

Membership Meeting - Feb 24, 2025- 6pm

Arboretum Visitor Center

Members in good standing were checked in and given ballots at the door

Agenda-

Resolution to transition to MWU and Dissolve Coop Presentation, Discussion, Vote

- Gary presented to the membership.
- Speakers -
  - Gregg- Points that were shared-
    - Water lines over 100 years old & covered with property
    - Are you willing to volunteer on board?
    - Can the coop make the needed repairs for less than the City's estimate? No
    - Can the coop get a loan? No
    - Assessing Members
    - What happens if a member can't or won't pay their assessment?
    - Can we make the repairs over a period of years? It will make it more expensive
    - Does the coop qualify for government grants or subsidized loan programs
    - Can we wait to see if the city qualifies for the safe drinking water loan program before we vote? No
    - Is it an option for the city to pump water from our wells? No
    - In conclusion- join us to vote yea.
  - Tara- Points that were shared-
    - My late husband and I bought into this area because we wanted this water.
    - We should be making these decisions together.
    - Asked neighbors at tables to discuss their values.
    - Look at creative solutions in order to keep our water.
      - Questions she asks herself?
        - Who has interest in this vote?

- Why are we voting to dissolve now?
  - When are other decisions made?
  - Where do we get our assessments?
  - What are pro, con, & risks of the MWU transition?
- Many people were not able to be here for many reasons. Absentee ballots should be allowed.
- Water is the most important thing.
- Share at your table what strikes you most about the board's case and evidence for dissolving the co-op?
- When? Comprehensive city planning with stakeholders.
- This money is my daughter's college fund.
- Conclusion Vote no
- Tyler- Points that were shared-
  - Who am I? Introduction to his connection to neighborhood.
  - Water Supply Risk
    - Water- Main Related Risk
    - Electrical Outage Risk
    - Nitrate/ Bacterial Risk
    - Acute Risk- WM facility - PFAS firefighting Foam
  - Organizational Capacity
    - The board isn't prepared for this type of work.
  - Financials-
    - It would have been cheaper to do this 10 years ago. But we must move forward with action now.
  - Conclusion- Vote Yea
- Seth- Points that were shared-
  - Grew up in Madison on other side of lake. Been in this neighborhood for 18 months.
  - We live in a Fen- Best water filtration system available.
  - This is something very special. We have agency and access to something very special.
  - Running for the board because he values this resource.
  - This process feels like it's been moving very fast and needs.
  - Do we need to dissolve to get this loan application? No
  - Could these wells be run by the city as a historical landmark? Possibly.
  - I will be voting no.

- There is a lot of value to the loan process that Krishna is guiding us through.
- Let's not bind the upcoming board by voting yay. Let's give ourselves time. The pathways are not necessarily the wrong pathways, but we should go slower and take time to make sure we are making the best choice.
- Amendment proposed read by Seth. Read too quickly to write down. Amendment was seconded.
  - The membership of the association resolves- To request that MWU make an application for a loan under the Safe Drinking Water Act program with a 30-year term in order to finance the project and lessen the financial impact thereof on the property owners of the neighborhood; Upon completion of the water project, to consider dissolution of the Association according to Article 9 of the Restated Articles of Incorporation of the Association and Article IX of the Bylaws of the Association.
    - Tyler expressed this is inappropriate time to bring up this. Questioned Seth if he is ready to take on the work needed to get all this done?
    - Seth asked Krishna to clarify.
    - Krishna said you do not need to decide to dissolve right now. The dissolution could be postponed. The state doesn't need a decision today.
    - A dissolution vote could happen after we find out if we get a loan.
    - Jaala- why wasn't this amendment proposed sooner?
    - Seth- He got on the phone with Krishna
    - Member brought up that we should be considering other options.
    - Tara brought up- yes this is all new information that has come up in the last few minutes.
    - Yay- 16 Nay 24-
    - Amendment does not pass.

- Mark- Points that were shared-
  - Not a lot to say because people have covered all the issues.
  - Issues that are of concern-
    - These leaks popped up very suddenly. Corrosion happened very quickly.
    - Three repairs were made but another leak has happened.
    - Tank needs to be repaired or replaced.
    - Roof of pump houses need to be repaired or replaced.
    - Both pumps need to be replaced.
    - If any part of these things fail we will be without water indefinitely.
    - I'm involved every single day and I am not comfortable with the infrastructure we have.
    - The labor that we have available to us is not sustainable. We can't keep it running as it is.
    - I am regretful that I have to make this vote, but I will be voting in favor.
- Dissolution Ballots were collected and counted by Bill and Ren
  - Nay- 13 Yea- 30
  - Dissolution did not pass.
- Board Ballots were counted by Ren & Brent
  - Board votes were as follows
    - Seth- 22
    - Tara- 18
    - Gary- 31
    - Bill- 26
    - Ren -28
    - Zac- 29
    - Brent - 36
    - Tyler Byrnes- 2
    - Gregg Reimer- 1
    - Eric Medina- 1

Meeting concluded at 8:05pm

Left Arboretum at 8:25pm