



NEIGHBORS WEST-NORTHWEST

Coalition of Central Westside Neighborhoods

Arlington Heights · Goose Hollow · Forest Park · Hillside · Linnton · Northwest Industrial · Northwest Heights
Northwest District · Old Town-Chinatown · Pearl District · Portland Downtown · Sylvan-Highlands

Neighbors West-Northwest Review Board Meeting Minutes October 13, 2010

Attending

Frank Bird, Northwest District, President
Harold Hutchinson, Northwest Industrial
Les Blaize, Forest Park
Peter Stark, Hillside
Dave Davis, Pearl District
Bryan Burch, Sylvan-Highlands
Jeff Boly, Arlington Heights
Pat Wagner, Linnton (Non-voting)
Scott Schaffer, Goose Hollow
Liz Kelly, Linnton
Allan Classen, NW Examiner

NWNW Staff

Angela Southwick
Mark Sieber
Alison Wallisch

Meeting called to order at 5:36 PM.

Welcome and Introductions

Approval of September Minutes

**Motion 1: Blaize moved to approve the minutes from the September 22, 2010 meeting. Stark seconded.
Vote unanimous.**

Reports

October 27 Acoustic Guitar Summit Fundraiser—Bird

At the halfway point as far as ticket sales. Bird will be reserving some tickets for less fortunate individuals. Please consider purchasing tickets and promoting the event to your friends.

Solarize Portland—Sieber, Wallisch

Wallisch did minimal outreach including advertising solar on discussion groups and a brief mention in the Neighborhood Activist. Wallisch received 30 favorable responses, with six individuals indicating the ability to volunteer for the project. Lee Rahr from the city indicated that this is a good start and that we should follow through with a Volunteer Recruitment Meeting in the beginning of November. Other solarize programs found the majority of volunteers through this type of meeting. The city believes a successful project could include as few as forty homes. Wallisch notes that other coalitions have successfully gained new volunteers through this process.

Motion 2: Stark moved to allow staff to move forward with the project based on their perception of program support obtained after the Volunteer Recruitment Meeting. Blaize seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Yahoo Discussion Group & Blog Changes—Sieber

Yahoo group has trickled down to only 60 members and the e-newsletter has increased subscriptions. Staff has talked of phasing out the yahoo group and switching to a blog format on our website. We are also using Facebook and Twitter more frequently. Burch has reservations about sign-up with Wordpress, thinks that an RSS Feed would be the way to go. Blaize asked if we are required to opt-in with a name, and suggested that people should be required to leave names as discussion deteriorates with anonymity. Burch indicated that everyone has to be admitted to the group. Sieber talked about using a captcha to weed out spam. Southwick mentioned our current blog which feeds to the front page of our website. Not public with comments. This is just an FYI. The same standards of conduct will apply and they will be more accessible. Bird indicated that inappropriate behavior has occurred in the past and is in favor of tighter security.

Archives Update-Sieber

Sieber met with city archivist and staff last week. Our archives at Legacy are going to be moved to the city within the next thirty days. They take materials in two ways donation: owned, or stored which is less accessible. We are going to donate, sort, archive and remove personal information from lists. We will retrieve current financial documents. The archivists favor keeping as much historic material as possible. Moving forward they could take archives as storage and transition them to donation after a certain time period. We will keep most current documents in our offices. Our financial records should be kept for seven years. We could turn them over at 6 years and the archivists would shred after 7 years.

Storage Unit-Sieber

Not a very good deal, basically a half year discount. We aren't going to go forward.

Forest Park Bikes- Blaize

Blaize was charged with following the Forest Park Management Plan. Most people didn't know of the plans existence. Parks department made their decision based on land use laws in existence now. Their decision is that we can't go forward without additional information. Nothing will be done for any user group until they gather baseline data to determine if the park can sustain it. There were some positive results: Forest Park will now have a ranger and a user survey has been started. Money is going to be sought for a biological plant study to determine the baseline health of the park. There haven't been changes in the park in 15 years; there has been an increase of use, but not physical changes. Blaize believes this was a successful process overall. No one has gotten more than allowed by land use laws in place now.

Coalition Business

Financial Reports-Sieber

Books were closed yesterday. Coalition IRS reports due November 15th. The final books will be shared with the finance committee soon. An open invitation stands to any who would like to look through our books and join the finance committee.

Elections Committee-Stark

Three interested individuals arose. Bird agreed to continue as president, Boly as vice president and Blaize agreed to be the Secretary. This is the slate of officers. If anyone else wishes to step forward please do so.

Blaize is going to run an expensive race if anyone wants to challenge him. Bird announced that he is not vacationing in Hawaii this year, so he will be here all winter.

Motion 3: Stark moved to accept the slate of officers as listed. Schaffer seconded the motion. Motion passed.

NW Clean Sweep-Sieber

Sieber recently received a flyer from the Bureau of Maintenance about changes to the Northwest Clean Sweep and Leaf Districts program. NWDA and parts of Goose Hollow have participated in Northwest Clean Sweep (NCS) for a dozen years. The city's basic model is to sweep the whole city and then start over without moving cars. NCS was created because of flooding from leaves in sewer grates and the residents requested more service. Budget cuts are leading to changes. NCS has been unpopular with the bureau because it is an expensive program and requires a lot of work.

This year the city didn't do the spring clean up, or the event in August but they are going to do it in December. The city changed the leaf pick up districts; some parts of town have depots where you bring the litter in. Now they are combining leaf districts and street sweeps and are going to charge money to those who benefit from the services. In leaf districts every home will be charged \$15 whether they have leaves or not. Additional \$15 charged if also in a street sweep area, charging two fees for one service. Bills will come in November and won't be through the water bill. Concerned because no one knew they would be charged for these services, Stark indicated that this is maintenance not service. If the city doesn't clean the leaves they will pay for it later when they have to flush the leaves from the sewers. Leaf districts are listed in the flyer, and Hillside Leaf District is Hillside, and parts of NWDA, GHFL, and AHNA.

