



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

Wednesday, May 11th, 2011

Minutes

Attending

NWNW Board:

Frank Bird, President, NWDA

Peter Stark, Hillside Neighborhood Association

Harold Hutchinson, NINA

Scott Schaffer, Goose Hollow Foothills League

Les Blaize, Forest Park Neighborhood Association

Liz Kelly-Campanele, Linnton Neighborhood

Bryan Burch, Sylvan-Highlands

Karen Beninati, Pearl District Neighborhood

Tommy Huynh, Old Town Chinatown

NWNW Staff:

Mark Sieber, Executive Director

Alison Wallisch, Community Support Coordinator

Guests:

Allan Classen, NW Examiner

Meeting called to order at 5:33 PM

Welcome and Introductions

Approval of April 13, 2011 Minutes

Changes: Kelly-Campanele's name is spelled incorrectly.

Motion 1: Blaize moved to approve the April meeting minutes with the change to name as indicated above.

Schaffer seconded. Motion approved.

Coalition Fundraiser

Fundraiser is tomorrow night 52 seats have sold, out of 99 seats. We've sold more tickets than in previous years. You can still buy tickets at the door. Refreshments begin at 7, and the play is at 8.

Parks Director Hiring Process

Zari Santner, current Parks Director is retiring. Blaize is providing input in the hiring process on behalf of our neighborhoods. The community was asked what we need in a Parks Director. Blaize sees it as a hollow experience because the department is asking the community for input but will likely just do what they want. Blaize's most important quality in a new director is the ability to work with capable staff. Blaize's fear is that Portland Parks is renowned not for pools, recreation etc, what makes Portland famous is the Natural Areas. Management of the two take a different style and we need a steward of those natural areas. The hiring board will choose three candidates and then Fish will determine who gets the bid. Blaize recommended an independent hiring committee to review and make the decision. It is still on the table to give Forest Park to Metro, but Metro doesn't have the money to take care of it.

Response to Marino Grievance Appeal

Michael Marino has a significant vision and hearing impairment, yet would like to be involved in the neighborhood. A few years ago there was money available for transcription which helped his ability to participate. Sieber has been at meetings and writing in huge font on a computer or pad of paper to assist Marino at meetings. Marino filed a grievance to NWDA that they weren't providing sufficient assistance so he could participate. The neighborhood decided to write a letter to ONI asking for funding for transcription. ONI is going to provide these services.

Finance Reports

No current report is available because our bookkeeper hasn't been in, but we have some line items up to date. By the June meeting full numbers from March and April will be available.

NWNW 2011-2012 Budget

A 3.4% cost of living increase is provided by ONI in addition to base funding. There are two major parts of our budget basic operating costs and small grants. Some of the operating costs are ear-marked. Most of our income is from ONI, but we do receive a few thousand dollars from contracts. Solarize provided \$2,000 and our costs were greater than that but we got into the community and did outreach that furthered our mission. In 2011-2012 the Mayor's budget proposes restoring the entire small grant funding. The coalition receives 15% of the small grants budget as an administrative fee. Small grants budget is \$28,000 for the full program, \$4100 for management of program comes back to NWNW. Grant extension draft had smaller numbers so this is going to affect our current budget.

Motion 2: Blaize moved to continue the conversation in executive session. Burch seconded. The motion passed and Wallisch excused herself.

No minutes available for executive session

Motion 3: Blaize moved to accept the proposed 2011-2012 budget Kelly-Campanele seconded. The motion passed.

ONI Grant Funding

The coalition board has been asked to approve the contract amendment with the Office of Neighborhood Involvement. The amendment only changes the dollar amount received, not the scope of work. There are some pieces that are called out individually, including communications funds, which allow \$1000 per neighborhood communications unless there is a newsletter for everyone. NWNW has dispersed this with \$750 per neighborhood and the rest allows for extra pages in the NW Examiner. In the past we've also provided \$200 for printing and postage per neighborhood, we are decreasing that to \$100. It is only 3.5 cents per copy in our office. Beninati had question about small grants budget. Small grants budget is a subset of bigger number (\$265,000) applications available for community building purpose grants. Small grants have been around for 5 years, maximum \$5,000 per project. The main amount of money we receive will be increasing. Small grants program has doubled. Final budget will be looked at again in June.

