

**Mt. Tabor Neighborhood Association  
Meeting Minutes  
February 18, 2015**

**Board Members Present:** Nadine Fiedler, Barb Gamelgard, John Laursen, Paul Leistner, Nancy Norby, Jim Smith, Stephanie Stewart

**Board Members Absent:** Brian/Kate Mitchell, Steve Stenberg, Bing Wong

**Others Present:** Katy Asher, David Hein, Cath Kuehwl, Dawn Smallman, Steve Bingold, Midge Pierce

**Introductions:** The meeting opened with introductions led by Nancy Norby. The minutes from the January, 2015 meeting were approved as amended on a motion by Nadine Fiedler, seconded by Stephanie Stewart, passed with an oral vote.

**Treasurer's Report:** The financial report was presented by treasurer Bing Wong. The balance is \$5, 941.20

**Announcements:**

**Kelsey from Tabor Challenge** - Kelsey presented info about a 5K run/walk to take place in the Park, in honor of friend who passed away. Benefits local high school athletes. Event date is 4/11/15, 9:00 am start, no amplified sound (as of now). Website: [taborchallenge.com](http://taborchallenge.com)

**Katy Asher** – Katy is our new Neighborhood Outreach Coordination at SEUL, former Arbor Lodge NA – she came to the meeting to introduce self and her job to the neighborhood.

**Neighborhood Crime Issues:** Officer Manougian was not present to discuss neighborhood crime issues.

**Land Use:**

Stephanie Stewart updated us on the 4<sup>th</sup> hearing on the City application for reservoir disconnection, heard by the Historic Landmarks Commission. The HLC approved the City's application to move forward with the disconnection, but with strong approval conditions that the MTNA's been advocating for over a year.

The City's original plan included cutting down 80 trees (this number was reduced by MTNA members working with city employees to modify their plans), no water kept in reservoirs, cement in water inlets to close them permanently, no preservation work for reservoir structures. Now the HLC has recommended: water to remain in the reservoirs, maintaining historic scenic viewsheds that the reservoirs provide, doing some preservation work on crumbling reservoir structures.

However, the MTNA wants metrics added that would quantify specifics - things that would show if the Portland Water Bureau is meeting a requirement or not. A critical factual error that came out of the HLC process resulted in an approval condition calling for lower water levels than is correct. Stephanie directly spoke up to correct the error during meeting to a BDS staff member – but they wouldn't insert correction during the meeting. She made post meeting follow-ups, but no one has corrected the error. The error remains in the HLC's conditions of approval. The error is that approval conditions listed call for the reservoirs to be kept full at a historic level of 50-75% full – when in fact, the historic percentage should be listed as 65-85% full. Stephanie also cites additional procedural errors.

If PWB appeals to City Council, the MTNA would need to appeal as well, so that the MTNA would have the ability to participate equally in the process. We could file an appeal, and withdraw it at

any time. 2/27/15 is the appeal deadline. \$5,000 fee needs to be paid to City to submit the appeal. We should be able to get the fee waived as a neighborhood association. Appeals beyond the City appeal would be to LUBA. A group of neighbors have employed an attorney. The MTNA has also opened a contract with an attorney.

**Stephanie Stewart moved that we appeal on the land use case to the City by the deadline. Nadine Fiedler seconded the appeal.**

John Laursen suggested we do it so Stephanie can have flexibility to pull the appeal if needed. Paul says the code is written to waive the appeal for NAs. Commissioner Fritz has publicly stated her support for NAs receiving appeals. **Paul Leistner asked Nadine to approve amending the motion to be: the MTNA authorizes Stephanie to file the appeal, pay the fee and be able to retract the appeal if she feels we should. Nadine approved.**

**Board vote: 7 Yes/0 No**

Stephanie has contracted the lawyer. The lawyer will cost the MTNA \$2,000 to work with us to file the appeal. Stephanie emailed a fundraising email to our listserve. John Laursen updated us that the Southeast Examiner will run a free ad for the duration of the MTNA's fundraiser.

**Stephanie Stewart made a motion that the MTNA:**

- 1. authorize Stephanie to have full control over spending the new general SEUL fundraising account and the reservoir account funds for the reservoir land use case. Motion seconded by Nadine Fiedler.**

**Board vote: 7 yes/0 nos**

**Marquis (builders/developers) presentation:** Marquis returned to the MTNA meeting about building a subdivision of 14-16 single family homes on a parking lot at the old Adventist Health hospital (also includes 2 nearby land parcels). They are buying the property from Adventist Health in 60 - 90 days. They came to the meeting seeking a letter from MTNA to help assuage Adventist's fears about having problems with the community as development moves on. People at the meeting expressed positive comments about how Marquis had worked with neighbors to get to know and address their concerns. **John Laursen moved that the MTNA submit the letter (John also offered to work on the draft letter with Marquis.) Paul Leistner seconded the motion.**

**Board vote: 7 yes/0 nos**

**Other updates:**

**The newly planned development for the corner of SE 50<sup>th</sup> and Lincoln** (currently church property): the car driveway/entryway will remain on Lincoln St., it will not be moved to 50<sup>th</sup>.

**MTNA's annual Clean-up and fundraiser will be on Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup> at Mt Tabor Middle School.** We need volunteers and people to put up yard signs. The Clean-up will take electronics this year. A call for volunteers will be posted on the MTNA's FB page. Paul Leistner made a motion for the MTNA to do the event. Stephanie Stewart seconded. Unanimous "yes" vote.

**SEUL:** Paul Leistner gave the following updates:

**Movies in the Park will take place on August 8<sup>th</sup>.**

**Paul Leistner motions that we participate in the event this year. Stephanie Stewart seconded.**

**Board vote: 7 yes/0 nos**

Paul Leistner conveyed Mark Bartlett's request to have the MTNA ask SEUL to call on the City to follow the City's own rules on deed identification, clarity on deed restrictions and identification of land ownership for all official City business.

**Board vote: 7 yes/0 nos**

**Friends of Mt Tabor Park:** Nancy Norby gave the following update:

March 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm Friends will hold their annual program at Western Baptist Seminary – Kailin Lovell will be the featured speaker talking about climate change and its current and future impacts on the park.

Minutes by Dawn Smallman

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM by Nancy Norby.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, 3/18 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](http://www.mttaborpdx.org).