

Mt. Tabor Neighborhood Association

Zoom Meeting Minutes, November 15, 2023

Facilitator: Dave Petrozzi

Secretary: Nadine Fiedler

Board members present: Nadine Fiedler, Rob Galanakis, Paul Leistner, Brian Mitchell, Dave Petrozzi, Midge Pierce, Bing Wong

Other attendees: Susan Armstrong, Mary Lou Hennrich, Nikki Mandell, Ethan Scarl, Jeff Wyatt

After introductions, the October minutes were approved unanimously. Bing Wong presented the treasurer's report. MTNA's bank balance is now \$7269.87. Ongoing expenses include Zoom \$12 monthly fees.

Neighbor Announcements, Questions, and Concerns

Rob Galanakis has asked PBOT to look at the right turn on red at the Salmon St. entrance to the park, which he thinks should be eliminated. **Bing Wong** said that PBOT has a budget deficit, but Rob said it can be funded now.

Dave Petrozzi reported successfully using the 311 report line about a person blocking the sidewalk at 52nd & Belmont.

Portland Police Update

Paul Leistner shared the city precinct map. Paul noted that the Mt. Tabor neighborhood is in the East Precinct.

Nikki Mandell raised concerns about stolen autos being stored on her block and in the park. She tried reporting to 311 but got sent to police non-emergency, which sent her online and back to where she started. **Bing Wong** advised using pdxreporter.org, which allows you to add photos. **Paul Leistner** suggested PBOT's abandoned auto report section, which worked for him.

Street Vacation at SE 73rd & Ash

Susan Armstrong presented information about the piece of property between two houses she owns that was a public right of way but is no longer used as such. She would like to gain ownership of the property and asked MTNA to formally support her request. Paul Leistner moved that MTNA formally vote and send a letter of support. Bing Wong seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Critical Energy Infrastructure (CEI) Hub Update

Nikki Mandell thanked MTNA for co-sponsoring A Rumble on the River, a community forum about the CEI. She introduced **Jeff Wyatt**, who was chair of the Oregon Hanford Cleanup Board and works with Oregon DOE. He said that in the event of a major earthquake, the CEI fuel pipelines would close, and if the fuel storage tanks rupture we would run out of fuel in a week. Nikki stressed our vulnerability and that the fuel would leak into the river, the land, and the air. Her group has crafted a letter to the governor, the DEQ, and governments at the local, county, state, and federal levels, asking them to:

- Educate and alert people
- Monitor and remediate the cumulative pollution
- Develop a new plan for fuel storage

- Require the companies involved to assume financial responsibility
- Require those companies to update local officials and emergency responders
- Monitor Zenith Energy's transport and storage of fossil fuels and make them hold to a transition to biofuels

Nikki asked if MTNA can sign on to the letter. Bing Wong so moved, Paul Leistner seconded, and the motion passed unanimously. A discussion followed about the water contamination problems in Morrow County. Dave Petrozzi suggested that MTNA invite Jeff Wyatt to a future meeting. Nikki gave her email to pass on to other NAs that might like more education on the topic: nikki.mandell@gmail.com

Communications

Paul Leistner has continued to research methods for hybrid meetings. OWL will be available in January at a nonprofit cost of \$700. He checked with SEUL, and MTNA can get a grant for that using our \$750 of communication funds. Bing Wong noted that web and Zoom costs usually amount to about \$500 annually. That led to discussion of borrowing an OWL to see how well it will work for MTNA.

Paul Leistner is looking into in-person meeting spaces that might be free of charge. MTNA's former meeting space, at Mt. Tabor Presbyterian Church, was previously offered at no charge but now they will ask \$87.50 per month. The group brainstormed some ideas for alternate venues, and various members will check them out.

Paul Leistner would like to add more volunteer opportunities to the MTNA website, and the group also brainstormed ideas. He also asked for reimbursement for his \$24 expense for laminating the neighborhood map. Nadine Fiedler moved that we do so, Dave seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Possible Strategic Planning Meeting

Midge Pierce thinks that such a meeting would help MTNA clarify our objective and what we talk about in public. **Dave Petrozzi** asked if we could meet outdoors, and the group agreed it is possible. **Paul Leistner**, who has facilitated other NA strategic planning meetings, suggested we focus on two issues: how we work together, and our priorities. He also suggested having a Slack or email conversation first to figure out content and form; it needs to be a public meeting. MTNA will work on getting this set up in the future.

Reservoir 6 Update

Bing Wong, who is on the reservoir preservation committee, said that six months ago it looked like the reservoir would be filled by the end of 2023. Water Bureau chief engineer Jodie Inman reported that the bid came in too high from the contractor that had been selected for reservoir repair. Since the bureau might have to ask for additional funding, the repairs may take longer, perhaps till early 2024.

Neighborhood Safety Training

Paul Leistner talked about how the city has eliminated the neighborhood watch program. He found out from Jacob Brostoff, a city community safety program staffer assigned to our area, that the alternative is a "Neighbors Together" training, which Jacob would be happy to lead. Paul suggested that he and **Midge Pierce** schedule and produce such a neighborhood-wide training that will involve listening to our neighbors, possibly early in 2024. He asked if MTNA wants to do

this and support it, and got positive responses. **Dave Petrozzi** asked if we could have enough lead time to publicize the event on the website and in the SE Examiner and other media outlets. Midge asked if we can also do a NET (neighborhood emergency team) training.

Friends of Mt. Tabor Park

Bing Wong reported that the FMTP board elected Lucy Voigt to serve the remainder of chair Steve Law's term at the November 13 meeting. FMTP's Mount Tabor Tar N Trail run/walk on October 29 had 14 volunteers and 167 participants completing this low-key fundraising event with some in costumes and some serious runners. He thanks board member Dave Herron for organizing this event. PP&R informed FMTP that the revision of the Tree Map update is under review by Urban Forestry for approval, no timeline. Friends were also informed not to put up "proposed tree" signage. PP&R is creating a lease agreement for the visitor center as well as a document for FMTP policies and procedures. This is part of a citywide effort for friends of the park groups. No timeline when these will be presented to FMTP.