

Mt. Tabor Neighborhood Association

Meeting Minutes

February 21, 2018

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

Board Members Absent: Nadine Fiedler

Others Present: Midge Pierce, Jon Peterson, Debra Monzon, Cassandra Rosenthal, Cliff Cox, Sara Genta, John Jennings, Sharon Nobbe, Mike Turaski, Kim Medic, Laura Mason, Kareena Harris, David Raphael, Tad Everhart, J. Maxfield, Bradley Cooley, Conde Cox, Eric Bressman, Tommy Allen

Introductions & Minutes: The meeting opened with introductions led by Nancy Norby. The minutes from the January meeting were approved as written on a motion by Sam Noble, seconded by Barb Gamelgard, and passed with an oral vote.

Treasurer's Report: The financial report provided by treasurer Bing Wong included a statement of MTNA's total balance of savings and checking combined of \$5,131.96. Activity since the January meeting was interest posted to savings.

John Laursen made a motion to pledge a \$300 sponsorship for the 2018 Concerts and Movies in the Park to be paid to Portland Parks and Recreation, Paul Leistner seconded, and it passed with an oral vote.

To get Southeast Uplift's fiscal sponsorship related to the neighborhood cleanup, Paul Leistner made a formal motion for the board's support to hold the cleanup on Saturday, April 28 jointly with the North Tabor Neighborhood Association, Jim Smith seconded the motion, and it passed with an oral vote.

Neighborhood Crime Issues: No officers attended the meeting.

Call for Announcements or Neighborhood Issues and Concerns: Debra Monzon of the Thorburn Street Safety Group shared a report from Portland Bureau of Transportation (PBOT) about the measured results of the speed cushions recently installed on Thorburn. Average speeds reduced from 32 mph down to 26 mph and the volume of cars dropped by 6 percent. Also noted in the report was "driver misbehavior" which was described as cars trying to avoid the speed bumps by driving on the shoulder of the road. Because this misbehavior is a safety issue, PBOT plans to install vertical delineators to mitigate the problem.

Neighborhood member Tad Everhart shared his concerns about the Portland map refinement and potential zoning changes for the property at SE 60th and Stark currently occupied by Y's Choice Child Development Center. Tad asked for MTNA's assistance in presenting his concerns to the City of Portland and Portland Housing Bureau. Stephanie Stewart, as MTNA's land use committee representative, offered to help Tad draft a letter to summarize his concerns. John Laursen made a motion for the board to support Stephanie's assistance, Bing Wong seconded, and it passed with an oral vote with one abstaining vote.

Representatives of the Johnson Creek Watershed Council were in attendance to announce their biggest event of the year, the 20th Annual Watershed Restoration Event, which will take place Saturday, March 3rd. Help weed, plant, and mulch at ten locations throughout the watershed and enjoy pizza afterward. For more information, go to jcw.org or email courtney@jcw.org.

SE Greenway / Lincoln Diverter Project: Stephanie Stewart provided an overview of MTNA's conversations with Portland Bureau of Transportation (PBOT) about their planned traffic diverter in our neighborhood at the intersection of SE 50th and Lincoln. MTNA wants neighbors' concerns about traffic and safety issues for pedestrians, bicyclists and motorists related to the diverter to be considered by PBOT.

Currently, PBOT plans to temporarily install their design which allows bicyclists access in all directions but only right hand turns for vehicles to or from SE Lincoln. They will also install eight speed bumps on upper Hawthorne--four between SE 50th and 55th, and four between SE 56th and 60th.

For the three to six months following diverter installation, PBOT says they will conduct tests to observe where diverted traffic goes. However, PBOT has not provided clear metrics for their testing nor where the tests will take place. MTNA suggests traffic counts be conducted before and after installation in several places: on upper Hawthorne, on Lincoln, on the north side of the intersection at Lincoln, and on Division.

An attendee of tonight's meeting suggested adding no-parking striping near the intersection of Lincoln to increase visibility for vehicles and bicycles.

Brian Mitchell made a motion for board member Stephanie Stewart to send a formal letter from MTNA to PBOT planning staff requesting a meeting to discuss neighbors input, Sam Noble seconded the motion, and it passed with one opposition vote.

SE Lincoln Diverter Project driveway impact: Sara Genta, who lives at the intersection of SE 50th and Lincoln, described the conversations she has been having with PBOT about relocating her curb cut and installing a parking pad on her property because the diverter will cause safety issues for her use of her driveway where it currently exists. When she submits the adjustment documents to PBOT, planning staff will solicit MTNA feedback.

Land Use: Mt. Tabor Yard update: John Laursen gave an update on the lighting plans along the new bikeway/pedestrian path for the south entrance to Mt. Tabor Park which is part of the Mt. Tabor Maintenance Yard renovation. Bollard lighting was originally planned but doesn't meet minimum standards for bike/pedestrian paths. At the request of MTNA, two hours of time from the Reservoir renovation project's lighting consultant was secured to get information and data analyzing the suitability of pole lighting versus bollard lighting. That input showed that the use of pole lighting will better serve the pedestrian and bicyclist visibility and safety needs and be less expensive. John subsequently used the info/data to persuade the Parks Bureau to instead use historically appropriate pole lighting similar to what will be used at Reservoir 1 in its renovation. John made a motion for MTNA to pay the lighting consultant \$260 for his work, and Stephanie Stewart seconded it. It passed with an oral vote in favor.

Paul Leistner made a motion to allow Nancy Norby, John Laursen and Dawn Smallman to be official spokespeople representing MTNA in any discussions related to the Mt. Tabor Yard Maintenance Yard renovation project. Stephanie Stewart seconded the motion and it passed in favor with an oral vote.

SEUL update: Sam Noble provided an overview of topics covered at the most recently monthly meeting of Southeast Uplift. For details, go to www.seuplift.org.

Friends of Mt. Tabor report: In March, a representative from Friends of Mt. Tabor Park (FMTP) will be coming to ask MTNA for a \$1,000 contribution to the Stewardship Fund Campaign to set up an endowment to fund the Weed Warrior program. The City of Portland will cut funding for the Weed Warrior program this coming June. The North Tabor and Montavilla Neighborhood Associations will also be asked for support. Come to our March meeting with questions you may have.

The next meeting of the Mt. Tabor Neighborhood Association will be Wednesday, March 21, at 7:00pm at Mt Tabor Presbyterian Church at SE 54th and Belmont, with social time and homemade cookies starting 6:50 PM. For more information, please visit www.mttaborpdx.org.