

Mt. Tabor Neighborhood Association (DRAFT)

Meeting Minutes

July 15, 2015

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

Board Members Absent: Steve Stenberg

Others Present: Officer David McGarry, Nick Cruz, Jennifer Foglesong, Katy Asher, Jennie Sowder, Tamara Still, Steve Hunter, Roger Myers, Darlene Myers, Dustin Slack, Greg Snider, Amy Benjamin, Philip Rush, Cathy Kuehnl, Brad Yazzolino, Dawn Smallman, Bradley Cooley

Introductions: The meeting opened with introductions led by Nancy Norby. The minutes from the June meeting were approved as amended on a motion by Bing Wong, seconded by Nadine Fiedler, passed with an oral vote.

Treasurer's Report: The financial report was presented by treasurer Bing Wong. The balance is \$9,557.09 (4-cent increase from last month). We are still waiting for reimbursements from SEUL from the neighborhood cleanup.

Announcements: Nick Cruz from Ruby Jewel provided an update on the opening of their newest store on SE Hawthorne and 47th near Por Que No. They hope to be open by August 16 in time for the Hawthorne Street Fair.

Someone asked what was happening at Glencoe Elementary School with all the fencing around the school and boarded up windows. A Glencoe parent present at the meeting said that windows were being replaced using monies from the Portland Public Schools bond funds.

Portland Parks and Recreation's Movies in the Park in our neighborhood will be hosted at Warner Pacific on Saturday, August 8. They will show "The Lego Movie" at dusk and provide free popcorn.

Portland Metro Youth Pipe Band will hold their Kilted Run in Mt. Tabor Park on Sunday, September 20 starting at 10:30am.

Courtesy notices received by MTNA for accessory short-term rentals: 1841 SE 54th (studio); 5411 SE Hawthorne (1 bedroom); 6702 E. Burnside (2 bedrooms); 2133 SE 57th (5 bedrooms). Notice also received for denial of proposal to operate a B&B at 536 SE 55th.

Neighborhood Crime Issues: Officer David McGarry introduced himself as our new Portland Police Bureau neighborhood liaison. He gave an update on neighborhood crime issues and provided his contact information: david.mcgarry@portlandoregon.gov

Mt. Tabor Gateway Garden: Kate Mitchell reminded the board that cleanup of the Mt. Tabor Gateway Garden is overdue. She received an email from Virginia Miller, property manager at the apartment building by the garden, complaining about overgrown weeds and garbage in the garden. Quarterly maintenance by MTNA has not been kept up, so a committee was formed and tasked with meeting and developing a plan to revamp the garden. Committee members are Jim and Laura Smith, Dawn Smallman, Brad Yazzolino, Roger and Darleen Myers, and Paul Leistner.

Y's Choice Property Purchase & Development: Jennifer Foglesong, program director of Y's Choice, and Steve Hunter, CFO of YMCA of Columbia/Willamette, presented information about their opportunity to purchase and redevelop the site of Y's Choice at SE 60th and Stark which is currently owned by the City of Portland. The city's sale process requires MTNA support. MTNA members expressed concerns about future use of the site and suggested that YMCA come back to us when a feasibility study or similar has been done. Paul Leistner will contact Trang Lamb at YMCA for more information.

Mt. Tabor Yard Improvements: Elizabeth Kennedy-Wong, Portland Parks and Recreation public involvement coordinator (and Mt. Tabor neighborhood resident), provided updates and handouts for the improvements to the Mt. Tabor Yard at SE 65th and Division. The project will be done in two phases. The first phase includes the west side shed demolition, new trailers for turf and irrigation crew, aquatics crew and carpenters, and new workstations and will be completed by the end of 2015. The second phase, beginning in early 2016, is larger in scope and includes more demolitions of existing structures, building of new structures to replace them, and a bike/pedestrian path at SE 64th and Division. For more info, go to this website: www.parksreplacementbond.org

Land Use - Mt. Tabor Reservoir Disconnect Update: Stephanie Stewart and John Laursen shared the news of the City Council's 4 to 1 vote in favor of adopting the resolution to maintain water in the reservoirs at historic levels to preserve the iconic views in the park. The resolution requires MTNA and the Portland Water Bureau to collaboratively report twice annually to City Council on the status of progress toward meeting the terms of the resolution.

Land Use - Subdivision/Development of Land at SE 62nd & Yamhill: Stephanie Stewart gave an overview of her discussions with 10 families in the area near the development. Some neighbors don't like the proposal of homes to be built on the curve of Yamhill. Most support the Portland Bureau of Transportation's code requirements for pedestrian access from Belmont to Yamhill. The majority of homeowners support the proposed sidewalks and the safety they would provide, even if it means removing a tree. MTNA agreed that upholding code and supporting putting in sidewalks and removing the tree is the best action.

MTNA Agenda Guidelines: Jim Smith, board member and agenda builder, handed out proposed guidelines for MTNA meeting agendas. The effort was in response to general consensus that we need a methodology to create an inclusive agenda respectful of our time constraints. Discussion and action will be considered at next month's meeting after members have had the opportunity to review the proposal.

Friends of Mt Tabor Park: Bing Wong gave the following updates: Friends of Mt. Tabor Park received an award from SOLV for the work of the Weed Warriors. A bench was installed with a plaque by the visitors center. Annual picnic is a potluck on Tuesday, August 11 at 6:00pm at the picnic shelter.

SEUL: Paul Leistner gave the following updates: Board elections took place last month. Property near OMSI was purchased by the City of Portland for relocation of Right2Dream2, and SEUL asked the City to give citizens in the community more opportunity for input. Since our last meeting, Paul Leistner met with North Tabor Neighborhood Association member Terry Dublinksi and Mt. Tabor resident Debra Monzon about SE Thorburn Street calming. Paul handed out a copy of the letter he sent on behalf of MTNA to Rich Newlands at Portland Bureau of Transportation outlining community members' requests for more data collection and suggestions for different strategies to mitigate negative effects that have arisen following the installation of the traffic diverter at SE 52nd and Division.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00pm.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, August 19th 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.