

Southwest Hills Residential League
Board Meeting
June 21, 2007
4160 SW Washouga Ave

SWHRL President Jim Thayer called the meeting to order at 7:15 PM.

Board present: Aloha Wyse, Julia Harris, Lena Lane, Norman Turrill
Board excused: Alice Stolzberg, Darroch Cahen, Don Livingstone, and Steve Gann
Board absent: Tom Miller
Members present: Jill Habernigg, Nancy Seton

Jim established that a quorum was present. The agenda for the meeting was approved.

Nanette informed the group that she had received a Neighborhood Notice of Type B Home Occupation from SWHRL resident Diane Dreizen, 4717 SW Fairhaven Drive, for a Life Coaching Practice business. The hours of business operation would be 9 AM to 5 PM, with up to eight customers/clients per day. The group decided that they had no objections, so no action was taken. Nanette will call Diane to inform her of the decision.

Jim thanked Norman for his work on securing nominations for the Board.

Motion: Accept Nan Koerner's resignation from the Board

Made by: Norman Turrill

Second: Julia Harris

Motion passed unanimously.

Motion: Appoint Andrew Holtz, Jill Habernigg, Lucy Bosworth, Nancy Seton and Simone Goldfeder as new Board members to fill vacancies on the Board.

Made by: Norman Turrill

Second: Julia Harris

Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting Re-scheduling

There was a discussion about changing the dates of the Quarterly Membership Meetings. The May meeting date is problematic because many people are gone for days around Memorial Day. It is necessary to have another "Annual" meeting this year, as the May 30, 2007 did not have the necessary quorum to elect Board members. It was decided that this meeting will take place on September 19, 2007.

Motion: Refer to the membership a bylaws amendment that would set the Quarterly Membership Meetings to January, April, July, and October of each year.

Made by: Norman Turrill

Second: Julia Harris

Motion passed unanimously.

This proposal would have to be voted on twice by the membership, in September and January, so the changes would take effect by April. Next year the dates would be January 30, April 30th, July 27th, and October 29, 2008. The July meeting would be an Ice Cream Social.

Jim agreed to continue acting as president until the September Membership meeting.

Because Nan Koerner has resigned from the Board, it is necessary to elect a Secretary.

Motion: Nominate Lena Lane for Secretary

Made by: Julia Harris

Second: Nancy Seton

Motion passed unanimously.

Lena accepted the nomination.

Discussion of SWNI's proposal on Metro's green spaces acquisition plan and possible vote on whether or not to support local acquisition of additional plots in the Homestead area

Also under consideration is the Portland Parks and Recreation Marquam Trail Plan for Lakeman-Orkney & OHSU. Don Baack of Southwest Trails, and Anton Vetterlein of the Homestead NA, support this.

Motion: Support the Portland Parks plan.

Made by: Julia Harris

Second: Jill Habernigg

Motion passed unanimously.

- One of the proposals under Metro's acquisition plan involves purchase of the Riverview Cemetery. Jim stated his opposition to this. (The available monies are from a Metro bond measure in 2006.) He advocated for a plan to spend the money on a comprehensive, sustainable purchase that would take into consideration rising energy costs, such as a wide-ranging acquisition that would enable the construction of an encompassing trail system, linking urban, suburban and rural areas. Some of the areas might be outside of Metro's boundaries. This would be good for wildlife, and would give people something to dream about, a vision of what Portland could be like, considering a larger view, and not frittering away the monies on small parcel purchases. Jim said that Don Baack of Southwest Trails supports this idea.
- Julia called attention to a parcel on the Potential Trail System for Marquam Nature Park Additions map, that appeared to be a privately-owned parcel that the 0.2 mile connector trail between Terwilliger and Barbur crosses. She said that if that would be an impediment to the connector trail, that SWHRL should look into purchasing the parcel, or getting an easement, as that connection is vital. Jim suggested that SWHRL might work with SW Trails on purchasing the parcel.

Motion: SWHRL will work with SW Trails and the Homestead NA to make sure that this parcel does not impose an impediment to the connector trail between Terwilliger and Barbur.

Made by: Julia Harris

Second: Nancy Seton

Motion passed unanimously.

- Jim stated that he seeks a motion from the Board that SWHRL would approach SWNI to urge their support of an investment by Metro in strategic natural corridors that would connect the urban core with surrounding natural areas. Julia suggested that if SWNI is not willing to do this, SWHRL could do it alone.
- Jill said that she sees the importance of some of the proposed smaller neighborhood park purchases. She gave examples of how these types of purchases have been beneficial to neighborhoods in the past.
- Jim said that these types of small purchases will pay off in the short-term, but that he sees the issue as how best to invest the money on something that will define Portland in the long term, and support its identity as a place that has a strong connection to natural areas.

- Lena suggested that Portland Parks & Recreation might be the legitimate body to make the smaller local purchases. Jim responded that that agency does not have money in their budget for that.
- Norman said that there is Oregon Lottery money that was supposed to be used to buy land, but that the Oregon Parks Department has fallen behind in this area. The Legislature has raided this fund for a bailout of the State Fair and for funding a park around the Capitol.

Motion: While SWHRL supports the acquisition of strategic urban parcels, it encourages Metro to pursue purchase of comprehensive, strategic natural and recreational corridors connecting urban, rural and natural areas.

Made by: Norman Turrill

Second: Julia Harris

Motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's report

- Treasurer Alice Stolzberg was not present, so there is no report.
- Norman went on-line and determined that the current balance is \$22,364.91.
- Nanette reported that she had met with Alice last week, and that in the future, instead of giving a Treasurer's report that was up to date to the Board meeting date, Alice would present a report that reflected the bank balance ending the previous month.
- Nanette described a spreadsheet that she had created for Alice, that would track expenditures in categories, and make it easier to track balances month to month.

