



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

October 28, 2008 from 7:00-8:30 PM at the Columbia Cottage.

Attendees

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

Quorum: Yes

Guests: Mary Moller

The meeting started at 8:00 PM with Greg Wilhelm presiding. He opened the meeting by asking those present to introduce themselves.

Treasurer's Report

Betty provided a verbal report on the status of PNA finances and bank balance accompanied by a written report.

Treasurer's Resignation Plan

Betty announced to the Board of her plan to resign from the Board and Board Treasurer position. She will officially submit her resignation when the Board recruits a new Treasurer to take her place. She would like to assist in the transition and train the new Treasurer on the procedures and files she has created.

President's Thanks to the Board

Greg thanked the Board members for donating their time to serve on the PNA board and working through the grievance, bylaws and testimonies to City Council. He would like the year to end on a good note with the Clarendon Clean-up project and the Holiday Party. He mentioned the press that PNA has received. Renee suggested that copies of those articles be given to the Voice Committee.

Committee Reports

Land Use Committee: Matthew was not present. No report given at this time.

Good Times Committee: Susan presented the Committee's tentative budget to the Board for review and consideration. The Board reviewed the budget and discussed which projects were current and pending and which should be approved. This brought about discussion on when and how budgets should be approved by the Board. It was suggested that approvals be made on a quarterly basis.

Motion: Jeanne made a motion that the PNA Board to approve the Events Committee budget not to exceed \$250 for the next three months, now through February 2009. Stephen seconded the motion and all were in favor. The motion passed.

Jeanne added that they would like to change the name of the committee to the Events Committee. No one had any concerns with the name change. Greg will update the website with the change.

Voice Committee: Sam was not present. Erin announced the plans for the inaugural PNA Newsletter. The plan is to have it completed in advance of the PNA Holiday party. She welcomed articles and ideas from the Board.

Livability Committee: Stephen indicated that the topics of discussion for this committee are separate discussion items on the agenda. He deferred to the agenda topic order.

Board Development Committee

Renee reviewed the Board Development Committee meeting minutes. She noted that they drafted board nomination procedures and will be developing recruitment procedures and an application packet. She said she would email the minutes to the Board and asked them to review the draft nomination procedures and make comments. She also highlighted a request from the Committee to have a board development/planning retreat. Greg added it to the end of the agenda for discussion.

Hope Meadows

Board Position on Issue: Greg announced that the City Council unanimously approved the lease to Portland Hope Meadows and asked for the Board Position on the issue at this time given that PHM will be part of our neighborhood. Erin clarified that the PNA Board was opposed to the process and development use of that property. Ryan added that the lease is only the first step. The second step is the design and use of the property. He added that the appeal process gives leverage in the good neighbor agreement. Erin added that PNA should continue to have input as part of the process and be amicable. With that, Erin said that she hoped PHM succeeds in good faith.

Motion: Jeanne made the following motion as the PNA Board's position on PHM:

PNA RESOLUTION ON PORTLAND HOPE MEADOWS Adopted October 28, 2008

The Board of Portsmouth Neighborhood Association [PNA] is committed to the well-being of the Portsmouth Neighborhood. Acknowledging that Portland City Council has approved the lease of the John Ball School Site to Portland Hope Meadows [PHM], we recognize that Portland Hope Meadows will be a part of our neighborhood. The Portsmouth Neighborhood Association is invested in having a continuing and participatory voice in the planning of the physical site as the project moves forward. Therefore, we are accepting the invitation of PHM to have PNA representation on the planning committee, even as we retain our role as a champion of good neighborhood development.

Virginia seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Good Neighbor Agreement: Greg will ask about feedback.

Lessons Learned: Greg tabled this discussion and asked the Board to think about what worked and didn't work in this process.

Damage Control Letter to City Council: Greg asked for the Board's suggestions regarding damage control as a result of this process and with City Council. The members and guest gave input. It was agreed that this would be good relationship building. Greg agreed to meet one-on-one with the new City Council members in January.

