownership.

Kristen Audet: absent, no big updates from County:

6) Save the Farm letter (Randy + his group is asking for our support)

After having discussed the project with city and county staff and elected officials we are now at the point where we must document the strong support of the community. Towards that end we are seeking letters of support from community organizations. Such letters sent to our alders, county supervisors, mayor and county executive will serve to tell them that their constituents are on board with the project.

We believe the Eastmorland neighborhood is the most impacted by this initiative and has much to gain if we can succeed in developing the farm parcel not as a standard subdivision but rather as a community asset; access to substantial green-space, walking and biking paths, and improvement of the Starkweather Creek watershed through wetland preservation all seem to fit with your general desires for development of land while maintaining natural space within the Eastmorland community. The inclusion of an organic urban farm would also create opportunities to access fresh local organic produce. We feel the ECA mission aligns with the Save the Farm proposal and we are hopeful that you see the project as a positive community asset.

Therefore, I am requesting a letter of support from the Eastmorland Community Association at this time. If interested, you may want to visit our website at savethefarm.net where letters of support from other parties can be reviewed for ideas and language. I would also appreciate your letting me know that it is your intent to send such letters of support. If there are concerns not yet resolved, we are ready to address and answer any questions you might have in order to gain your support. We can correspond by email, attend another Board meeting, and/or give a short PowerPoint presentation as you desire.

Fred makes a motion for Emily to write a letter to local elected officials on behalf of ECA endorsing the concepts/principles of Save the Farm.

Patrick asks what the intent is of the Save the Farm group: Fred shares from website—affordable and sustainable infrastructure, urban agricultural, protecting Starkweather Creek green space/watershed.

Emily seconds the motion. Motion passes

7) Updates from ECA committees

Carrie brings up that we are neglecting social/recreation aspect of ECA

Carrie wants to involve block captains in rejuvenating an S&R committee, call around and see who wants to be involved and any ideas for events during the summer (COVID safety)

Fred suggests attendees use word of mouth and spread Go Fund Me page, google map, encourage neighbors. Summer concert in a park if things improve...but for now really message about the Go Fund Me page.

8) Treasurer's Report

Newsletter

2199 households and businesses on the 4 postal routes for the newsletter

Postal service denied initial request for non profit permit, Dan appealed, postage \$395.82, non profit permit will cut by 50%

Ash Trees

PayPal, GoFundMe, writing a check are all options to advertise

Dan submitted a support ticket to GoFundMe to fix the funding routing issues, underway.

GoFundMe Charity vs GoFundMe: Charity doesn't have a search function, you need the exact link

Ideas: label the trees? Make signs for parks?

Other

Annual report to financial institutions dept due in June

Dan doing IRS work etc

Dan transferred money from PayPal to checking account

	3/9/2021
General fund	\$12,287.72
Save the Park Ash Trees	\$1,694.76
Total Checking/Savings	\$13,982.48
PayPal account - general	\$0.00
Paypal account (ash trees)	\$0.00
Accounts Overdue/due	\$67.55
Checks not Cashed (Liability)	\$100.00
Prepaid ads	\$478.57
Balance	\$13,471.46

Paid to Tree Health Management on 9/6/2018 for treatment of 33 ash trees in the neighborhood	\$6,311.23
currently donated	\$1,694.76
Left to raise	\$4,616.47

wrote off \$224.80 of ads as non-collectible

Agenda Items for April 2021?

Discuss Annual Meeting

Ash Trees Update