

## **Mt. Tabor Neighborhood Association**

### **Meeting Minutes**

**September 21, 2016**

**Board Members Present:** Nadine Fiedler, Barb Gamelgard, John Laursen, Paul Leistner, Brian Mitchell, Sam Noble, Nancy Norby, Jim Smith, Laura Smith, Steve Stenberg, Bing Wong

**Board Members Absent:** Denise Barrett, Kate Mitchell, Stephanie Stewart

**Others Present:** Katie Meckes, Midge Pierce, Magnhild Lien, Harvey Rich, Portland Police Sergeant Steve Andrusko, Noah Koff, Anthony Blake, Alan Bates, Martrese White, Laura Orr

**Introductions:** The meeting opened with introductions led by Nancy Norby. The minutes from the August meeting were approved 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 still \$7,481.15, which is the same as last month since there was no financial activity this past month.

**Neighborhood Crime Issues:** Portland Police Sergeant Steve Andrusko told attendees that there have been some burglaries recently in our area in the morning after workdays start and car prowls throughout the day. Homelessness hasn't affected the Mt. Tabor neighborhood as much as other neighborhoods.. The bureau recovers about a dozen stolen cars a day, as most stolen vehicles are taken and used temporarily and then abandoned.

Neighbors expressed concerns about cars driving too fast in the neighborhood especially near schools and almost hitting pedestrians. Sergeant Andrusko says a good number of the offenders are people who don't actually own the cars and may have suspended licenses. He suggested that you report the license plate number on the non-emergency phone number (503-823-3333) so it can be logged.

**Announcements:** Nancy Norby suggested the board consider not having August meetings and to put the proposal up for a vote at a future meeting.

Midge Pierce reminded us about continuing Residential Infill Project activities which include the Bureau of Planning Services (BPS) taking the plan to City Council for approval.

Laura Smith, MTNA secretary, informed MTNA members and the board that newly elected board member Denise Barrett has not attended any meetings since being elected, including board election night in May. Per the MTNA bylaws, a board member may be deemed to have resigned if the member fails to attend at least two of the preceding four meetings. The board

asked Laura to contact Denise to ask about her interest in serving on the board. Laura will report back to the board at the next general membership meeting on October 19.

Paul Leistner introduced three visitors from St. Paul, Minnesota, attended our meeting to learn about Portland's system of community engagement. They were Joe Mendyka, City of St. Paul/City Council Community Engagement Coordinator, Julie Reiter, Executive Director of Union Park District Council in St. Paul, and Liz Boyer, Executive Director of Macalester Groveland Community Council.

**Sustainable Garden Workshops:** Katie Meckes from the East Multnomah Soil & Water Conservation District, a non-regulatory government unit, provided a slide show about the workshops, grants, rain garden incentives, community and school gardens, conservation-themed events, farm practices and land protection that EMSWCD provides to our community. For info about EMSWCD and upcoming events, grants and workshops, go to [www.emswcd.org](http://www.emswcd.org).

**Reach Now Car Sharing:** Alan Bates and Anthony Blake, who represent BMW and their car sharing startup, Reach Now, presented information on this new service which adds another option to the list that includes Car2Go and ZipCar. For more info, go to [www.ReachNow.com](http://www.ReachNow.com).

**MTNA Website Proposal from Martrese White:** At the invitation of Bing Wong, Martrese White provided a proposal to redesign MTNA's website, as another option to consider. After discussing the proposal, Paul Leistner moved to go forward with Matrese's website proposal at a cost of \$1,600 which will be paid out of MTNA's communication funds budget from SE Uplift. John Laursen seconded Paul's motion, and the vote was unanimously in favor.

**Land Use Updates:** Nancy Norby and Bing Wong met with the Water Bureau in the past month and were informed about work on Lincoln Street that will affect the neighborhood and community garden from SE 60th to the park entrance. The Water Bureau will be posting signs and sending notices to area residents and garden plot renters.

Rehab work on the Mt. Tabor Parks and Recreation Central Maintenance Yard on the south side of Mt. Tabor Park will soon begin. Pedestrian and bike access to the park from Division and South Tabor will be improved first. The Parks Bureau will be working with the Bureau of Transportation for the traffic and pedestrian signals that will be needed at the driveway of the maintenance yard and the bike access areas.

There will be City Council hearings on October 6 and 13 when residents can offer testimony on zoning at SE 60th and Belmont, the Upper Hawthorne district, and Portland Nursery.

**SE Uplift News:** Paul Leistner says community outreach plans are in the works for the Cafe au Play site. Surveys will be taken about whether to reuse the existing facility, tear it down and redevelop it, or sell it. SE Uplift would like a decision to be made by June 2017.

**Friends of Mt Tabor Park:** The annual meeting will be reformatted this year to omit the speaker and move the location to Tabor Space. The Weed Warrior event held in Mt. Tabor Park by the Nature Conservancy on Sunday, September 25, drew over 150 participants. The last Weed Warrior event in the park will be Saturday, October 29.

The meeting adjourned at 8:35pm.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, October 19, at 7:00pm at Mt Tabor Presbyterian Church at SE 54th and Belmont, with social time starting 6:50 PM.

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