

**Arcadia 4/15/24 Minutes**  
**Arcadia Neighborhood Association**

**President Rex Brueggemann** called the meeting to order.

**Attendance** was recorded.

**Minutes:** February Minutes were approved.

**Old Business**

**A. Kendall Ave. Pathway Project:**

Rex Brueggemann and Michael Coyle met with Jay Slabey and continued the discussion about the pathway project. Details on how to fund this project and when the project will start are still under consideration. The Pathway subcommittee will be included in future decisions..

**B. Internal Neighborhood Projects (Plant Exchange, landscaping; other):**

The Plant Exchange Project will be held Aprils 27 in the Arcadia Elementary School parking lot. Details about this event were posted on Arcadia Neighborhood Facebook page. Yard signs will be posted within the neighborhood to alert residents about this upcoming event.

**C. Report on Meetings with the City in various forms:**

The City will do their “roll out” of a *residential zoning plan* within the next 2 weeks. The Arcadia neighborhood will be engaged in this process. The front of the Arcadia neighborhood is poised to be redeveloped. We will require that future development **follow existing zoning codes.**

**D. Treasurer’s Report:**

Michael Coyle put forth a motion as Treasurer to close our current bank account at Lake Michigan Credit Union. Closing this account required his motion to be approved and listed in our April Meeting Minutes. A printout of those Minutes will be signed by Paul Schneidenbach and Jeff Carroll, the two members who initially opened the account. Once Michael Coyle has the signed Minutes, Paul Schneidenbach and Michael Coyle can close the account. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously by those in attendance. The account will be moved to First National Bank.

## **E. ANA incorporation; Operating Agreement:**

The *Articles of Incorporation* draft has been completed and was shared during the meeting. The next step is to complete an *Operating Agreement* including bylaws.

## **F. 30 Speakers Project:**

### **Michele Oliver v. Kalamazoo Board of Education**

This desegregation case highlights efforts by the Kalamazoo School Board and the Board of Realtors to design and implement a policy to develop the Arcadia neighborhood and Arcadia Elementary that clearly discriminates along racial lines.

This case can help Arcadia residents understand some local history and perceptions some may still have about our neighborhood when interacting with City Commission and Planning Committee.

The City and City Commissioners are presently engaged in an effort to create more affordable housing.

A perception exist that people in single family residential neighborhoods resist zoning of more dense housing as it opens the door to less desirable group of people.

There are those who suggest that the best way to move forward is to eliminate residential zoning codes.

### **Rex raised the following questions:**

1. Has zoning and governmental actions taken place in a racially discriminatory way or a way that has contributed to lack of equity in housing and not enough housing?
2. Or are “market forces” behind the push to change residential zoning codes?

Our interactions with the City and City commissioners will come from a position of confidence and strength emphasizing the positive aspects of our neighborhood. We know the Arcadia neighborhood is a racially and ethnically diverse neighborhood that is reasonably affordable and a geographic sweet spot. It is a great place to live!

## **New Business**

City begins a project to redesign the Howard St./ W. Michigan Ave intersection. Project will begin after WMU graduation.

West Michigan Ave. will be resurfaced this year. In 5 years W. Michigan will be redesigned.

Condition of the nursing home complex continues to worsen. Jeff Carroll might serve as a resource to update future plans.

Meeting was adjourned.