



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

July 22, 2008

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

Attendees

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

Quorum: Yes

Public: Tom Griffin-Valade

Board Minutes

Greg presented a motion to accept the February 2008 through June 2008 PNA Board minutes and the April 2008 and June 2008 PNA Forum minutes. Susan moved and Sam seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Jeanne asked to review the June Forum minutes. A friendly amendment was made to omit the June 2008 PNA Forum minutes in order for careful review. All accepted the amendment. The motion is amended to accept the February 2008 through June 2008 PNA Board minutes and the PNA Forum minutes from April 2008. All were in favor. Virginia abstained.

Treasurer's Report

Since Betty was absent for the meeting, Greg read Betty's Treasurer's report. The report covered expenses and balances for PNA financial activities.

Additions to the Agenda

Susan asked to add her report on Hope Meadows Pre Application Conference.

Committee Reports

Land Use Committee

Greg reported on the ICURAC and ICURAC Transportation Sub-Committee meetings. He indicated that the Lombard streetscape is being elevated higher on the list of activities. It is second in priority of larger projects. He also announced that he has posted information on the PNA website regarding a program to fix up houses and buy homes.

Susan reported that the letter approved at the last board meeting addressing the negligent asbestos removal practice of the contractor currently working on a house on Druid Avenue was sent to DEQ and copied and sent to the City of Portland via certified return requested. She said there has been no response received and no activity at the house. She also indicated that she called the police department and they cannot confirm the Druid house

was or was not a meth house. The police did confirm that meth disposal is the same as asbestos removal.

Voice Committee

In Betty's absence, Sam presented the Voice Committee Report. Aside from the report, he shared that there is a lot of research and different questions that the committee will be looking into. Greg added that the committee meeting was very lively and the members are very active.

Livability Committee

Susan reported that she and Erin will be representatives for Friends of Trees and that tree planting in the area will be on January 17, 2009.

Good Times Committee

Susan reported that there was a good showing at the McCoy Park concert series. Sam and Matthew reported that there was a good turnout. Greg asked if there was interest generated at the PNA table. They reported that they met a lot of people and obtained 8-10 signatures on the PNA sign-up sheet.

Board Development Committee

Renee presented the Board Development Committee report. Activities proposed by the committee include board recruitment, board nomination process, board orientation and board development. The board discussed the process for filling vacancies.

Portland Hope Meadows Pre Application Conference

Susan reported that she attended the Portland Hope Meadows Pre Application Conference and provided testimony as to the reasons why PNA opposes the Portland Hope Meadows development in the neighborhood. She indicated that there were City Planners and Hope Meadows lawyers present. She said the conference is designed for the City to present their rules and for Hope Meadows to ask questions. She said the project is still going forward. Greg said that the Portland Hope Meadows funding deadline in October may be a deciding factor. He added that PNA will need to define its strategy in September.

Nuisance Complaints

Greg presented the idea of creating a form letter for nuisance complaints. He passed around pictures of two houses, one on Foss and one on Wayland that may be in violation of Nuisance or City Code Compliance violations. He reported that one house already has three complaints. He asked if the PNA had a template for this type of letter and if the PNA has done this before. He also indicated that it is more effective for a neighborhood association to file a complaint than an individual. Jeanne asked if they were both rentals and Greg said that one was. Sam asked if they were senior citizens and Victoria said that they were not. Jeanne asked if the owners were in poor health or considered low income and Virginia said that they weren't and that they had spoken with the residents and owners. Tom provided information on DEQ violations, mediation services available to neighborhood associations and the City's nuisance inspection process.

After much discussion, the Board agreed to have the communication take place through the Livability Committee. Jeanne made a motion that PNA would write letters to the owners and residents of each of these properties detailing that we have received nuisance complaints and we are asking them to resolve the conditions that are out of compliance of City Code regarding weeds, blackberry bushes and cars and we will review their responses to the letters at our next PNA meeting before taking further action. Erin seconded the motion. There was no discussion and all were in favor. The motion passed.

It was agreed that the letter would be signed by the Livability Committee chairperson, Stephen, and that the future nuisances be referred to the Livability Committee and then brought to the Board.

New Columbia Town Hall Meeting

Greg mentioned that the PNA Board was invited to the New Columbia Town Hall meeting on August 14, 2008. He said this would be a good opportunity to engage New Columbia residents and for board recruitment. The board members who may be available include: Stephen, Susan, Erin or Greg and possibly Sam.

Oregon Liquor Licensing Renewal: One year versus two years

Greg asked the Board for their input on OLCC's Liquor Licensing Renewal process changing from every two years to every year. Erin commented that it is excessive to have it every year. Tom provided input on the process and how an establishment can be shut down with complaints and how it is not necessarily done at the time of renewal. There was discussion and a comment that the topic be discussed at the Neighborhood Association Chair's meeting in September. It was agreed to table this discussion to the next PNA Board meeting.

Dog Parks in Portsmouth

Greg informed the Board that there are no off-leash dog parks in Portsmouth. The board discussed the current situation and agreed to have this be assigned to the Livability Committee to discuss.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00pm.

Minutes prepared by Renee Jensen Reinhardt.