

MINUTES

Pearl District Neighborhood Association Board Meeting

PREM Group – 351 N.W. 12th

June 10, 2010, 6:00 p.m.

Board Members Attending:

Joan Pendergast, Brad Atchley, Carter Case, Dan Christensen, Dave Davis, Yasmine Foroud, Patricia Gardner, Judy Gibson, Bob Girsberger, John Hirsch, Jason Larson, Bruce Levy, Sheila McCoy, John Tarantino, Jan Valentine, Joshua Ryan

Absent:

Debbie Russell, Pat Lydon, Carla Mansur

The Board meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Pendergast. A quorum was present.

Minutes

- None available

Treasurer's Report

- Gibson presented the Treasurer's report for April and May. The April beginning and ending balance was \$16,032.20. There were no deposits or expense for April. The May ending balance was \$14,645.35. There were several expenses during May including Mutt Mitts, a tip for Paragon for the Meet the Board event, and legal advice on 14th Ave right-of-way improvements. The May ending balance was \$14,645.35.

Police Report

- Officer Wollstein reviewed the crime report for past month. In general, crime is low. There were several domestic violence assaults, and a shoplifter that brandished a screwdriver when confronted several blocks away from the store.
- Hirsh mentioned that he has noticed an increase in people running red lights between Powell's and McMenamins. Wollstein mentioned that Capt Kruger was in charge of traffic and that he would let him know of the issue.
- Wollstein thanked the Board and others that had sent letters of support to save Mounted Patrol Unit funding.

Columbia River Crossing

- Ryan Orth, a communication and outreach coordinator for the Columbia River Crossing project presented an overview of the project. The project is doing outreach to areas beyond the immediate project area.
- The project includes construction not only of the bridge but also 7 interchanges (Victory Blvd/Delta Park is the southern most area of the project in OR). The first bridge was built in 1917, with the second built in 1958.
- The project which has been identified at a local and national level is intended to address congestion, safety, and seismic issues. On average there is 1 collision per day in the project area.
- The project started in 2002, and is directed by a bi-state commission of local and state officials. The project is to include 10 to 12 lanes of traffic, light rail, and additional pedestrian and bike lanes.
- The current cost is expected to be between \$2.6 and \$3.6 billion, which would be paid for by state, and federal funding, as well as tolls.
- The current plan calls for construction starting in 2012, and being finished by 2018.
- Several members expressed concern about sprawl and asked if tolling would be on I-205 as well. Orth responded that Clark County does have policies in place to address sprawl, and that tolling will help mitigate the issue. The commission has looked at tolling options and currently tolls would only be on I-5 in both directions.

Presidents Report

- Pendergast announce that Christensen is moving and will be resigning from the Board.
- Pendergast discussed that she asked Davis to Chair the Nominating Committee, which he has agreed.

Peal Party

- Case discussed that they are off to a good start, with a new poster that has been developed and fundraising underway.
- The next meeting will be Tuesday, June 22nd at Paragon at 5:30. It is expected that the committee will meet every week in August.
- Case mentioned that help is always wanted. Pendergast reminded everyone that the Board needs to support the event.

Planning, Design and Transportation Committee

- Gardner asked that the Board attend the June 6th Planning meeting, which will be to review all options for the bathroom at Jamison. The Board will then take a vote at the following meeting. Currently, the only option that has been presented is the Portland Loo, but Gardner is aware that others are working on alternatives.
- There will be an open house for the circulation plan on June 23rd, which is currently reviewing transportation issues in the neighborhood. The goal of the plan is to have a 10-year list of projects that can be done as funding is identified.
- There was a River District Urban Renewal Area meeting held the past month. It was expected that construction on both the Fields Park and Centennial Mill will begin in 2011. However, the park is currently \$1 million over budget, and there is still a land ownership issue for 1 of the 3 acre total between Parks and HSP.
- Gardner discussed that the lawyer is reviewing the issues about the 14th Ave right-of-way development.
- Gardner announced that Ann Niles is stepping down from Committee.

Livability Committee

- Pendergast mentioned that Valentine received the NW Examiner community award.
- Valentine mentioned that they have created a committee to review trash and pet waste. Christensen discussed that they have met with BDS and a staff member of Commissioner Saltzman, and have an agreement to the goals and strategies, with the next steps to work out the details and provide funding.
- The City has found 23 old concrete trash cans that are being donated to the neighborhood. The Committee is working with Ryan and the PDBA on where to locate as well as partnerships to maintain the cans.
- Ryan announced that Whole Foods has chosen the PDNA for the 3rd quarter fundraiser (in mid July). It is expected that \$4,000 could be raised. The money earned will be for trash and pet disposal stations in the neighborhood.
- The expected cost and maintenance of the pet stations was discussed, but since there is no history it is difficult to plan.
- Valentine thanked Ryan for his efforts.
- Valentine reminded the Board of the Pearl Picnic which will be on July 4th. The event will have tables for local business and groups, as well as food. Pepe and the Bottle Blonds will be playing. Volunteers to help setup are needed.
- Graffiti clean-up will be held this Sunday. Starting at Jamison Sq at 8:30 and ending with lunch at Rogue Brewery.

Communications Committee

- JT discussed that the web site has been updated to include a plug-in that highlights the number of Facebook fans, as well as a new photo gallery page.
- JT asked that each Board member sign-up at least 5 new members to help increase membership.
- Communications meets the 3rd Thursday of the month (next meeting June 17).

Neighbors West-Northwest Coalition

- Gibson discussed that the NWNW is expecting \$17.5k less in funding this year, but due to cost controls, the impact will not be as severe.
- The Coalition, which is made up of 12 neighborhoods, sometimes agrees to send a letter in which all neighborhoods agree. The NW Height neighborhood rarely meets, and therefore NWNW is discussing decommissioning the neighborhood association (a temporary status). The issue came about due to an upcoming vote on the covering of the Washington Park Reservoir.

Better Burnside Alliance

- Candice Palmer, a business owner, spoke about the group's request to have an open forum to review the Burnside/Couch couplet. Several architects are donating their time to create an alternative design.
- The group plans to have a web site up soon, which will include design renderings.
- Gardner provided a brief history of the project, which started in 2000, and the process that the City followed.

Hirsch made a motion to adjourn Gibson seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 7:35pm. The next meeting is July 8th, 2010.