



Portsmouth Neighborhood Association
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Portland, Oregon 97283
www.portsmouthneighborhood.com

Forum Meeting Minutes

Columbia Cottage, 4339 N Lombard, September 23, 2008, 7:00-8:30 PM

Attendance: 49 people (a quorum was present)

Pizza (from Nicola's) and soft drinks were served before the meeting to allow some time for socializing, and to accommodate people who might miss supper.

Greg Wilhelm called the meeting to order about 7:05. He showed a map of the Portsmouth neighborhood, and talked briefly about membership. Board members introduced themselves.

The PNA distributed printed minutes from the August 26 meeting and asked for corrections. No changes were suggested, so the minutes were approved.

Crime Report:

North Precinct Commander Donna Henderson reported that major crimes are down about one per cent, and burglaries are stable. Portland Police have a group called the HEAT Team. They are ten officers and two sergeants. When an appropriate event happens, they flood the situation with police who are trained to act as a team. Donna also urged us to send a member to the monthly PSAC (Public Safety Action Committee) meetings.

Bylaw Amendments:

Greg passed out copies of our revised PNA bylaws. Susan Landauer made a motion they be accepted as written. Erin McGovney seconded. Acceptance was unanimous, with no abstentions. According to the Bylaws in effect a person had to have signed in at a previous meeting to be eligible to vote. Erin had prepared a list of people who had signed in at meetings since 2005. 18 of the attendees checked the space next to their names, indicating they were members under the old rules when the vote was called (the list had not made it around the room completely at this time). Greg counted 24 years.

Clarendon School:

Martin Gonzales was introduced. He is the newest member of the Portland Public School Board, representing North Portland. He replaced Dan Ryan. Martin lives in St Johns, and was executive director of the Portland Schools Alliance. He was very involved at both Clarendon and Portsmouth schools, and now will continue to advocate for our kids at a higher level.

Bryan Winchester is Director of Facilities and Asset Management at Portland Public Schools. Marlys Mock is Project Manager for Government and Community Relations for PPS. We invited them to discuss the situation at the old, vacant, Clarendon school building on Van Houten Ave. Neighbors talked about negligent maintenance, vandalism, decay, inappropriate or non-existent lighting; and the bad effect this has on them and the community. Bryan talked

about PPS's policy of maintaining empty schools to use as "swing schools." Most of our schools need renovations. PPS will move kids to these "swing schools" for a year or two while their regular schools are being renovated. Bryan emphasized that money is scarce, and a bond measure in 2010 will largely determine what happens. Brian said most communities are sentimentally attached to their schools, but Clarendon is an exception. Many in the audience indicated that they'd like to see Clarendon leveled, but they would prefer to see it used instead of vacant.

It was suggested that neighbors, and the PNA work with PPS to mitigate conditions. Greg said we would discuss this in our board meeting.

Portland Hope Meadows Good Neighbor Lease Addendum:

Greg introduced this topic by saying that PNA is on record as opposing PHM. Shannon Callahan is on the staff of City Commissioner Dan Saltzman, and she asked to be on the agenda to discuss a Good Neighbor Agreement between PNA and PHM. This would be part of a 99-year lease agreement between PHM and the City for this piece of land. (See Shannon's ideas for a lease below. *) Neighbors and visitors offered ideas for a Good Neighbor Agreement. City Council will meet Thursday, October 2 at 2 p.m. to consider this lease. Greg urged us all to attend and testify, and send comments to the commissioners if we cannot attend.

PNA Board member Ryan Shera talked a bit about the Conditional Use Process for PHM. Derenda Schubert, Executive Director of PHM, is preparing a statement on the full funding commitment for starting PHM. Shannon will prepare a draft of the lease agreement. Greg should receive both documents on Sept 25, and email them to board members and interested parties.

***Shannon Callahan's Ideas for proposed 99 year lease with Portland Hope Meadows for former John Ball Elementary School site.**

Property/Livability Issues

- All work to be done in reasonable time in a good workmanlike manner
- Property must be maintained in neat, safe condition, free of trash and debris
- Landscaping must be maintained in neat manner
- Green building techniques to be incorporated

Neighborhood Contacts/Concerns

- 24 hour contact number for neighbors
- On-site property manager

Neighborhood Amenities

- Outdoor play space open to community
- Community Center available free of charge to PNA and local school and community groups

Good Neighbors

- Required to enter into and comply with Good Neighbor agreement addressing
 - Crime prevention
 - Implementation of rules and regulations for acceptable conduct
 - Participation in community problem solving if desired by Portsmouth Neighborhood Association

Suggestions from the Portsmouth Neighborhood

- Crime prevention through environmental design
- Quiet time – curfew
- Graffiti tracking/removal
- Occupancy limit
- No second chances on repeat violations
- Parking permits for residents and visitors
- Grounds are a role model for neighbors
- Work with New Columbia
- Financial penalties
- Design/build rep from PNA on team
- Encourage minority businesses and women owned businesses for construction
- Clear complain/resolution process
- Mandatory volunteer work
- No monument signage
- PHM staff attend some board meetings

The meeting was adjourned about 9 pm.
Susan Landauer, acting secretary