



Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Portsmouth Neighborhood Association

June 24, 2008

Meeting at University Park United Methodist Church, 4775 N Lombard.

Attendees

Board Members: Greg Wilhelm, Chair; Erin McGovney, Vice Chair; Betty Johnson, Treasurer; Renee Jensen-Reinhardt, Secretary; Jeanne Knepper; Susan Landauer; Stephen Leiker; Matthew Denton; Sam Thompson. Absent: Virginia Scott

Public: Nick and Mandy Mucci

Treasurer's Report

Betty noted that the fiscal year is ending on June 30. She presented a report on expenditures and account balances. She indicated that the Communications funds have a balance of \$24.89 and there are plans to use \$19 of this for window decals.

Committee Reports

Land Use Committee

No report at this time.

Good Times Committee

Susan reported that the ice cream social in conjunction with the Portland Department of Transportation (PDOT) public meeting for the neighbors living on the streets earmarked for speedbumps on Woolsey between Lombard and Willis, Winchell from Woolsey to Chautauqua, and Russet from Lombard to Chautauqua, was very successful. She said the PDOT representative said that it makes his job easier when neighborhood associations are so involved and informative. She said that there is now 30 days for the petition process. The PDOT process of approving speedbumps included obtaining signatures from at least 67% of the neighbors on the streets of each of the proposed individual speedbump projects. She said that she wanted to go door to door and those attending the meeting embraced the idea.

Jeanne gave an update on the Pride festival. She said there were approximately 80 people in attendance listening to music and visiting with vendors. Vendors present included Equity Funder, 21st Century Realty and they were glad to be there. Speakers present included Mayor Elect Sam Adams, Oregon House Representative Tina Kotek, and Amanda Fritz and Charles Lewis, both running for City Council. She said there were a wide variety of people present and some interested in moving into the neighborhood.

Voice Committee

Greg reported that the committee communicated via email during this last month. He requested the board's approval to purchase more business cards for upcoming activities. All were in agreement.

Committee Matrix and Committee Chair Selections

Greg reviewed the existing and new committees and had members volunteer to be committee members and committee chairs. Other committees identified at the board retreat were instated and are included below. It was clarified that sub-committee membership is open to non-board members.

Land Use Committee (housing, variances, parks, businesses and zoning): Matthew, Chair; Sam; Greg and Erin

Good Times Committee: Susan, Chair; Jeanne

Voice Committee: Betty, Chair; Greg; Renee and Sam

Livability Committee (formerly Pride): Stephen, Chair; Matthew and Susan

Board Development Committee: Renee, Chair; Betty and Erin

Grievance Committee: It was clarified that this committee is an ad hoc committee made up of those not living in the neighborhood and who are on other neighborhood associations. There was an idea presented to have one for North Portland neighborhood associations. Betty suggested that Greg take this topic to the meeting of neighborhood chairs.

Streetcar – Status and Board Discussion

Matthew gave an update on the Streetcar topic. He said the process was going slower than scheduled and that the Streetcar Committee is working on a survey to be handed out door-to-door. The results from the survey should be done in October. Greg asked if they want PNA to take any action. Matthew said there will be a presentation after October and action may be needed next Spring. Stephen asked if there was a priority area. Matthew said that Hawthorne is the priority area based on bus traffic/schedules. Jeanne asked how the streetcar would be set up. Matthew said that the streetcar would ultimately make a network or connect to a service depot. He gave an example such that one on Lombard would connect to the Max on Interstate and possibly to MLK if there was to be a streetcar on MLK.

