

2011 02 14 St. Johns Neighborhood Association General Meeting

Board Members Present: Hiedi Bauer, Babs Adamski, Darlene Foye, Thomas Ebert, Kristina Pucci, Lorelei Juntunen, Mark Savage,

Call to order: 7:06 p.m.

Introductions: 23 people introduced themselves and indicated something fun that they did in St. Johns.

Land Use:

- Land Use proposal, Recology Inc., a waste management facility is looking to add a food waste recycling structure that will process food, yard, and green waste. This open structure will be about 30,000 square feet and will house the compost until it gets picked up. Some new traffic will result from this. They are requesting conditional uses (exceptions to the zoning code) such as waiving the requirement that waste related activity happen entirely within a closed structure. They're also looking to not do any landscaping and requesting exceptions to the current minimum setback requirements. They plan to do more stormwater management e.g. swales and ditches.
 - Q: Is there a place like this that can be investigated by people who might be concerned about odor issues? A: There's a site around NE Columbia with similar odor concerns. There is an actual Recology site about 20 miles west of West Linn that uses anaerobic digest, which is supposed to handle a lot of the problems with odor.
 - Q: Is there a period of citizen input? A: Yes, absolutely. Contact the Bureau of Development Services by March 7th. SJNA will also lodge a comment.
 - Several concerns were expressed about potential odor problems, especially with an open air facility.
 - It was indicated that this could reduce up to 20% of the waste that currently goes to the landfill and that results in greenhouse gases. It was expressed that while the smell is certainly an issue, this is quite removed from the populated portion of the neighborhood. We should advocate for the best facility we can, but remember that this is a very worthwhile endeavor from a good organization.
 - It was requested that the public comment period be extended as the next meeting at which a representative can present information will be at or after the end of the comment period.
 - Another concern is the site's proximity to Smith and Bybee. Runoff might be an issue.
- A piece of property on North Columbia Drive is looking to downsize its parking lot from 174 spaces to 110. It's requesting that it not be requested to do additional landscaping, they want to reduce the square footage required for landscaping in proportion to parking spaces. Public comments will be taken until

March 4th. Discussion will be tabled until the board meeting, when there is more information about the state of the site.

Solarize North Portland: Robin Cash

- This is a group buy of solar panels, so the price is reduced (in proportion to the size of the group). With all the rebates and incentives, prices could be reduced up to 90%.
- A sufficient increase in people who use solar panels could reduce the likelihood of PGE building a new coal fired plant.

Public Safety:

- Vagrancy, drinking, and drug use has been noticed by police, and they're working to address the problem.
- Be sure to report all car prowls; reports determine staffing levels for police in the neighborhood.
- Kelley Point Park has had some problems in the evening hours. The broken gate has been fixed; it now closes at night.
- It was noted that Kelley Point is a continuing issue both day and night. The remoteness of the location makes difficult regular patrols.
- Angela Wagon: St. Johns foot patrol. There will be a meeting on March 30th at the Main Street office on the corner of Charleston and Lombard to talk about the foot patrol.
- Randy Leonard has asked that if you see issues with code enforcement, such as with foreclosed properties that are in bad shape with squatters, broken glass, etc., email him and the rest of the commissioners. Pictures are a definite plus. Right now, all the code enforcers have been laid off, so this might help some of them get rehired.

Directory Update:

- The deadline for getting information for the printed directory is the end of this month.

Website:

- SJNA is working on a newer website, but the stjohnspx.org website is now up and being maintained by Darlene.

Inter Arts:

- Inter Arts, a nonprofit production company that produces No Fest have incorporated (501 C3 pending) recently. This means that NoFest is no longer sponsored by KBOO. Membership is \$25 dues annually.

Acknowledgements:

- Mark Stinnette, who recently resigned from SJNA to focus on Main Street has been key in outreach and connectivity in St. Johns for different groups.
- The board acted as a committee for the winter social, and it was an amazing social this year.

Tree Inventory/Friends of Trees

- Friends of Trees St. Johns neighborhood tree planting is happening this Saturday. There are 250 trees to plant on Saturday.
- Lolita is a tree steward, an informational resource and a liaison between people and the city. The tree inventory is a project to take stock of what trees we have so that we can create a stewardship plan for our neighborhood. Contact Lolita if you want to be involved, at any level.

PSAC:

- There was a report on the budget. It is online.

Announcements:

- Columbia River Crossing: new designs are being considered.
- Portland Plan is going to have a workshop on March 10th, they are having a workshop that will explain its areas of emphasis: connected neighborhood, education, prosperity, equitability.

Meeting adjourns: 8:44