



**Portsmouth Neighborhood Association**  
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Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Portsmouth Neighborhood Association  
July 21, 2009, 7:00-8:30 PM at New Columbia Community Education Center, 4625 N. Trenton.

**Attendees:**

Board Members: Greg Wilhelm; Rachel Burdon; Diana Bartlett; Susan Landauer; Sam Thompson;  
Mary Wheeler, Jeanne Knepper; Stephen Leiker

Quorum: Yes

The meeting started at about 7:05 PM with Greg Wilhelm presiding.

**Treasurer's Report**

Greg gave the balance: \$2853.79. The \$175.00 set aside to assist with National Night out will go back into general treasury.

**Committee Reports**

**Land Use:** The Lombard Branding committee met and came to the consensus that the street should be branded as University Park District. Based on PNA feedback from the community forum, Greg suggested PNA make a formal motion in support of this branding name. Stephen made a motion to name the Lombard Street Business district from Woolsey to Macrum the "University Park District." Susan seconded. All in favor. The motion passed. There was some additional discussion about the boundaries of the district and there was support for making a future recommendation to the Lombard Branding committee that the boundary be expanded to Chautauqua.

Greg presented the North Portland Transportation Strategy at the last quarterly ICURAC meeting. The strategy recommended more funding from ICURAC in order to accomplish top three on-going transportation priorities. There was some negative feedback on the priorities within Portsmouth, because some parties argue that Portsmouth has already received a large amount of funding for New Columbia. At the meeting it was also announced that the PDC has awarded a \$1.5 million grant to Bridge Meadows, sponsored by Commissioner Fish. Several Board members mentioned that the PNA's response to this should not be a critique of low-income housing and not directed towards Bridge Meadows, but a critique about the process in which these funding decisions are made without involvement of ICURAC or the PNA. Greg asked the board what if any response should come from PNA on this issue. Based on Greg's experience on ICURAC, Jeanne made a motion that Greg should draft a letter (on behalf of the board) stating PNA's opposition to the lack of ICURAC and Neighborhood involvement in the decision to provide \$1.5 million in funding for Bridge Meadows. The letter will be sent from Greg when the majority of the board has reviewed it. Mary seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Greg also suggested that the PNA may want to get representatives on other ICURAC committees, if available. Greg will find out the make-up of ICURAC committees and follow up with board to decide next steps.

Following this discussion, Jeanne reiterated that she does not believe that low-income housing is bad for the Portsmouth neighborhood and voiced her support for the people of New Columbia. Mary stated that the Outreach committee has been talking about our need to learn more about the demographics of our community. Jeanne recommended that the board spend more time educating ourselves at our next retreat.

**Communications:**

Newsletter scheduled for September to advertise October 6th community meeting. It can be updated to include new dates in process with New Columbia.

**Events:** Dates for upcoming Park Concert: Sundays in July. Stephen & Susan will be at the next concert. Susan has the PNA banner. National Night out is on Aug 4th – no one requested funding so it will go back into general funding.

**Livability:** August - 16th Old Clarendon School Cleanup – postponed to be held in the fall. Earlier in the month, Stephen hosted a follow-up meeting. PPS's present plan is to hold Clarendon as a backup for when other schools remodel. Neighbors object to having the decaying building as a magnet for delinquency and crime.

The Livability Committee would like to see PPS do something positive with the property. Stephen would like to testify at a PPS meeting after gathering more feedback from Portsmouth neighbors. The group identified a need for a community forum on the issue. Rachel reported that the next New Columbia Townhall Meeting will be on September 10th and that she has spoken with Leslie Esinga who was confident that there would be interest in this issue among New Columbia residents. Stephen will work with members of the Livability and Outreach committee to schedule a presentation at the Townhall and/or a Community Forum in coordination with public officials, key players from PPS, and New Columbia.

**Outreach:** Mary handed out the timeline for Outreach activities over the next year. Diana requested PNA support of partnering with Roosevelt High School students. The Outreach committee will be taking the lead on this relationship by presenting to the RHS student government and maintaining communication with teachers/students. The board agreed that the Portsmouth Neighborhood Association would be welcoming to Roosevelt High School students who would like to attend PNA Board meetings and activities. Mary announced that "Local Color," a documentary regarding racial relations in Oregon, is available for viewing for board enrichment & education. A joint meeting for the Outreach and Communications Committees was scheduled for September.

All PNA meetings take place on the third Tuesday of the month at 7:00 PM at the New Columbia Community Education Center.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:52 PM.

Notes prepared by Diana Bartlett