



Portsmouth Neighborhood Association
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Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Portsmouth Neighborhood Association
October 20, 2009, 7:00-8:30 PM at New Columbia Community Education Center 4625 N. Trenton.

Attendees:

Board Members: Diana Bartlett (Secretary); Rachel Burdon (Vice Chair); Matthew Denton (Treasurer); Jeanne Knepper; Susan Landauer; Stephen Leiker; Sam Thompson; Mary Wheeler
Absent: Greg Wilhelm, Ryan Schera
Quorum: Yes

The meeting started at about 7:05 PM with Rachel Burdon presiding.

Committee Reports

Events:

Susan requested feedback on the Spirit of Portsmouth Awards. The majority of board members present voiced support for continuing the awards. Susan asked for nominations. The nomination deadline for the awards is November 24th. There will be more discussion about the holiday party at the November board meeting.

The PNA Board Retreat is scheduled for January 12th 2010.

Land Use: New Land Use issue in Concordia (6138 NE 32nd): Concordia Neighborhood Association sent a letter to the PNA requesting support for their efforts to ensure city codes and zoning are enforced consistently. Susan made a motion that PNA support Concordia. Jeanne suggested that PNA write a letter to the proper authorities and copy the Concordia Neighborhood Association in opposition of allowing code violations. Jeanne made a motion that Susan draft a letter on behalf of the PNA to the appropriate authorities about the issue. Matthew seconded. The motion passed (7 in favor, 1 abstention).

Communications: Sam thanked all who volunteered to help with the last newsletter. For future events, Sam asked whether the board would like to distribute flyers to recruit neighbors. General consensus was that while flyers can help with outreach if used strategically, it is very labor intensive to distribute door to door. The board discussed possible alternative ways to communicate about future PNA events including purchasing a sandwich board, placing ads in movie theater, and posting events to Craigslist and the Sentinel.

Livability: The PNA Clarendon School Site Cleanup was held on October 17th. About 25 people participated. The Portland Tribune and Fox 12 News did a story. The next day Portland Public schools trucks came out and fixed lighting and did some other work on the school grounds. Sam will write press release highlighting the achievements of the PNA's efforts regarding the Clarendon site and will include an invitation for people to attend the holiday party.

Outreach: No new business to report.

Treasurer's report:

Possible idea for use of extra funds: Sam made a suggestion for using some of PNA's extra funds for the year to donate money to New Columbia or to an individual family in the neighborhood. Mary stated that she would be opposed to getting the PNA involved in charitable giving. Susan disagreed and said she sees the giving as "speech" supportive of New Columbia and making a statement that PNA values that relationship. Jeanne agreed that it would be a statement if the PNA is able to leverage the support by asking for matching donations from others in the neighborhood or publicize the work of a local organization/agency. Rachel suggested that we discuss the idea further at the next meeting. This issue will be discussed in November.

October Forum Meeting: Stephen reported better lighting and other improvements by PPS following press & community cleanup. PPS representatives gave PNA a timeline at the Forum of 12 months for PPS to make decisions regarding use of the space.

Follow up needed:

- A Thank you letter, present a couple of additional questions, request to please keep PNA apprised
- A hand written thank you note to all attendees at forum. This is an important issue.
- Follow up with a letter in January – please keep us apprised.
- Quarterly follow up.
- Holding space in newsletter for their response

Rachel will follow up with a thank you to PPS who were in attendance

The Outreach and Livability committees will work together to determine how to continue communication with PPS and how to communicate next steps to the community.

New Business:

Friends of Trees: A North Portland neighborhood planting event is scheduled for February 6th. Susan made a motion that PNA allocate \$50 for a Friends of Trees ad in the Sentinel. Stephen seconded. The motion passed.

Jim Schaller – North Portland Business Association (NPBA) has requested that one person from each North Portland neighborhood association join a NPBA-neighborhood alliance and asked for feedback on the proposed alliance. Stephen volunteered to attend NPBA Alliance meeting. This issue will be put on the November agenda to generate feedback on the idea.

Portland Bicycle Plan: Public feedback is due 11/4/09. Portsmouth area was not included in this plan.

Neighborhood Small Grants: Mary attended an informational meeting about available neighborhood grants available in 2010. Grant money will be available for \$500 or more. Current grants PNA have received (originally designated for laptop and design software) have been extended until June of 2010. There were no new ideas for grant proposals.

All PNA members are invited to weigh in on federal housing and community development on 11/5/09 at a City of Portland affordable homeownership meeting at New Columbia.

Senator Chip Shields has requested to attend the next Portsmouth Neighborhood Association meeting. There were no objections. Rachel/Greg will follow up to invite him to the next meeting.

Vacant Board Seat: A neighbor has submitted an interest form. Rachel will invite her to the next meeting.

Ride Connection – The non-profit senior transport service has requested to come speak to the PNA board. Those present determined there would not be a need for them to attend a meeting. If they have specific info about their services that they'd like to share, PNA can work to get it into future communications.

Friends of PIR: The Friends of PIR will be at the next chairs meeting to make a case for privatizing ownership of PIR. All board members in attendance voiced support for keeping PIR under Portland Parks and Rec management.

Eagles Alarm: Stephen reported a news story he had seen about an alarm going off at night at the Eagles Lodge. A neighbor has reported the problem repeatedly and stated in the article that he would like to see a response from PNA. The board determined it would be best to hear directly from the neighbor before responding.

Meeting adjourned at 9:05 PM

Next Board Meeting November 17th

Notes prepared by Diana Bartlett