

## **Mt. Tabor Neighborhood Association**

### **Meeting Minutes**

**March 16, 2016**

**Board Members Present:** Nadine Fiedler, Barb Gamelgard, Paul Leistner, Brian/Kate Mitchell, Nancy Norby, Jim Smith, Laura Smith, Steve Stenberg, Bing Wong, Stephanie Stewart

**Board Members Absent:** John Laursen

**Others Present:** Officer Rich Holthausen, Laura Orr, Sam Noble, Midge Pierce, Wayne Dietz, Fara Heath, Peter de Belton, Marty Stockton

**Introductions:** The meeting opened with introductions led by Nancy Norby. The minutes from the February meeting were approved (with a correction to the name of the person maintaining the MTNA Facebook page) on a motion by Bing Wong, seconded by Nadine Fiedler, and passed with an oral vote.

**Treasurer's Report:** The financial report was presented by treasurer Bing Wong. No changes to the balance since the February report.

**Neighborhood Crime Issues:** Officer Rich Holthausen didn't have anything new to report except to remind neighbors to report any criminal activity they see. These calls give the police department direction on where to focus their patrols.

**Announcements:** Thorburn Safety Project updates included news that Alissa Keny-Guyer has been talking with ODOT (Oregon Department of Transportation). Peter de Belton said random surveys of residents along Thorburn and in the upper Mt. Tabor area showed strong support for installation of speed cushions and the willingness to make donations for them. Neighbors requested MTNA's support for those efforts. Paul Leistner motioned to approve a request by MTNA to SEUL for setting up a fiscal sponsorship for the Thorburn Safety Project on behalf of the neighborhood. The motion was seconded by Jim Smith and passed with an oral vote.

A discussion about the need for bike boxes at the intersection of SE 50th and SE Lincoln led to a motion by Paul Leistner to have MTNA make a formal request to PBOT (Portland Bureau of Transportation) for the bike boxes. The motion was seconded by Kate Mitchell and passed with an oral vote.

Kate Mitchell received a Public Notice of Approved Tree Removal for a tree at 2116 SE 51st Avenue. She will post this information on the neighborhood list serve.

Movies in the Park will take place on Saturday, August 13 on the grounds of Warner Pacific. An informal poll of meeting attendees supported requesting "Inside Out" as first choice, "How to Train Your Dragon" second, and "A Good Dinosaur" third.

**Comprehensive Plan Update:** Marty Stockton from City of Portland's Planning bureau provided handouts, information, and ways to testify about comprehensive plan and zoning changes that will affect the Mt. Tabor neighborhood. Issues include an amendment (by city councilman Dan Saltzman) to change Portland Nursery's zoning to all commercial (which MTNA does not support), zoning changes to the empty lot on the northeast corner SE 60th and Belmont from "mixed use dispersed" zoning (allowing a maximum of three stories) to "mixed use neighborhood" zoning (which allows four stories and which MTNA also does not support), and changing zoning between SE 50th and 51st along SE Hawthorne from mixed use neighborhood to mixed use dispersed (which MTNA does support as part of the original vision for that area). Written testimony from residents is now being accepted through April 12 by email: [psc@portlandoregon.gov](mailto:psc@portlandoregon.gov), by U.S. mail: Planning and Sustainability Commission, City of Portland Bureau of Planning and Sustainability, 1900 SW 4th Ave, Suite 1700, Portland OR 97201, or through the Map App: <https://www.portlandmaps.com/bps/mapapp/>. If you have questions, call the Comprehensive Plan Helpline at (503)823-0195.

**Asset Transfer Update 60th & Stark (YMCA site):** Portland Parks and Recreation (PPR) will complete the appraisal process March 31st for the property. After that, PPR will come to an MTNA monthly meeting to provide an update on their plans for the site.

**Land Use Update:** The Mt. Tabor Public Meeting on Local Traffic held on Monday, February 29, hosted by MTNA and Portland Bureau of Transportation (PBOT). It helped expand MTNA's relationship with PBOT engineers from the who will be working with us on the Thorburn Safety Project.

MTNA board members met with the owners of the (empty) lot on the northeast corner SE 60th and Belmont who want to build a four-story mixed use project on the site. Two city council members support them (Hales and Novick) even though Planning bureau staff recommend a maximum of three stories.

Portland Water Bureau (PWB) is in the process of creating a committee to review the proposals from applicants for the position of consultant on the restoration of the historic reservoir structures. MTNA representatives are negotiating with the Water Bureau about how that review process will work, and who from the community will participate in the review.

There are hotlines for reservoir disconnect construction issues and updates. For online updates, go to: [www.portlandoregon.gov](http://www.portlandoregon.gov) > Bureaus > Portland Water Bureau > What we do > Construction Projects > Mt. Tabor Reservoir Disconnection Project. For human contact, call or email Terry Black, Sr. Community Outreach, 503-823-1168 or [terry.black@portlandoregon.gov](mailto:terry.black@portlandoregon.gov).

**Miscellaneous Email Requests to MTNA:** Sunday Parkways is offering neighbors to "own an intersection" during the August 21 ride in SE Portland. It's free and only one volunteer is needed though more are welcome. This is an opportunity to promote MTNA at a Parkway intersection within our neighborhood.

The SE Portland Tool Library is looking for volunteers at their facility located at SE 20th and Salmon. For more info, go to [www.septl.org](http://www.septl.org).

**MTNA Website Update:** One of our neighbors, Herc Silverstein, has volunteered to do updates to the current MTNA website. He would like to get minutes and agendas added that are currently missing on the website. Laura Orr introduced a professional website developer who has made a proposal to re-create MTNA's website so it is easy for volunteers to maintain and can accept add-ons like commerce.

**Friends of Mt. Tabor Park:** Bing Wong announced the upcoming Weed Warrior training and session in March. If you'd like to be a Weed Warrior, free training is provided and so is lunch on the day of the two-hour monthly session. For info: contact Stasia Honnold at [fmpweedwarriors@gmail.com](mailto:fmpweedwarriors@gmail.com).

Friends of Mt. Tabor Park's annual meeting winter program was held March 15 and the featured speaker, Kevin Robinson, director of the Mt. Tabor Adult Soapbox Derby, provided a teaser video about the soapbox derby that will be part of a documentary for the film festival circuit. Safety measures have been improved and derby organizers are hoping to get non-profit status this year.

Also at the annual meeting, new and re-elected board members were approved and the Friend of the Year Award went to Dave Hillman,.

FMTTP is awaiting the outcome of the City Council budget approval vote in June and the assigning of a project manager for the installation of hand rails for the grand staircase in Mt. Tabor Park (the long wide staircase leading up to the small covered reservoir).

Volunteers are needed for staffing the visitor center and foot patrols.

**SE Uplift News:** The joint Mt. Tabor/North Tabor Neighborhood Associations annual cleanup will be held April 30 in the parking lot of Mt. Tabor Middle School at 5800 SE 58th Ave, from 9:00am-1:00pm. Volunteers are needed. This year's sponsors include Portland Disposal & Recycling, McFarlane's, Community Warehouse and Green Century.

The most recent SEUL board meeting agenda included approving rental of the fence at Cafe Au Play for another six months, discussion of the Homeless/Houseless Tool Kit created by the city but which ODOT has not embraced, and air toxics affecting neighborhoods.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30pm. The next meeting will be Wednesday, April 20th at 7:00pm at Mt. Tabor Presbyterian Church at SE 54th and Belmont (downstairs in the dining hall), with a social time starting at 6:50pm. For more information, please visit [www.mttaborpdx.org](http://www.mttaborpdx.org).