8605 N. Druid Avenue – Land Use

Matthew presented an update on the proposed use of the property at 8605 N. Druid Avenue. The contractor filed an application to subdivide the lot and put in two skinny houses. Erin confirmed the owner is Charles Stone and Matthew confirmed that Charles works for the contractor, Randy Palazzo. The concern brought to the board is that the house has asbestos siding and needs to be removed correctly. Mr. Palazzo tore down a house on Fiske that had asbestos siding and did not take the proper precautions and the neighbors called DEQ to stop the process and the contractor was fined but not until he had already moved a few truckloads of the hazardous product. The board agreed to write a letter to DEQ asking them to monitor the process on the Druid house, include in the letter the past history of negligent demolition practice of the contractor regarding asbestos removal, and to request that the contractor file a hazardous removal demolition plan with DEQ. The board suggested that a copy be sent to the City of Portland and possibly handed out to the neighbors. Jeanne drafted out the letter and read it to the board. **Susan made a motion to accept the letter. Erin seconded the motion and all were in favor. The motion passed.**

Speedbumps – Public Meetings

Discussed above.

Summer Concerts – PNA Involvement

The PNA board has agreed to staff a PNA table at four summer concerts being held on Sundays from 6-8pm at McCoy Park. Stephen indicated that he would be available for two of the concerts. Susan was asked to circulate a sign-up to the board to volunteer. The board discussed what materials to have present and they will be the PNA banner, business cards, sign-up sheets to collect email addresses, date of the next forum, list of hot topics and PNA documents pulled from the website and laminated.

PNA Newsletter

The board recognized that Susan's Neighborhood Newsletter is not associated with PNA. The board then discussed outreach activities including a listserv, having PNA information tables at events, etc. There was much discussion around door-to-door outreach, Block Captains and mailing out announcements. Greg asked if the board was interested in creating a PNA newsletter. The board recognized the PNA website as a good vehicle to provide information versus creating a newsletter.

New Columbia Summer Programs – Board Involvement

Greg asked if PNA would like to host a Summer Outreach Program for kids. Susan indicated that it is essentially adopting a park on a Tuesday and that most board members work during the day. Matthew mentioned that it would be good outreach. Susan suggested that PNA activities be more focused and relate to PNA. Jeanne said that it is clear that New Columbia is part of the neighborhood and that it is easy to think that people we care about and represent are homeowners and not transient renters. She asked that we keep this in mind and to represent all people in the neighborhood. Betty indicated that New Columbia should be its own neighborhood association. Susan indicated that the PNA has had New Columbia represented on the board but not now. There was much discussion around this topic area such as the process of redrawing boundaries and how that affects the city. Sam agreed to outreach to New Columbia but against recruiting someone from an area not represented. It was agreed that PNA would outreach to New Columbia for the next forum. Renee suggested that this be tabled for the Voice Committee to discuss and find ways to outreach to New Columbia and bring the topic back to the board.

Hacienda Corporation and Public Housing

Susan presented a brief history of the Hacienda Corporation and its operations, programs and history in Portsmouth. She highlighted the pending low income housing project on the property by the "cut" behind Public Storage. She said it was important for the board members to know that PNA has supported this proposed project. Jeanne broached the subject of PNA board's position on public housing. She gave a history on the points previously presented by Richard Ellmyer, the statistics used to support those points and the city standards on public housing. As an example, Hope Meadows is not public housing and data presented is on census track and not on neighborhood lines. After discussion, the board agreed that thoughtful review and research needed to be done to clarify where the neighborhood stands and/or ranks with its percentage of public housing prior to making any statement or broad policy. Jeanne offered to do the research. Susan offered to connect her with Shelley Marchese from the Housing Authority of Portland and set up a time for Jeanne to meet with her.

New Business

Betty said that she was interested in changing the number of Forums from four to three. She said that there seems to be more happening and more overload in relation to the capacity of the board. The board discussed the topic and agreed that the next forum would take place in the fall as in accordance with the bylaws. The bylaws indicated that there

should be a forum in the fall and spring and the spring forum is for elections. Jeanne indicated that there had been frequent forum meetings that took place for the New Columbia development. She also added that there are advantages for the neighbors to be presented with both sides of a topic and that she likes the format. Betty discussed the effort it took to get people to attend the forum. The board agreed that there is flexibility in scheduling the forums and that the bylaws can be changed. At this time there will be no summer forum and the next forum will be the Fall Forum to be held on October 7, 2008.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:32pm.

Minutes prepared by Renee Jensen Reinhardt.