

Mt. Tabor Neighborhood Association

Meeting Minutes

August 19, 2015

Board Members Present: Barb Gamelgard, Paul Leistner, Brian Mitchell, Kate Mitchell, Nancy Norby, Jim Smith, Laura Smith, Steve Stenberg, Stephanie Stewart, Bing Wong

Board Members Absent: Nadine Fiedler, John Laursen

Others Present: Officer Rich Holthausen, Patty Cassidy, Gary Miranda, Amy Benjamin, Peter deBelton, Robert Bernstein, Deb Scott, Debra Monzon, Jane Fehlberg, Steve Bingold, Margo Cantor, Midge Pierce, Gary Manougian, Hilary Larson, John Early

Introductions: The meeting opened with introductions led by Nancy Norby. The minutes from the July meeting were approved as written on a motion by Kate Mitchell, seconded by Bing Wong, passed with an oral vote.

Treasurer's Report: The financial report was presented by treasurer Bing Wong. The balance is \$9,607.09 (\$50 increase from last month from 2015 annual Secretary of State reimbursement). We are still waiting for reimbursements from SEUL for proceeds from the neighborhood cleanup.

Bing compiled a list of reimbursements totaling \$1,341.26 from the communication funds allotment for neighborhood associations from the City of Portland. Items covered included Movies and Concerts in the Park, MTNA meetings regarding the reservoir issues, MTNA meeting cookies, internet fees and Franklin High School auction advertising. Patty Cassidy moved to approve the list of reimbursements to be submitted, Stephanie Stewart seconded, and an oral vote passed it.

Announcements: Nancy Norby reminded attendees that Sunday Parkways will hold their SE Portland event on August 23rd.

Paul Leistner, Debra Monzon and Peter deBelton provided an update on the Thorburn Street Traffic Calming issue. Debra said 268 signatures have been collected on a petition requesting that the City act to address the problems in this area. Paul reported that he attended a productive meeting on August 4th with the City's transportation policy advisor, two Portland Bureau of Transportation representatives, Terry Dublinski from North Tabor Neighborhood Association, and a staff person from Steve Novick's office. They came out of that meeting in agreement that new crash and speed limit studies, traffic counts, and truck use evaluations were needed, as well as evaluations of the greenway, crossing improvements, designs for traffic calming, signage directing through-traffic to downtown via Burnside, and lowering the speed

limit on SE Stark approaching Gilham. Paul will continue as our liaison with the City to work with them on this long standing transportation issue in our neighborhood.

Other transportation issues upon which MTNA is continuing to focus include the SE 52nd Avenue diverter, SE 64th Avenue pedestrian access, and the increase traffic on SE 50th as a result of the large amount of new construction there.

Neighborhood Crime Issues: Officer David McGarry didn't attend but Officer Rich Holthausen came in his place. He gave an update on neighborhood crime issues which were very few in number, though across the city it seems that gunfire has become more rampant.

Portland Hawthorne Hostel - Public Outreach: Hilary Larson, community engagement liaison for Portland Hawthorne Hostel, provided an overview of the hostel and let us know that their facility has meeting space to accommodate 15-20 people that can be reserved for free for local nonprofits and community groups. For more info, go to their website: www.portlandhostel.org

Land Use Update: Stephanie Stewart shared neighbors' concerns about air quality issues that could affect neighbors and especially children walking to nearby Glencoe Elementary related to the pending demolition of the house at 1017 SE 50th. After discussion, Paul Leistner moved to authorize Stephanie to sign paperwork that neighbors need for a 60-day delay on the demolition. Margo Cantor seconded the motion, and it passed with an oral vote.

Stephanie told attendees that reservoir disconnect construction meetings with the Water Bureau will begin in September and will be held monthly. She will provide an update at the next MTNA meeting along with information about a complaint hotline.

Meetings with the Water Bureau regarding historic structures repair and funding will begin next month also, in order to prioritization the repairs and determine what will be in the upcoming budget. It appears Reservoir 6 (the largest, along SE 60th Avenue) may be refilled by mid-October.

MTNA Agenda Guidelines: Jim Smith, board member and agenda builder, summarized his proposed guidelines for timeslots on the 90-minute MTNA meeting agendas. With 35 minutes taken up by recurring business, our remaining 55 minutes will consist of one 15-minute slot, three 10-minute slots, and two 5-minute slots. There was general agreement to pursue these proposed guidelines going forward.

Friends of Mt Tabor Park: Bing Wong gave the following updates: The Movies in the Park event at Warner Pacific was attended by approximately 600 people. Though the 2015 Adult Soapbox Derby took place with few incidents, there was a report of a nonconforming charcoal barbecue brought into the park during the derby. Please encourage park users to follow park rules regarding barbecue usage, as well as observing any local or state fire bans that may be in effect. The next Weed Warrior meeting is Saturday, August 29 at 9:00am.

SEUL: Paul Leistner gave the following updates: Paul sent an email to the Parks Bureau informing them of MTNA's interest in seeing the proposals for Y's Choice's purchase and development of the property at SE 60th and Stark. Paul shared a copy of the email response from Rich Newlands at Portland Bureau of Transportation about the letter Paul sent on behalf of MTNA regarding the negative effects of the traffic diverter at SE 52nd and Division. Rich acknowledged that there would be more traffic data collection, so Paul will work with Steve Novick's office to make sure the community's concerns are heard and addressed. The suggestion was made to request traffic counts in November 2015 and April 2016, to reflect before and after effects of the development at SE 50th and Lincoln.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30pm.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, September 16th at 7:00pm at Mt. Tabor Presbyterian Church at SE 54th and Belmont (downstairs in the dining hall), with a social time starting at 6:50pm. For more information, please visit www.mttaborpdx.org.