

The Community Association of Portsmouth
Minutes - Forum Meeting
January 4, 2005
Columbia Cottage, 4339 N Lombard

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 PM by Vice Chair Jason Henshaw. Chair Scott Jensen was in attendance and participated, but had a bad cold. Minutes of the October 5, 2004 Forum were presented by Leslie Esinga. They were accepted with a spelling change of Officer Jason Christensen's name. The November 2nd Forum had been cancelled because it was Election Night. The December 7th Forum was a holiday party where we presented our Spirit of Portsmouth Awards. The 12-7-04 Forum Minutes were accepted unanimously.

Susan Landauer brought up the issue of Portland International Raceway's (PIR's) General Manager Mark Wigginton's proposal to request City permission to increase noise at the racetrack. Jeanne Knepper made a motion that we write a letter of opposition to PIR's noise expansion, containing these four facts, and then bring this letter to the February Forum for approval.

1. At this time there are four varianced weekends, where engine noise louder than 103 decibels is allowed. It is proposed that five weekends be varianced. The fifth event would be drag races, which have a light show and continue after dark until ten or eleven.
2. The four existing varianced weekends have limits of 115, 112, 112, and 110 decibels. The request is for five weekends of unlimited noise.
3. At this time the City Noise Board processes requests from racing organizations for variances, then the City Council approves or denies. The proposal is for Mark Wigginton to process requests.
4. Historically, North Portland Neighborhoods receive money, (recently \$30,000) as mitigation for noise. That was negotiated away in 2004.
5. Albert Hansen made a friendly amendment that we coordinate with other neighborhoods, which was accepted.

Vote: 3 Yes; 1 No; 2 Abstentions, the motion carried. Scott and Susan will write a letter.

Our Neighborhood Response Team Officer Jason Christensen brought a map and crime report. He says some local criminals are organized like pimps and whores. A group of thieves can be directed by one person who tells them what to do, then takes part of their loot and gives them illegal drugs.

Joseph Reedy and Marcy McNally, Architect consultants for HAP, dropped in to report on Blocks 19 and 20 in the northeast corner of New Columbia. They said these houses all had vestibules, and were looking good. Joseph and Marcy were last here on September 28, 2004.

Jeanne Knepper facilitated a discussion about the identity of our group. There was a unanimous decision to change our name from "The Community Association of Portsmouth" to "Portsmouth Neighborhood Association." There was also a decision to seek a new logo for the group. Mitch Gould asked to be affirmed as "art director" of the logo search group. A unanimous vote did this.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

Susan Landauer
Acting Secretary