

Mt. Tabor Neighborhood Association

Meeting Minutes

March 18, 2015

Board Members Present: Barb Gamelgard, John Laursen, Paul Leistner, Brian/Kate Mitchell, Nancy Norby, Jim Smith, Stephanie Stewart, Bing Wong

Board Members Absent: Nadine Fiedler, Steve Stenberg

Others Present: Officer Gary Manougian, Laura Smith, Jenn Lewis, Neil Mattson, Tamara Still, Heather Flint Chatto, Kevin Robinson, Jake Wilson, Darcie Emmerson, Margo Cator, Nancy Green, Midge Pierce, Angie Cathy, Patrick Cathy

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

Treasurer's Report: The financial report was presented by treasurer Bing Wong. The balance is \$868.90. The city waived the \$5000.00 fee for the Land Use Appeal and that amount will be reflected in next months balance.

Announcements: Montavilla Jazz Festival is August 15 and 16 at Portland Metro Arts at SE Stark and 90th. The Festival features local musicians and aims to support Portland music culture. The Festival is a project of the Montavilla Neighborhood Association and is paid for by donations.

Montavilla Food Co-op is at 340 paid memberships. The goal is 1000 paid memberships before opening the co-op.

Community Rights PDX is a group that works to protect the community's inherent right of self-governance, focusing on community vs corporate rights. Info at www.communityrightspdx.org

A short-term vacation rental application was received for 535 SE 55th Ave. This is the same property that had previously applied for bed and breakfast status under the previous city code. The neighbors appealed the application and won, this application is a revision to the previously denied application.

The cookie budget was up for renewal. \$110 pays for homemade cookies through the year. John Laursen motioned, Stephanie Stewart seconded the motion passed with an oral vote.

Neighborhood Crime Issues: Officer Manougian gave an update on neighborhood crime issues. There were 4 residential burglaries over the last month. Thefts from cars continue to be an issue. There were also some strollers stolen off of front porches.

PDX Soap Box Derby: Kevin Robinson spoke about, and requested a noise variance for, this years Soap Box Derby, scheduled for August 15 10AM to 5PM. This year there will again be food carts on site. Next year the group hopes to have non-profit status. Jim Smith will be acting as a volunteer judge on behalf of MTNA for this years event. Paul Leistner motioned, John Laursen seconded, the motion passed with an oral vote. The kids event is on hiatus but will hopefully return shortly.

Land Use: Stephanie Stewart gave the following update: Amanda Fritz communicated her desire to treat exceptions to the zoning code as exceptions. Previously the status quo was that anyone that paid the fee had their exception granted.

Brian Mitchell gave the following updates: SE 50th and Lincoln Project: Demolition has begun. A large tree at the site was removed and there is concern that the tree was large enough to have required a permit for removal. The sidewalk in front of the area has been fenced off and the bus stop was moved approximately 1 block south. The temporary bus stop location is blocking a private driveway and due to street parking is causing traffic delays when the bus is loading/unloading passengers.

SE 50th development between Lincoln and Hawthorne: There has been interest in the house that the developer has offered for free if it is relocated. Neighbors in the area have been active in making their concerns about the development known to the developer and the city.

Jim Smith stated he was made aware the group seeking to convert the WorldView building on 60th has decided not to pursue the project.

Reservoir Update: [Insert Steph's summary here](#)

Division Design Initiative: Heather Flint Chatto with Richmond Neighborhood Association and Linda Nettekoven with Hosford Abernathy Neighborhood District spoke about the DDI. The Division Design Committee has been working to address concerns with changes due to the development along Division. Their goal is to develop a set of design guidelines for SE Division St from 11th to 60th. Potentially these guidelines could be adapted to use in other areas of the city that experience rapid development. After the presentation the MTNA board voted on the following issues. 1) Authorize the DDI and associated DDC to draft design guidelines for SE Division St areas within applicable neighborhood boundaries of the Division Green Street/Main Street Plan (from 50th to 60th). Brian Mitchell motioned, John Laursen seconded and the motion passed with an oral vote. 2) Stephanie Stewart motioned that the board donate \$100 towards professional technical assistance to help develop draft design guidelines. There was discussion around the amount to donate and members of the board expressed concern that,

due to funds needs for the appeals process related to the reservoirs, MTNA could not provide more financial support. Brian Mitchell seconded the motion and it passed with an oral vote. 3). Jim Smith volunteered to be the MTNA representative on the DDC. The DDC meets the 4th Thursday of each month at SEUL.

SEUL: Paul Leistner gave the following updates: Neighborhood cleanup is scheduled for April 25. The community movie in the park at Warner Pacific will be August 8.

Friends of Mt Tabor Park: Bing Wong gave the following updates: The Annual Picnic at Mt Tabor Park will be August 11. FoMTP has \$12000 available for park improvements. Ideas include bike racks and a drinking fountain at the Visitors Center. There was discussion about if FoMTP could donate to the legal fund for protecting the reservoirs. The Visitors Center welcomed the 17,992 visitor this month and expects to exceed 20,000 visitors by the end of the year. FoMTP received a \$1000 donation from Grimm as a thank you for the filming that recently took place at Mt Tabor. Next Weed Warrior Crew Leader training is this Saturday from 10-2.

The meeting adjourned at 7:45

The next meeting will be Wednesday, April 15 at 7 PM 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.