

Mt. Tabor Neighborhood Association

Meeting Minutes (DRAFT)

October 19, 2016

Board Members Present: John Laursen, Paul Leistner, Sam Noble, Nancy Norby, Jim Smith, Laura Smith, Stephanie Stewart, Bing Wong

Board Members Absent: Denise Barrett, Nadine Fiedler, Barb Gamelgard, Brian/Kate Mitchell, Steve Stenberg

Others Present: Gregory Camp, Midge Pierce, Portland Police Sergeant Steve Andrusko

Introductions & Minutes: The meeting opened with introductions led by Nancy Norby. The minutes from the September meeting were approved on a motion by Jim Smith, seconded by John Laursen, and passed with an oral vote.

Treasurer's Report: The financial report was presented by treasurer Bing Wong. The balance is \$7,481.65, which was slightly higher than last month due to interest earned on savings.

Neighborhood Crime Issues: Portland Police Sergeant Steve Andrusko provided information about addressing criminal activity you see in homeless camps. Police currently can't intervene if someone sets up a tent, but police can take action if someone engages in criminal activity. If you witness criminal activity at a homeless camp site, call 911. However, should you have or see other concerning issues, call the Office of Neighborhood Involvement's Information and Referral line at (503)823-4000.

Announcements:

Green bike boxes have been installed at SE 50th and Lincoln.

Paul Leistner received support from meeting attendees for inviting Steve Stenberg to a future MTNA meeting to discuss programs at Warner Pacific College that the community might be interested in knowing more about.

Midge Pierce told us about upcoming opportunities on November 7 and 14 to testify in front of City Council about the Residential Infill Project before the Bureau of Planning Services (BPS) takes the plan to City Council for approval.

Land Use Update: Stephanie Stewart submitted written testimony to City Council on the Comprehensive Plan in lieu of giving oral testimony due to disruptions at City Hall on the days scheduled this month for such. She reiterated the points we've made in the past.

Mt. Tabor Neighborhood Association board members have continued to meet with the Water Bureau representatives to reassess the Mt. Tabor reservoirs' historic structures and determine what deferred maintenance and restoration work is needed. This is part of the process for

determining how to allocate the money that City Council has promised to spend on the historic structures in Mt. Tabor Park related to the reservoirs.

Construction activity for the Mt. Tabor Park reservoir project will ramp up again starting the first week of November. The work was postponed this summer to reduce the impact to park goers, residents along SE Lincoln Street, and the community garden there.

Nancy Norby will work with Water Bureau representatives to provide clarity on plantings appropriate for the off-leash dog area.

During construction hours (Monday through Friday 7:00am-6:00pm), the park entrance on SE Lincoln Street will be closed to vehicle traffic but residents will be allowed on the street to access their driveways. Also, a pedestrian and bicycle traffic pathway will be established around the construction work at that park entrance and will be open at all times. Access to the Off-Leash Dog Park will be on the gravel path off of SE 64th Avenue between SE Lincoln and Grant streets and off of SE Harrison via SE 68th Avenue. Go to www.portlandoregon.gov/water/mttabor for more information.

Stephanie reported on the success of the water storage barrel group buy-in. 53 families purchased barrels in the organized effort where neighborhoods in a 4-5 block area chose block captains to meet and determine the best way to purchase the barrels at the best price. She said she would create a written how-to for the block captain process to share with our neighbors.

MTNA meeting schedule: delete August meeting? After a discussion of the members, it was decided that we will continue to have an August meeting and that Nancy wouldn't have to bake cookies for the meeting if it was too hot.

MTNA Absent Board Member Update: Laura Smith informed attendees that she was able to contact absent board member Denise Barrett who said she assumed that because she had not attended the May meeting that she had not been elected. Paul moved to remove Denise from the board, John seconded the motion, and a majority voted in favor.

Public Campaign Finance Reform - Commissioner Amanda Fritz: Amanda told attendees about the City Council meeting on November 3rd where testimony will be taken on the "Open and Accountable Elections" proposal before the City Council. In exchange for not taking big money from special interests or wealthy donors, candidates would see their small donations from regular people living in Portland matched. A motion was made by John to write a letter from MTNA supporting the proposal, seconded by Stephanie, and passed with an oral vote.

SE Uplift News: Paul Leistner distributed flyers and surveys for the Tabor Commons/Cafe au Play community planning process now in progress. Surveys will be taken about whether to reuse the existing facility, tear it down and redevelop it, or sell it. There will be a meeting on Thursday, October 27 from 7-8:30pm at TaborSpace. If you can't attend, visit the project webpage at www.seuplift.org/tabor-comons/.

At the most recent SEUL meeting, they talked about the 2016 neighborhood cleanups which were small this year or cancelled due to fears about fines from Metro for receiving unacceptable (hazardous) materials. Only one neighborhood association was fined for a dropbox that was returned with unacceptable materials, but the fine was said to be over \$1,000. Suggestions for the 2017 cleanups included the idea of hiring a hauler to oversee what's being dumped and holding some cleanups in the fall in addition to or in lieu of spring cleanups.

Meetings have taken place with PBOT and neighborhoods regarding traffic alterations on SE Hawthorne Boulevard in light of the recent fatal car crash there this summer. MTNA has found that enforcement doesn't work, especially with reduced police availability for traffic coverage. Some neighborhood associations want to form a coalition to address traffic alterations to reduce speeds.

Friends of Mt Tabor Park: The last Weed Warrior event for 2016 in Mt. Tabor Park will be October 29. Parke Diem and the Tar 'N' Trail Run were both cancelled due to the fall rain and wind storm. Friends of Mt. Tabor Park is now part of the Intertwine Alliance, a coalition of over 150 public, private and nonprofit organizations working to integrate nature more deeply into the Portland-Vancouver metropolitan region.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45pm.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, November 16, 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.