Report on current membership drive efforts – Nanette Klimkow

- 459 Reminder letters with good addresses were sent out (there were 17 bad addresses)
- 246 were sent with a self-addressed envelope. 43, 17.5% were returned.
- 213 sent with no envelope. 36, 16.9% returned.
- Conclusion – it's not worth including an envelope
- Donations from these totaled \$3,635.50
- Also received \$660 from people who did not receive reminders:
 - Three were new members
 - Three were Board members
 - Five had donated in May and June 2006 so did not receive reminders, but donated anyway
- Total is \$4,295.50, minus expenses of \$254.17, for a net of \$4,041.33.

There was a discussion about sending out re-reminder letters to members who did not respond to the first reminder. The consensus was that any such letter would emphasize recent SWHRL accomplishments.

Motion: Re-reminder letters will be sent to members who did not respond to the first letter six months after the initial appeal.

Made by: Julia Harris

Second: Lena Lane

Norman Turrill abstained; all other members voted in favor of the motion, so it passed.

Concerns about voting restrictions

- Nanette raised concerns about the stringent rules on voting at membership meetings that are mandated in the bylaws. Those concerns included not having enough Board members

present to sufficiently police the sign-ins, and the aura created by the rules, which can be construed as overly stringent and exclusionary, at a time when SWHRL has difficulties rounding up enough members to conduct business at the Annual meeting.

- Norman expressed concern about loosening the rules because it affects the stability of the organization.
- Jim said that if, in the future, SWHRL is overwhelmed by opposition by neighbors, that that is merely democracy in action, and should be accommodated.
- Norman suggested that he could draft a bylaws change that would relax the voting rules and remove the necessity of keeping attendance records and checking them when deciding if a member is eligible to vote. Such a rule could simply say that a new member could not vote at the same meeting that they became a member.
- Further consideration of this issue was tabled to the July Board meeting.

Other business

- There was discussion about hosting a National Night Out event. National Night Out is the first Tuesday in August, and the events are usually very localized, occurring on a street or a few streets in a defined neighborhood. Because SWHRL is such a large, diverse area comprised of many neighborhoods, it was determined that this would be impractical.

Motion: The July Board meeting will be held on Thursday, July 19th; the new Board will be polled to determine if the third Thursday of the month is a viable day for the meetings. The August Board meeting will be an Ice Cream Social on Sunday, August 19th, from 1-4 PM at Portland Heights Park. This date will allow notice of the event to be published in the August SWNI newsletter.

Made by: Aloha Wyse

Second: Lena Lane

Motion passed unanimously.

- Norman suggested inviting Portland Police Chief Rosie Sizer, who is a SWHRL member, to speak at the September Membership Meeting.
- Jill raised concern about drug activity that occurs on a regular basis at Council Crest Park and at the other towers on Healy Heights. She suggested inviting the Portland drug enforcement officer, who is familiar with these issues, to be a speaker at the meeting.
- It was suggested that both people could be invited, as a panel discussion.
- Jill and Jim will compose a letter to Rosie Sizer, and Norman will contact her about speaking at the meeting.
- Jim informed the group that Portland City Commissioner Sam Adams is seeking a new tax, which would be based on three factors, one of which is undetermined. The other two factors are household size and the gas tax. Proceeds from the new tax would be used for road maintenance. Adams has created a survey to gauge opinions on this, which can be found at www.commissionersam.com. *(I tried to find this on the website, and could not. I sent an email to Adams requesting more info. NK)*
 - The need for this is critical to SWHRL as 46% of its arterials don't have sidewalks. Halo LIDS are not a viable solution to this problem, as residents would not be willing to pay the high costs.

Motion: The Board approves an appeal to the hearing officer on the SW Upper Drive proposed development, if that is necessary.

Made by: Norman Turrill

Second: Julia Harris

Motion passed unanimously.

Transportation Committee Report – Julia Harris

(from notes submitted by Julia)

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- All-stop on traffic signals on 405 exit ramp and Broadway at 6th to allow Broadway Drive autos a chance to enter 6th
- Speed Reader Boards posted on Vista at Montgomery, Vista at Carter, Broadway Drive
- Restriping center line on Patton near Homar to make the tighter lane wider
- Raised Reflective Markers on center and fog lines and signs installed on curve of Humphrey Blvd
- Representation on SWNI Transportation Committee
- Blue “H” sign added at Fairmont & Talbot to direct drivers to OHSU
- Pedestrian warning signs (W3210 with S1105 arrow riders) placed on both sides of Marquam Hill Road at the trail crossing

CONTINUING

- Improved TriMet service
- Enforcing speed limits especially on Broadway, Patton, Humphrey, Vista
- Improving safety on Humphrey Blvd
- Improving pedestrian safety on Patton near Homar
- Converting ditches to walk-able swales
- Bike lane striping on Vista curves near Montgomery
- Advocating for increased walkways/sidewalks
- Advocating for increased bike lanes/bike boulevards
- Advocating TSDC projects
 - #90024 Broadway Drive Pedestrian Improvements
 - #90031 Dosch Rd Bicycle and Ped improvements
 - #90038 Humphrey Blvd. Bicycle and Ped improvements
 - #90054 Patton Rd Bicycle and Ped improvements
 - #90078 Scholls Ferry multimodal improvements
- Only Scholls made the final cut at the May 16th Open House; Julia voiced SWHRL’s disappointment to Kathryn Levine and followed up with a letter to her and Sam Adams.
- Final results will be posted July 3rd
- Public hearing on September 5th

Land Use Committee Report – Nancy Seton

SWHRL Land Use Committee Meeting Notes: June 12, 2007

Attendees: Sandy Bradley, