

2011 05 09 Johns Neighborhood Association General Meeting

Board Members Present: Hiedi Bauer, Babs Adamski, Darlene Foye, CJ Doxsee, Mark Savage, Thomas Ebert, Christina Pucci,

Call to order: 7:06 p.m.

Introductions:

- 17 individuals introduced themselves and shared what they dream of for themselves or their community (walkability, affordable, quality preschools, connections, vibrant downtown, neighborhood safety/effective community policing, more trees, sun for the parade...)

Amanda Fritz, City of Portland Commissioner, Office of Neighborhood Involvement.

- Gave an overview of goings on in the Office of Neighborhood Involvement. They cut their budget early and deeply, so they're currently not in as bad of shape as some other jurisdictions and regions. They had a surplus of \$22 million coming into this budget cycle, and the desired focus is to get the money into the community, including funding for the Main Street Program.
- There will be a community budget forum 5/19 at 6:30 at Jefferson, where you can show up and advocate for your cause.
- They are looking at creating an Office of Equity to examine how to provide opportunities so that all feel welcome and included.
- Graffiti removal - residents can help by keeping the public right of way clean. Record it, take a picture, send it to Marsha Dennis, and remove it as quickly as possible.
- Q: Our community center has become outdated. Do you see upgrades to this facility as reasonable in this budget year? A: Not in this budget, especially when several areas of the city lack any community center or sufficient parks.
- Q: The community could provide some of the work and funds for upgrades to Pier Pool. If we could come forward with the resources, it would be nice to partner with the city. A: That's a nice suggestion, and there is a category of the budget that provides seed money for projects like this.
- Q: Is there anything in the current budget for a jobs creation program? A: \$500,000 for a scholarship/apprenticeship program. This is exciting because it targets the jobs that we know are needed.
- Q: What kinds of opportunities are available in the Office of Neighborhood Involvement for internships/volunteerism? A: Definitely something they want to do more of; it's important to get kids to be involved in the city. Amanda listed several partnerships with Jefferson and Roosevelt students. It was suggested that murals are nice ways to discourage areas with heavy graffiti. Unfortunately, murals here are often tagged.

Review of April minutes

- Babs moves to accept minutes with corrections, C.J. seconds, motion carries.

Reports

- Treasurer (Darlene Foye)
 - \$2452.81 currently in the account plus 2 checks from Burgerville that will be deposited shortly.
- PSAC (Gloria Luzader)
 - Animal Abuse Team from the Humane Society has a number you can call if you see an animal being abused.
 - Pat Walsh is the new precinct captain.
 - There is a new drug house/chop shop at the 8500 block of N. Peninsular.
 - Crime is down in N Portland by 15%.
 - Newest scams, folks follow FedEx trucks around and if packages are not claimed, they take the package.
 - All are welcome to these meetings.
- Land Use (CJ Doxsee)
 - Tom Spitznagel plans to build a 5 plex (side by side units, two stories) near Six Points in an area with quite a few apartments and traffic. He is setting it back farther to give the city more sidewalk space. The doors all face away from streets, and all units have a tree in the backyard. 2 bedroom rent will be \$900, 3 bedroom will be under \$1000, utilities included; this will meet low income housing requirements with the city. The units use electric heat (space heaters) and each has its own water heater. There will be no parking for cars, but there will be bike parking that is easily accessible to the bike lane on Fessenden.
 - Portland Bureau of Transportation is starting to study truck traffic that cuts through our neighborhood at the targeted area of N Portland and Columbia (Babs and CJ are advocating that they study Fessenden as well) looking for ways to discourage truck traffic. They are putting together a committee of about seventeen individuals and are looking for a good cross section of citizens who are concerned about public safety whether they be residents, business owners, school employees or parents of students at local schools (especially James John, George, and Sitton). Robin Plance points out that this will be the fourth study in fifteen years, and unless you can make trucks stop, it pays for trucks to cut through our neighborhood.
- Port of Portland (Brook Berglund)
 - Lecture series and tours continue! They're filling up fast.
 - Seaport Celebration, a family friendly event, will be July 30th.
- Tree Committee (Lalita)
 - Now ready to start signing people up for the street tree inventory (size, type, etc.).

St. Johns Community Action Network: Wesley Bucholz

- Asking for SJNA sponsorship in order to be allowed to reserve space at the community center for the meetings of un and underemployed people. This umbrella will prevent the community center from charging them for the space.

- Thomas moves to sponsor the St. Johns Community Action Network to use the St. Johns Community Center under the SJNA name. Babs seconds. Motion carries.

Announcements

- Parade – starts at N. Lombard and Burr at noon on Saturday
- Bizarre starts at 10, follows parade in the Plaza and goes until 6. They have Willamette Week's best new band in Portland, 75 local craft vendors, beer garden, food.
- SJNA website is intended to be up by the Bizarre. Spot Color Studio is the vendor selected for the project.
- Request for help with SJNA booth at the Bizarre and with making up a new brochure
- New community directories are out
- A mosquito infestation is expected this summer in N. Portland. Overlook NA is hosting a presentation by the Multnomah County Vector Control program on May 17th at 7:00 at Kaiser Town Hall.
- The community foot patrol will be getting uniforms soon!

Meeting adjourns: 8:32