

Mt. Tabor Neighborhood Association

Meeting Minutes

June 15, 2016

Board Members Present: Nadine Fiedler, Barb Gamelgard, John Laursen, Paul Leistner, Kate Mitchell, Nancy Norby, Jim Smith, Steve Stenberg, Bing Wong

Board Members Absent: Brian Mitchell, Sam Noble, Laura Smith, Stephanie Stewart, Denise Barrett

Others Present: Officer Cook, Franco Capriotti, Liza Hays, Rick Sany

Introductions: The meeting opened with introductions led by Nancy Norby. The minutes from the May meeting were approved as amended on a motion by Bing Wong, seconded by Nadine Fiedler, and passed with an oral vote.

Treasurer's Report: The financial report was presented by treasurer Bing Wong. The balance is \$7,430.65.

Announcements: Bing Wong and Portland Police Officer Cook explained that the mayor has decreed that all vacant public buildings be evaluated for homeless shelters. According to Officer Cook, the southeast precinct building was evaluated and ruled out.

Concerns about homeless campers in Mt. Tabor Park were voiced. Camping is not permitted in the park. Officer Cook stated the first point of contact is the phone number 503-823-4000. 911 and the non-emergency number are also available as appropriate.

Laura Orr repeated concerns she had heard from neighbors about what would happen in the case of a fire in the park. This would be managed by the local fire department. Reminder to exercise extreme care in the park, especially if it's a dry summer.

Access to the park after hours is made by contacting the non-emergency police line.

Warner Pacific will be replacing ten hawthorn trees on SE 70th and two birch trees on/near SE Division over the summer. Crape myrtles and serviceberries will be the replacements.

Neighborhood Crime Issues: Officer Cook gave an update on neighborhood crime issues. Homelessness continues to be a concern throughout the city.

There were some recent issues with children being approached near Portland Schools. Officer Cook encouraged parents to discuss with their children what to do in those situations and to report any incidents to police..

Adult Soap Box Derby: Kevin Robinson, race director, spoke about the upcoming PDX Adult Soap Box Derby. This will be the 19th year. The format will be the same as previous years. The Derby is working towards becoming a non-profit and restoring the Children's Soap Box Derby track in Mt. Tabor Park. The Derby is traditionally held the third Saturday in August with clean up on the following day. MTNA appreciates Derby folks always leaving the park cleaner than they found it. As in previous years, there will be intermittent amplified announcements throughout the day. John Laursen motioned that MTNA support the event, the motion was seconded by Steve Stenberg and passed with an oral vote.

Emergency Preparedness Fund through SEUL: Liza Hays announced an opportunity to purchase water barrels at a discount in bulk. She requested that an account be opened through SEUL so that neighbors within a designated area could coordinate a bulk order. They are NitroPac barrels that maintain potable water for five years. Stephanie Stewart will be the project manager on behalf of SEUL. Paul Leistner motioned that MTNA support this account. Nadine seconded and the motion passed with an oral vote.

Land Use: John Laursen gave a brief land use update.

The 2009 Historic Structures report is being updated and will be reviewed later this year.

Current signs near the reservoir that mention they contain drinking water will be replaced at a later date. Temporary signage reflecting the changes in the reservoirs will be applied until they are permanently replaced. The chain link fence between reservoirs 5 and 6 will be replaced with a more design-appropriate barrier. Reservoir 1 leaks and may need a liner.

Nancy Norby gave an update on the dog park. The new asphalt will be assessed as the summer goes on.

Paul Leistner gave an update on the Bus Rapid Transit project that is now being focused on Division only. This could result in stops being spaced out along Division. More discussion can be expected as this moves forward.

Initiative Petition 65 Campaign: Oriana Magnera spoke about IP65. This issue will be on the ballot in November to create a fund to sustain vocational programs, including wrap around/dropout prevention services. The money will come from growth in the general fund and will not generate a new tax. This would provide \$800 per high school student in Oregon for career technical education. Career technical education can include robotics, computer coding, 3D printing and AP college level classes.

SEUL: Paul Leistner gave the following updates:

Thorburn Safety Project is moving forward. The neighbors have raised \$15,000 of their \$30,000 goal. SEUL has some funds that were collected for speed bump projects years ago that may be able to be used.

SEUL objectives for the upcoming years focus on communications and renter outreach.

The old Cafe au Play site is vacant but stakeholders are figuring out possible new plans for the site. Paul is compiling a list of affected individuals to help figure out a new plan. There will be at least two public meetings in the future about the site.

Laura Orr collected bids for a new MTNA website design. Paul collected feedback from MTNA about concerns regarding the website. Laura will address these concerns with her contacts for consideration before a final decision is made..

Friends of Mt Tabor Park: Bing Wong gave the following updates:

The Concerts in the Park and Movies in the Park schedules have been released. Concerts in the Mt. Tabor Park caldera are on Tuesdays in July and start at 6:30pm. "Inside Out" will be the movie playing on Friday, July 29 at Warner Pacific. Pre-movie entertainment starts at 6:30pm and the movie starts at dusk.

The next Weed Warriors work party is June 25 at 9:00am.

Welcome Home Coalition: The coalition consists of a number of groups focused on building affordable housing. There will be a city initiative on the November ballot. Go to Portlandforeveryone.org and welcomehomecoalition.org for more info.

The meeting adjourned at 8:25pm.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, July 20, at 7:00pm at Mt Tabor Presbyterian Church at SE 54th and Belmont, with a social time starting 6:50 PM.

For more information, please visit www.mttaborpdx.org.