

**Minutes**  
**Hiestand Neighborhood Advisory Team**  
**Wednesday, September 21, 2005**  
**American Family Financial Service Building, 302 N. Walbridge Ave.**  
**6:30 – 8:30 p.m.**

**Present:** Steering Committee Members: Beth Esser, Sue Hankes, Donald Hughes, Rebecca Katzenmeyer, Jeanne Marshall, Margaret Parks, Jo Ann Resch, Doug Strub.  
City Staff: Jim Morgan, Archie Nicolette, and Jule Stroick.

**I. Welcome**

**II. Overview of Planning Process, Roles, and Timeline**

Jule Stroick and Archie Nicolette provided an overview of the role of steering committee members. The neighborhood steering committee members role is to identify the major issues facing the neighborhood in the next 3-5 years. Steering Committee members are responsible to oversee the planning process and to solicit neighborhood resident input on the preliminary and final plan recommendations.

The planning model is for the Department of Planning & Development to identify strategies and develop preliminary recommendations based upon issues identified by the Hiestand Neighborhood Association. The Hiestand Neighborhood Steering Committee will provide feedback on the strategies and recommendations. Four to five meetings will take place from September to December 2005.

**III. Review of Neighborhood Issues**

Jule Stroick and Sue Hankes, President, Hiestand Neighborhood Association, discussed the issues that have been identified by neighborhood residents and business representatives over the last twelve months. See Attachments. Improvements to Hiestand Park and Traffic Issues were the greatest issues identified by the various sources. These two issues will be discussed in detailed first and other issues will be prioritized at a later meeting.

**IV. Discussion of Hiestand Park Improvements**

Jim Morgan, Parks Superintendent, provided information regarding the parks and open in Hiestand Neighborhood. He indicated that the planning in the neighborhood is occurring at an ideal time since he is looking for some direct input from the neighborhood on parks improvements. Major points:

**Hiestand Park**

1. Due to the increase in Latino soccer teams, Hiestand Park is currently used to support this recreational activity. The Latino Soccer Teams will be relocated to Door Creek Park, a larger community park to the east of Hiestand Park, in 2007. Hiestand Park playfields are not scheduled for league soccer beyond this time.

2. Disc Golf is a major activity at the park. The Parks Division has an agreement with the organization that they will pick-up trash at the park on a daily basis. It doesn't appear that this is occurring.
3. Existing tennis courts are in poor condition. This is an opportunity for the neighborhood to discuss if they want tennis courts at Hiestand or if the tennis courts should be relocated/rebuilt at Kennedy Park. If tennis courts were relocated to Kennedy Park they would be rebuilt adjacent to the two existing tennis courts. Middle School Tennis Program prefers to have four or more courts at one location. Other park features, such as picnic shelter, could be substituted at Hiestand Park.
4. City of Madison will most likely construct three swimming pools. The first swimming pool facility is being constructed at Goodman Park (south), the second will be at Warner Park (north), and the third is designated (at this time) for Reindahl Park. However, Hiestand Park was a close "third" place. If this neighborhood were interested in a future swimming pool, it would be important to identify this desire in the neighborhood plan. In all likelihood, the third swimming pool is 7-8 years away.

Q & A: Describe a picnic shelter that would work for Hiestand Park? Parks Division would work with the neighborhood to select appropriate shelter. Most likely it would be rectangular, metal roof, and lighted. Usually do not install bathroom facilities at "neighborhood parks" because of security issues. Parks Division would be willing to discuss installing a screen port-a-potty's. Approximate cost: \$30,000-50,000 without bathroom facilities and \$350,000 with bathroom facilities. Jim Morgan will provide examples of picnic shelters for next meeting.

### **Detention Pond**

The detention pond collects storm water from the area. The open space around it is designed to be mowed twice a year. The long grasses help filter debris and provide nesting habitat for birds.

Q & A: How could we integrate the detention pond into the neighborhood? Make it more pleasant? Reduce the smell and increase water quality? The detention pond and open space functions as an important biofilter for storm water drainage in the area. It might be possible to provide informational materials of its function to adjacent neighbors and the neighborhood. We could examine other plantings (such as prairie plantings) in the open areas and installing rain gardens along the ledges. A path system, with solar lighting, could connect the detention pond to other open space areas within the neighborhood.

### **Honeysuckle Park**

Honeysuckle Park has poor access. It is possible to better integrate park into the neighborhood with some basic improvements such as: 1) clear out underbrush to make it more visible from roadway; 2) extend sidewalk to park area and install pathway into park area; and 3) upgrade park equipment.

Q & A: Is it possible to install lighting in the park? Parks Division would support solar lighting at the site. However, the lighting of the park might increase additional noise from basketball users playing longer at the basketball court.

**V. Discussion of Milwaukee Street Improvements**

The Hiestand Neighborhood indicated that three streets were a concern to residents: Milwaukee, Swanton, and Thompson. Archie Nicolette provided an overview of possible alternatives that could be implemented (See attachment). Hiestand Neighborhood Steering Committee members requested that a representative of the Traffic Engineering Department be invited to a meeting to discuss the pros and cons of the alternatives. In addition, the Heritage Heights and Rolling Meadow Neighborhood Associations should be invited to the meeting to solicit their input too.

Steering Committee members raised two other traffic issues: 1) Crossing at Meadowlark Drive at Milwaukee and 2) Crossing at Swanton Drive at Milwaukee (vehicular drivers are not looking for pedestrian crossing at stop sign).

**VI. Other Business**

Doug Strub indicated that he would contact multifamily complex managers to obtain data about their respective properties.

**VII. Next Meeting**

Dates and times of possible meetings will be circulated shortly.

**VIII. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

## **Hiestand Neighborhood Issues**

**09-21-05**

**Attached is a summary of issues that were provided to Planning Unit Staff from neighborhood residents.**

### **From Hiestand Neighborhood Association Survey**

1. Traffic & speeding on Milwaukee, Swanton & Thompson.
2. Park Improvements for both Hiestand and Honeysuckle: more lighting, more family friendly, better play equipment, more picnic tables, garbage cans, etc.
3. Noise reduction from traffic on Hwy 30 and the interstate.
4. Neighborhood safety.
5. Bike Lane or connection to bike path
6. Beautification effort along Thompson Drive and in the parks.
7. Expansion of Milwaukee Street to 4 lanes.

### **From Hiestand Neighborhood Association General Meeting (July, 2005)**

See Attachment

### **From Other Sources**

1. Ped-bike paths adjacent to existing drainways
2. Ped-bike connections across Hwy 30
3. Ped-bike connections with American Family
4. Ped-bike bridge(s) over the drainage way in Hiestand Park
5. Ped-bike lanes on Milwaukee
6. Speed reduction on Milwaukee and Swanton
7. Future use of DOT lands at the intersection on Milwaukee-Stoughton by overpass
8. Confusion of 2- and 4-lane on Milwaukee directly east of overpass
9. East or west bound turn off of Wittwer Road
10. Vegetative maintenance at traffic circles

**Notes from General Meeting  
August 2005**