

## **Mt. Tabor Neighborhood Association**

### **Meeting Minutes**

**July 15, 2020**

**Board Members Present:** Cliff Cox, Nadine Fiedler, John Laursen, Brian Mitchell, Sam Noble, Sharon Nobbe, Nancy Norby, Cassandra Rosenthal, Stephanie Stewart, Bing Wong

**Board Members Absent:** Barb Gamelgard

**Others Present:** Abe and Jennie Cambier, David Cho, Lisa Kirby, Jerry Shrall, Kelsey Stewart

**Welcome & Introductions & Approval of Previous Month's Meeting Minutes:** The meeting opened with introductions led by Stephanie Stewart. The following correction was made to June's minutes: Bing Wong suggested to have the names of all Board Members who were elected, to be listed under the "Election" section. John Laursen made a motion to approve the June minutes as corrected, Nadine seconded it, and it passed with a unanimous raised hand vote.

**Treasurer's Report:** Tabled.

**Southeast Uplift news:** Sam Noble had an announcement about SouthEast Uplift's (SEUL) Fiscal Sponsorship and how it would be paid for. SEUL was going to begin charging projects for Fiscal Sponsorship. The Finance Committee will be taking another look at it, and look at more reasonable ways than charging \$50 a month. The SEUL Board won't meet in August, but the Finance Committee might, so the decision will likely take a few months.

Sam Noble announced that the new Director, Leroy Eadie, of SEUL will be replacing Leah Fisher as the MTNA Board's liason. He will try to introduce himself at August's meeting.

**Call for Announcements of Neighborhood Issues and Concerns:** Neighbors raised concern about new construction at 6353 SE Yamhill. It is proposed to be a three-story house with an attached garage, including a stairway bulkhead, on a 7,578 square foot vacant site. The site borders rights-of-way to the west and to the east (SE Yamhill Street). The main issue of concern at this time revolves primarily around the stair bulkhead above the roof as the sole element not consistent with code and producing the most impact on the neighborhood. The placement of the stairwell bulkhead will have an immediate and looming impact on the home to the north on the east side of the lot. The placement of this 17' x 8.5' bulkhead will block all views to the south from the top story and the placement is such that it completely exposes the privacy of the master bedroom of that home. The neighbors are asking MTNA to support their request for the city to uphold the existing code with regards to the height restrictions. Neighbors Abe Cambier, Jennie Cambier, and David Cho gave background on their Appeal. Stephanie Stewart motioned for MTNA to escalate support to re-sign existing letter (written by the MTNA Land Use Committee), re-submit it as coming from the MTNA Board (not just the Land Use Committee), and to update it as necessary as the Appeal progresses. Bing seconded the motion. Sam Noble wanted to confirm if the property owners were notified that this issue was going to be discussed at the July

meeting, per the MTNA by-laws. Stephanie said she notified the public, Bureau of Development Services (BDS), MTNA listserv, the Planner and BDS staff members associated with the case, and the MTNA Facebook page. The second point Sam mentioned was that MTNA should be in more of a mediator position instead of forming an opinion on the matter. The motion passes with an raised hand vote (16 in favor, Sam Noble opposed, zero abstains).

Towards the end of the meeting, Abe Cambier mentioned that this process led to acrimony amongst neighbors and that they wished the process could be different. And that the city should advocate for the neighbors and do more of the heavy lifting, instead of leaving it mostly in the hands of the neighbors. Specifically with regards to there having been errors on miscalculating the height of the proposed property on two different occasions. Stephanie mentioned that MNTA's initial Appeal letter was lost by the Planner, whenever they transitioned to working-from-home. John suggests including these frustrations in the Appeal letter. Sam suggested that a letter to the Adjustment Committee will not be as effective, but that it should go to the BDS Director or a public official instead. Stephanie mentioned sending suggestions to a supervisor on the project, Kimberly Talant, whom Stephanie has communicated with previously.

**Portland Police Update:** Tabled.

**MTNA Email Notices:** Tabled.

**The next meeting of the Mt. Tabor Neighborhood Association** will be Wednesday, August 19, 2020 via Zoom at 7:00pm, with social time starting 6:50 PM.

**Subcommittee Work Sessions, monthly:** New sessions TBD.

For more information, please visit [www.mttaborpdx.org](http://www.mttaborpdx.org).