Motion 4: Kelly-Campanele moved to approve the contract with a caveat that the numbers will change with the Mayor's new budget. Blaize seconded. Motion passed.

Portland Office of Emergency Management (POEM) Grant

POEM has a \$1500 grant available per coalition for outreach on community emergency management organizing, if we respond to the RFP, we will receive the grant. On May 24th the coalition will hold a meeting at 5 PM at the Coho Theater for neighborhood chairs and livability etc to brainstorm the types of activities a coalition grant could support.

Motion 5: Stark moved to support a staff bid for the POEM grant. Bird seconded and the motion passed.

Crime Prevention Hub

Last month Stephanie Reynolds of ONI presented on the budget neutral plan to move all of the crime prevention coordinators into one office.

Motion 6: Blaize moved to support the Crime Prevention Hub with administrative support. Stark seconded the motion. Motion passed.

IRS Governance

Records retention policy is still missing for our IRS governance policy. Sieber is working to get a concise list that coincides with Oregon law. There will be something available for approval at the June meeting. Our final budget next month needs to include an employee wage study, designed to ensure that officers and staff aren't being overpaid.

June 4th Citywide Community Gathering

Community Leaders Dialogue for all people to get together and network will take place in NE Portland on June 4th. An outreach email will go out. All coalitions and DCL partners are hosts because we've agreed to publicize the event to our members.

Neighborhood Reports

Linnton-Kelly-Campanele missed last meeting from the train accident. There was a board meeting where the board consented to oppose the bill that would change industrial land and zoning because it impacts how the river is managed. The neighborhood is going forward with three block parties this summer.

Sylvan-Highlands- In discussion with Washington Park Alliance and Oregon Zoo who are planning on using their bond money and realized they should have neighborhood involvement. The most commentary from the neighborhoods is on the parking and traffic but they aren't taking responsibility of that because it's park land. The neighborhood is working on changing the bylaws, but the changes aren't final yet. A new board was elected last night.

Old Town Chinatown- Lot 33 is a main topic of concern. Uwajimaya is not likely to happen, so the neighborhood is prioritizing alternatives.

Pearl District- There's new board member potential. Pearl Party is occupying time. People were concerned about the documentation of donations to write it off, but this has been solved. Yes for Schools presented to the neighborhood. People have recently passed away that were very involved in the neighborhood, so the neighborhood is planning a memorial walk.

Northwest Industrial- Hutchinson deferred because there was no meeting this month. The annual meeting is next week.

Hillside-The neighborhood hosted a wine tasting last week, 40-50 people came. Saturday is the Hillside Clean Up. Aaby has expressed interest in working with other neighborhoods for emergency outreach, and will be at the POEM grant meeting. CRSC did not get the third grant application. Now they are guerilla planning with volunteers including representatives of PBOT, BES who will help to get information to the community. Traffic Counters are on Cornell for the speed tray demonstration project for speed bumps that are emergency accessible.

Goose Hollow-A few weeks ago there was a successful book launch for "The History of Goose Hollow" in the parking lot of Goose Hollow Inn. Foot traffic brought attendance close to 500 people. There was a variety of entertainment including Lego robotics, booths, art tables, live entertainment etc. A relatively minor issue in the neighborhood has become highly contentious. A historic residence on Main street has been converted to commercial but the variance for zoning expires with the death of the owner, who is already old. The occupants are looking to change the zoning to stay in the building. The neighbors would like it to be converted back to residential purposes. The neighborhood has been involved in the Fred Meyer remodel. The Timbers games have gone well parking hasn't been a huge issue in the neighborhood. There is on-going work on the grievance on emails not received by Classen who was given some and denied others. At the executive committee meeting they decided the neighborhood had followed ONI guidelines so the grievance was denied. Board will decide whether to support the executive decision at the next meeting. The facts are confusing.

Forest Park-Jane Allison, City Nature West, talked about forest park at the last meeting. The Water Bureau is taking away the neighborhood building, the Willis building, despite a signed contract. This will be reported on in the future.

NWDA-The neighborhood is still focused on parking and Conway. Conway and the NWDA master plan is on the table, and looking at how to make the development fit into the plan. There were 80 responses to a survey on Timbers games and parking, overall there was less an impact than expected. Outreach to use the public systems seemed to work well. NWDA is doing internal reorganization and has their annual meeting on May 23rd.

Meeting adjourned at 7:02 PM

Next Meeting: June 8, 2011