

## **Mt. Tabor Neighborhood Association**

### **Meeting Minutes - DRAFT**

**April 20, 2016**

**Board Members Present:** Barb Gamelgard, John Laursen, Paul Leistner, Brian Mitchell, Nancy Norby, Jim Smith, Laura Smith, Steve Stenberg, Bing Wong

**Board Members Absent:** Nadine Fiedler, Kate Mitchell, Stephanie Stewart

**Others Present:** Sam Noble, Midge Pierce, Tom Dolan, Katie Shrall, Christine Pond, Kelly Fedderson, Steve Bingold

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

**Treasurer's Report:** The financial report was presented by treasurer Bing Wong. The current account balance is \$7,755.54.

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

**Announcements:** Nancy Norby is collecting reusable plastic bags for the off-leash area in Mt. Tabor Park.

Recently, there was a hearing at the Bureau of Development Services (BDS) for review of the plans for the housing development on the north side of Mt. Tabor on SE Yamhill by Mark Desbrow and Ethan Beck. Neighbor Katie Shrall said the plans for the sidewalk have been changed to just widening the street with asphalt and a painted reflective stripe/fog line at the edge. Neighbors in the area prefer and were told a raised curb and sidewalk would be installed. Paul Leistner said he would call Leah Dawkins at BDS to get an update and express the neighbors' concerns about the need for a sidewalk at the sharp turn of Yamhill.

**Meet Multnomah County Commissioner Candidate for District 3 - Jessica Vega Pederson:** Jessica introduced herself and gave a history of her political career. She was the first Latina elected to the State House, representing East Portland, who was especially focused on services, infrastructure, safety issues, and women's and working families' issues. Jessica is running uncontested for this commissioner position, and she hopes to address homelessness and sustainability issues when in office. Asked why she would move from the state to the county level of government, her response was she wants to take part in implementing the legislation she helped to pass.

**Proposed 6-Unit Apartment at 2423 SE 58th:** Gary Cameron, owner of the property, gave a presentation with drawings of the proposed apartments. The property is, technically, located in the South Tabor neighborhood.

**Proposed 28-Bed Memory Care Facility at 6125 SE Division:** This presentation was postponed until the May meeting of MTNA.

**Land Use Update:** Meetings went well this past month with the Portland Water Bureau (PWB) regarding maintenance of the reservoirs. MTNA provided City Council with the first written quarterly report about these meetings. PWB has sent out RFPs (requests for proposals) for resources consultants for the restoration of the historic reservoir structures. Discussions are still going on between MTNA and PWB about managing the still water in the reservoirs and what the refreshing process will be. There has been a delay in the opening of the off-leash dog park due to pipe repairs needed. It is estimated the off-leash area will re-open in early May.

John Laursen, Paul Leistner and Stephanie Stewart gave spoken testimony today at City Council about comprehensive plan and zoning changes that will affect the Mt. Tabor neighborhood. Issues included an amendment to change Portland Nursery's zoning to all commercial (which MTNA does not support), proposed zoning changes to the empty lot on the northeast corner SE 60th and Belmont to allow four stories of construction (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). Amanda Fritz noted there was an error in the documentation and had it corrected to show she does support MTNA's position for the SE 50th and Hawthorne mixed use dispersed designation.

The Housing Bureau and Portland Parks and Recreation (PPR) are now reviewing the appraisal of the property at SE60th and Stark (currently occupied by Y's Choice daycare). At some point soon, we hope PPR will come to an MTNA monthly meeting to provide an update on plans for the site.

**MTNA 2016 Elections Outreach:** Laura Smith was appointed by the MTNA board to head up the nominating committee with a motion by Paul Leistner that was seconded by Brian Mitchell and passed with an oral vote. Before the board member elections to be held at the MTNA May meeting, we have an opportunity to get the word out to the community to recruit new, additional board members. Kelly Feddersen, our returning SE Uplift liaison, will work with Laura to produce flyers and other materials to promote the elections. Board members each volunteered to distribute a couple dozen flyers when delivered to them during the week of April 25.

**SE Uplift Update & Fiscal Sponsorship:** Movies in the Park (previously proposed for Saturday, August 13) on the grounds of Warner Pacific College will be held on Friday, July 29, and will be showing "Inside Out."

The joint Mt. Tabor/North Tabor Neighborhoods' annual cleanup originally scheduled for April 30 has been cancelled. DEQ and Metro have a long list of materials that might contain asbestos. Metro would impose significant fines (\$2,000 to \$5,000) if any of those materials get into the drop boxes at a neighborhood cleanup. Our volunteers don't have the inspection and enforcement training needed to ensure those materials don't get into our drop boxes. The MTNA and North

Tabor Neighborhood Associations feel they can't take the chance that our neighborhood associations could be fined and suffer significant financial losses. We will wait and see how other neighborhood cleanups go and discuss the possibility of holding a modified cleanup next year.

Katy Asher at SE Uplift and neighbor Laura Orr have received three bids from website providers for revamping the MTNA website.

MTNA prepared a Project Inventory and Statement of Intent application for fiscal sponsorship with SE Uplift Neighborhood Coalition. It includes three existing projects (General Fund, Gateway, and Reservoirs) and one new project (Thorburn Safety Project). Paul Leistner made the motion to approve the application, Jim Smith seconded, and it passed with an oral vote.

**Friends of Mt. Tabor Park:** Bing Wong announced the upcoming Weed Warrior event on April 30. For info: contact Stasia Honnold at [fmpweedwarriors@gmail.com](mailto:fmpweedwarriors@gmail.com).

The meeting adjourned at 8:30pm. The next meeting will be Wednesday, May 18th 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).