

Mt. Tabor Neighborhood Association

Meeting Minutes

November 18, 2015

Board Members Present: Nadine Fiedler, Barb Gamelgard, Paul Leistner, Nancy Norby, Laura Smith, Jim Smith, Bing Wong

Board Members Absent: John Laursen, Brian Mitchell, Kate Mitchell, Steve Stenberg, Stephanie Stewart

Others Present: Officer Julian Carroll, Bob Bernstein, Steve Bingold, Carol Finney, Jon Denney, Harvey Larkin, Laura Orr, Midge Pierce, Lynda Martin-McCormick, Amy Chomowicz, Sam Noble, Christopher Lancefield

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

Treasurer's Report: The financial report was presented by treasurer Bing Wong. The balance is \$8,852.62. Sponsorship for the 2016 Concerts in the Park of \$600, which was approved by MTNA last month, was paid this month. A motion to donate \$500 to Mt. Tabor Presbyterian Church, where our meetings are held without a fee, was made by Midge Pierce and seconded by Barb Gamelgard, and passed with an oral vote. Bing Wong wrote the check on the spot and Midge Pierce delivered it to the church office.

Announcements: Newcomer to the MTNA meetings but long-time Mt. Tabor neighborhood resident Harvey Larkin thanked the board for their efforts on the Mt. Tabor reservoir disconnection negotiations. He offered his support for the idea of putting fountains in the reservoirs as part of the restoration activities.

As a reminder, there are [hotlines for reservoir disconnect construction issues and updates](#). For online updates, go to: 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.

Neighborhood Crime Issues: Officer Julian Carroll, a utility officer out of East Precinct, stood in for Officer David McGarry who was sick. While crime statistics specific to the Mt. Tabor neighborhood weren't available, car prowls and bike thefts are the most common crimes across all areas of the city. Like Officer McGarry told us last month, reporting crimes, no matter how small, provides statistics for the Portland Police Bureau to help focus their priorities.

Division Design Initiative - Top Policy Recommendations: MTNA board member Jim Smith has been attending monthly meetings of the Division Design Committee for several months. The Committee is a group of inter-neighborhood representatives from more than six neighborhood organizations formed to engage the community around issues of design and to help make recommendations for how to address recent community design issues and concerns. Jim provided a handout and overview of the top 10 Division Design Initiative recommendations to fix current planning and zoning policies. Paul Leistner made a motion for MTNA to support the Division Design Initiative recommendations, Nadine Fiedler seconded it, and it passed with an oral vote. These recommendations are available for perusal and comment at divisiondesigninitiative.org.

Portland Nursery and the Comprehensive Plan - Update: Jim Smith and Paul Leistner provided an update on their recent meeting with Portland Nursery owner Jon Denney and his consultant Peter Fry. MTNA continues to voice strong support for the Portland Nursery and looks forward to partnering with them in exploring common ground for special designation or creative compromise with respect to the Comprehensive Plan.

Mt. Tabor Tree Team: Amy Chomowicz provided an informational introduction to the Mt. Tabor Tree Team. They hope to provide future workshops for care and selection of yard trees, heritage tree walks, and a website. Amy and the Tree Team will reach out to us when these future opportunities are available.

Mailing of Demolition Notices from City of Portland: Paul Leistner announced that ONI (Office of Neighborhood Involvement) is experimenting with better ways to get notifications out to neighbors about demolitions. Just sending notifications to the neighborhood associations isn't adequate and broader distribution is needed.

Recognition of 2015 Spirit of Portland Award: During the evening of November 17 in the City Hall Council Chambers, MTNA was among this year's recipients of the Spirit of Portland Awards. Stephanie Stewart accepted the award along with a Portland Water Bureau engineer.

Friends of Mt Tabor Park: Bing Wong gave the following updates: The split rail fence on the south slope of the children's play area is now completely installed. The first community construction meeting for the reservoir disconnect was held November 17 and attended by members of MTNA, Portland Water Bureau and Portland Parks and Recreation. MTNA requested that the brochure for the public be updated to reflect the negotiated agreement.

SE Uplift News: Paul Leistner made the motion to spend the \$1,300 in communications funds allotted to MTNA from SEUL to get MTNA's website updated and running smoothly again. The motion was seconded by Jim Smith and approved by an oral vote.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30pm. The next meeting will be Wednesday, January 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.