

From: Carol Hovey <choveyus@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, April 29, 2018 7:16 PM
To: Planning <Planning@a2gov.org>
Subject: Sister Lakes Association opposes rezoning

Carol Hovey asks that you read the following letter at the Planning Commission Mtg. May 1:

My husband and I have lived in two different homes in the Lakewood school neighborhood since 1976. We were attracted to the natural setting of these lakes, the diversity of older homes mixed with much newer ones, as well as neighbors of all ages. We immediately became interested in the Sister Lakes Conservation Association and its long history of active citizens working to preserve the area's special beauty. As the editor of the newsletter, the Sister Lakes Siren, I typed and had 310 copies printed, and I delivered these for meetings at neighbor's homes or at the school in my Lakewood neighborhood as well as to Westover Hills and Lakeview Drive off from W. Liberty St. The following are some of the many projects we fostered over the years to preserve our wonderful environment:

1. Information panels were placed at the Sister Lakes Park
2. Jack Kerr, City Maintenance Director, supervised volunteers placing wood chips along the narrower trails we requested to save important vegetation
3. Trees were planted around the exposed drain behind the school
4. Leigh Chizek, City Engineer, spoke to us about the many changes along Jackson Road. We requested more trees from the Dean Fund be planted along the boulevard.
5. Neighbors helped coordinate Ecology Center's monthly recycling pick ups
6. Ecology Center distributed fact sheets re: alternatives to fertilizers.
7. We explored ways to retard the noticeable aging of the lakes and reclamation projects such as banking or drainage of residue and water monitoring
8. A reforestation committee talked with Bill Lawrence, City Forester, about having Boy Scouts work on badges by helping to build new trails, bridges and boardwalks
9. We successfully petitioned against extension of Highlake through to Liberty Glen subdivision, averting an obvious traffic nightmare entering I-94 off Jackson Rd.
10. City Council agreed to allocate \$5000 for the initial phase of a trail to Saginaw Forest, connecting Dolph Lakes trails (which DNR later halted when dioxane pollution at Gelman required remediation)
11. When Mr. Krause proposed rezoning a couple lots this side of Wagner for "Light Industrial" in 1987, Scio Township Planning Commission wisely denied it after neighbors spoke against rezoning.

12. In order to protect environmentally sensitive areas, the City Planning Department proposed ordinances for developers and homeowners to protect natural features, wetlands, large trees, etc. Sister Lakes Association responded to Jerry Clark's White Paper on this issue in 1987 and public hearings were ongoing.

Wouldn't it presently be tragic to risk our unique wetlands, formed approximately 10,000 years ago, for an obvious attempt by a for-profit outside developer to buy cheaper land that is not zoned commercial when other appropriately-zoned land is readily available nearby? This productive, committed neighborhood of Ann Arbor's concerned and active citizens deserves more.

There's no going back once the damage is done. The city can't put in a \$50,000 rain garden on one side of First Sister Lake and Lockwood's obvious traffic and parking problems, with future snow-melt salt pollution, noise and light pollution and erosion that will result from cutting down an incredible number of landmark and other trees on the other side of our bird sanctuary. Say NO NOW!! Carol Hovey, Ann Arbor citizen and voter

Sent from my iPhone