

Mt. Tabor Neighborhood Association

Meeting Minutes by Sharon Nobbe

August 18, 2021

Board Members Present: John Laursen, Jim Pierce, Bing Wong, Nadine Fiedler, Sharon Nobbe, Nancy Norby, David Petrozzi, Brian Mitchell

Board Members Absent: Stephanie Stewart

Others Present: Mo Klein, George Sneath, Anne Crispino-Taylor, Tom Thomas, Steve Lanning, Hanna Dondy-Kaplan, Midge Pierce

Introductions: The meeting opened with introductions led by host John Laursen. The minutes from the July 2021 meeting were approved. 2 abstentias.

Treasurer's Report:

Bank Balance = \$6,008.

SEUL Reimbursement for Secretary of State Annual Report Filing fee (\$50), form received.

Liabilities: Recurring Expenses - Zoom monthly fees (consolidated for reimbursement to Stephanie Stewart, year 2021 pending).

Monday, August 2 - Grant recipient program - Bing attended the event. Person from Laurelhurst NA missing filing deadline and did not get grant. They took over the Laurelhurst Club that was previously run by non-profit.

Mount Tabor Park News and Events.

Check out www.taborfriends.org website for park events and activities.

- 1. Public Statue at Mount Tabor Park summit - Presented by Hanna Dondy-Kaplan, current Board Chair for Friends of Mount Tabor Park.**

Friends of Mount Tabor Park sent a letter to Regional Art and Culture Council (RACC) and City of Portland regarding the bust of York Sculpture. The letter asks for a seat at the table and participation in the effort to determine what will replace the toppled sculptures.

MTNA received a copy of the letter and responded to Hanna with an invitation to this meeting. In response to the letter, Heather Nelson-Kent, RACC's Communication Manager, contacted Hanna, opening a line of communication for the topic moving forward.

Goal for Friends' of Mt Tabor is to open communication with RACC and achieve future engagement in the project to replace the statue in the park. Attendees in support of inclusive public selection process included: Nancy Norby, Nadine Fiedler, Bing Wong, John Laursen,

Meeting consensus: Extensive discussion between MTNA meeting attendees communicated support for RACC to lead an inclusive process that engages the public and allows the public to inform the selection of art replacing the vandalized York and Harvey Scott sculptures.

RACC's overall role in the City of Portland is to oversee selection, procure and maintain the public art within Portland's public parks, streets and plazas. John Laursen explained that the responsibilities for statues in Mt Tabor are divided. Park responsible for pedestals and RACC for the statue. No motion made by MTNA at this time. Bing Wong, John Laursen, Nancy Norby expressed interest in future communication and actions to be determined.

Taylor Stewart, started The Oregon Remembrance Project, a new non-profit promoting art. The project collaborated with multiple groups to design and install a marker in Coos Bay, Oregon. He presented the project to Friends to solicit support for the organization's work in Mt Tabor park.

2. Upcoming city art events - FYI:

- a. Podcast: RACC Communication Manager, Heather Nelson-Kent, and PSU Black Studies Professor Milner's talk about the park and sculptures.
- b. Future RACC policy language revisions: RACC has now revised outdated language and approved language in their operating bylaws about statue replacement regarding statue replacement. The language change says that "a statue is not required to be re-installed".
- c. Converge 45, non-profit, starting a 6 week exhibition titled "Monument to Memorials". The exhibit asks participants to re-imagine what is meant by monument or memorial.

3. Current Park events and information: Sign up on www.taborfriends.org.

- a. Organized volunteer programs:
 - i. Weed Warriors - funded position to run volunteer program re-initiated in August 2021.
 - ii. Foot Patrol - picks up micro-trash, maintaining trails and signs, reporting on campers.
 - iii. Visitor's Center - open. Check out the educational events. Most recently, a new Nature Series in Spring and Fall 2021 - ie Plant Walks, Volcano History.
- b. Unsanctioned spontaneous, non-permitted events - fire concern.
 - i. Wednesday night event - spontaneous, non permitted event occurring in park. The event draws large crowds (more than 500 people). Asking people to contact PDX Reporter to register comments and concerns.
 - ii. Midge Pierce suggested informational signs on 'fire hazard warnings' similar to the bird nesting signs be posted to communicate to park users within the park.
 - iii. Brian Mitchell: Fire identified as biggest concern. Forest Park infrastructure has been established. Brian asked Hanna to contact Forest Park Friends

Conservancy to get information. Strongly encourages including a phone number on sign.

iv. Friends have printer and happy to make the signs happen. Hanna will reach out to Forest Park Conservancy. She asked Bing to communicate updates to MTNA on the topic

c. Reservoir maintenance will lead to draining of the reservoir Summer/ Fall 2021.

4. **Tar 'n' Trail Benefit Run/Walk, October 3, 2021 presented by Anne Crispino Taylor and supported by MTNA.**

The 9th Annual Tar and Feather Run, a family friendly event with 5k and 10k distances awards ribbons for top 3 in each age group. The event donates proceeds to Friends of Mount Tabor and ongoing support of the park.

Motion: Support event with condition there is no amplified sound made by Nadine Fiedler and seconded by Nancy Norby.

Vote passed unanimously in support of the 9th Annual Tar and Feather Run, October 3, 2021 provided there is no amplified sound. Vote: Yea- unanimous. Nay - Zero. Abstentia - Zero.

Southeast Uplift Report:

Jim Pierce provided update. August Board meeting cancelled. He attended the Executive Meeting Wednesday, August 18, 2021. There will be an October Board Meeting. The October agenda considers consultant and Executive Committee recommendation for the open Executive Director and new Administrative Operation Specialist positions.

SEUL Staff changes - Aeon recently departed and his position is posted for replacement.

Announcements:

- 1) Sharon Nobbe - note-taker for August Meeting and facilitator for September meeting.
- 2) Land Use Update: No update.
- 3) Cascade Action Clean Air Letter: No update.
- 4) Letter to City of Portland for Safe Centers in our neighborhoods - Stephanie Stewart. George Sneath asked for an update on the City response.
 1. Letter submitted on behalf of MTNA to City of Portland - Sam Adam. MTNA Letter recommends that former YMCA daycare building development continue on schedule without delay or diversion for other uses.
- 5) Office of Community & Civic Life Update: No update.
- 6) MTNA Housekeeping Items: No update.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, September 15, 2021 at 7 PM via Zoom. Use this link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUvcO-orjksEtaYREoS-C-NBOPz8Ue82GOCP>

For more information, please visit www.mttaborpdx.org.