There have been arguments about this because the city staff says it's a neighborhood project. Now that they are charging money for it, do we want to have our name removed from the program. Certain streets will be charged \$15 and others \$30. Blaize realizes the city is short of money but doesn't like the inequality that not everyone is taking on the burden. This is a mandatory charge, but it would be cheaper to pick up your own yard debris. Burch indicated that we should take NWNW off the brochure. Neighbors West-Northwest has received calls from people who have been towed and are irate because the city asked them to contact us.

Blaize suggested going to the head of the PBOT and Mayor Adams to ask them to bring someone from the bureau to come speak to us and explain the program. Stark thinks it would be worthwhile to talk to Commissioner Fritz about the changes. All are in agreement that it is inappropriate that NWNW is tied into this program. The brochure asks for both community involvement to make it better while also asking for money. You can't opt out than they should do the work.

Motion 4: Blaize moved to authorize Sieber to send a letter asking someone from PBOT to come explain the program to the board because we are concerned about the legality of the program. Kelly amends to include a phone call. Clarification added that the letter would be sent to Fritz, Adams, Bureau of Maintenance, and Bureau of Transportation head and immediate staff. Motion seconded including amendments by Kelly. Motion passed unanimously.

Cornell Road Sustainability Coalition- Stark

Stark reports that CRSC is applying for a Regional Transportation Options (RTO) grant from Metro after being encouraged to do so by Rex Burkholder. CRSC is trying to address traffic concerns on Cornell. RTO grants purpose is to look at Multi modal transportation. CRSC is applying to do a public engagement process to residents and to do a formal planning process. Traffic exists all the time, and the group is not saying that commuters are bad, just that the traffic should be managed. Fiscal sponsorship is required for the grant application. NWNW could be sponsor, but the sum is near \$100,000 so board approval is required. A few years

ago Boly drafted a model fiscal sponsorship agreement. Four neighborhoods are involved in this project as well as other community groups. As far as the IRS is concerned fiscal sponsorship means the project is part of the coalition. We are already above the threshold for reporting, so it wouldn't affect our financial record keeping. We are not going to charge for this, NWNW work will count as a match in the grant. There is precedence for this, but this would be the largest amount we've fiscally sponsored. We could approve fiscal sponsorship for just this grant, or for the project including all of its grants.

Motion 5: Blaize moved to approve fiscal sponsorship for all Cornell Road Sustainability Coalition grants. Hutchinson seconded. Motion Passed.

Changes to Small Grants-Next month

Grievance Committee-Boly

The grievance committee including Boly, Blaize and Bird met with appellant and Pearl District Neighborhood Association today for an hour and a half. A thorough opportunity for the full presentation of positions was allowed. Came down to whether or not the Pearl District had followed the correct procedure regarding the Loo. The grievance committee decided that the appellants didn't like the result, but the Pearl District Neighborhood Association followed the process as indicated in the bylaws. At the end of the day it doesn't make a difference because Commissioner Leonard will decide the placement of the Loo. The grievance committee sustained the decision of the Neighborhood Association. One of the appellants is becoming very involved in the neighborhood process and is a candidate for the board. The bylaws don't truly dictate what a minor versus a major grievance is, and may require revision. The NA followed the procedures correctly, but was it enough for this case? Controversial issues should receive more care.

Motion 6: Stark moved to accept the report and the decision of the grievance committee. Seconded by Kelly. Motion passed unanimously.

Neighborhood Reports

SHNA-Dig-It event Kick off tree planting on October 23rd from 9-12, everyone should come and bring friends.

FPNA-is embroiled in a Kinder Morgan dispute about cutting trees near the pipeline. Neighborhood was not notified so it was put on hold until next year. The neighborhood questions whether their easement really gives them permission to cut the trees and also whether the neighborhood getting enough money from the cutting?

AHNA- The capping of the reservoirs is the neighborhood's most significant issue. A Mount Tabor microbiologist has put together a presentation on the inappropriateness of capping. The system will be degraded. The presentation can be replicated to other audiences. This issue affects everyone but AHNA knows about it because the reservoirs are in their backyards. Boly wants to provide a forum from the coalition to listen to a presentation about the capping. The more people who understand the more hope that something can be done. Engineering companies are the only winners. Classen indicates that he will give enormous publicity if an event is scheduled. The coalition will help with scheduling. Look citywide for publicity.

GHFL-The banners funded by the Small Grants Program and Multnomah Athletic Club are up and flying. The neighborhood hopes to create unity and pride, and is looking to call the neighborhood Goose Hollow. The neighborhood is also putting a lot of energy into the proposed URA. In earlier visions of the URA report some blocks were included that would increase neighborhood connectivity across Burnside and across 1405, in more recent versions those blocks have been removed, so the neighborhood is advocating for their inclusion.

LNA-Recently had a board meeting to brainstorm grants and the board decided that they will be working towards more youth involvement in the neighborhood. Linnton Community Center is hosting a Day of the Dead event on the 31st.

PDNA- The neighborhood has been fighting grievances. Tomorrow is the board election and fall annual meeting. 12 openings, 5 old board members that want to return 7 new people up for election.

HNA-There's a Halloween event at the community center, bring your kids.

NINA- The neighborhood is hiring an executive director to help with membership growth. Bob Stacey and the Oregon Historical Society spoke at this month's meeting.

NWDA-The neighborhood is bogged down with the URA. The Parking Advisory Committee is meeting monthly to sort out issues. H&E has made progress with Esco. A new Public Safety/Livability Committee has been formed.

6:57 Meeting Adjourned