Clarendon School

Cleanup: Stephen announced that the Clarendon School Clean-up Day is November 16 from 1-3pm. He is working with the Voice Committee to develop and pass out flyers around the school. Greg suggested that the Board look into hats for PNA Members to wear when at community events and activities.

Portland Village School Endorsement: Stephen indicated that the Portland Village School has asked for an endorsement letter from the PNA Board. He indicated that they are a charter school and have run out of space. Greg asked to go around the room for comments. Jeanne asked that the PNA Board consider the same due diligence from the school as for other properties.

Motion: Renee made a motion that the Portsmouth Neighborhood Association Board support the position of Portland Village School to use the old Clarendon school site subject to review of their proposed plans. Virginia seconded the motion. Eight members were in favor and one opposed. The motion passed.

Frente Comun Endorsement: No action taken.

PNA Position on Street Car

Greg asked that the PNA Board take a position on the proposed Lombard Street Car and create a letter of support if all are in favor.

Motion: Stephen made a motion for the Portsmouth Neighborhood Association to go forth with a letter of support for the Lombard Street Car project. Erin seconded the motion. Six members approved, two members opposed and 1 abstained. The motion passed.

Grants

Portsmouth Neighborhood Enhancement Plan and Portsmouth Cut grants: Ryan presented two brief overviews of the Portsmouth Neighborhood Enhancement plan and the Portsmouth Cut plan and his interest in going forward to find funds for some of the suggested improvements. The Board members support his efforts. Greg added that Sam was interested in writing grants. They identified potential funding sources as Metro, North Portland Community Trust Fund (PIR) and United Way.

Greg mentioned the current Neighborhood plan needs to be discarded. The plan was created to include Portsmouth Neighborhood in the Interstate Corridor Urban Renewal Area (ICURA) with the intention of providing funding for New Columbia. The existing plan does not reflect the types of development that we want today. Greg suggested this be included on the PNA action list and discussed with the Land Use Committee.

PIR grant due November 2: Greg said that he would write a grant to PIR for funds to supplement the Friends of Trees tree prices for neighbors interested in trees but are not able to pay the tree price.

Nuisance Complaints

Stephen informed that Board that they need to decide when to take action on nuisance complaints: before or after reported to the City. After much discussion, the following motion was made.

Motion: Renee made a motion that the Portsmouth Neighborhood Association board only become involved with nuisance complaints after an official complaint has been made to the City and no action was taken, it is a neighborhood problem and all other existing processes have been exhausted. Erin seconded the motion. Greg opened it up for discussion. Jeanne supports going through the City process and noted that sometimes finds that it could be a grumpy neighbor reporting the problem. Eight members were in favor and one abstained. The motion passed.

Fire/Safety Outreach

Erin mentioned that there were two fatal fires in the neighborhood in the past year and suggested that the Board do fire safety outreach and work with the fire department. The Board agreed to invite the fire department to the holiday party and other PNA events to be present for the neighbors and had out materials.

Larson's Mini Mart

Stephen asked the Board to consider buying a garbage dumpster for outside the Larson Mini Mart. He suggested that he would empty the dumpster. After much discussion, the idea was not pursued.

Dumpster Days

Stephen presented the idea of having dumpster days in March and May. He said that the neighborhood associations receive dumpster vouchers every quarter. He said that it could be a joint project with University Park and we could charge a fee per car, small pickup and large pickup. It was also suggested to have Master Recyclers and plastic recycle bins present. The Board members were in favor the of the idea and did provide feedback on the fees.

December Forum Date

The December Forum is the Holiday Party and it is set for December 16 from 6:30-8:30pm. The fire department will be invited to have a table available for materials. The Board agreed not to have a formal agenda.

Forum Sign-In Sheets

Tabled to the next meeting.

New Business

November Board Meeting: The Board agreed to move the November PNA Board meeting to another week that does not compete with Thanksgiving. The agenda will include planning for the Holiday Party.

Board Development/Planning Retreat: The Board agreed to keep this meeting separate from regular Board meetings and to plan it in January. The date is to be determined.

Adjourn: Susan made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Erin seconded the motion. All were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:11pm.

Minutes prepared by Renee Jensen Reinhardt, Secretary.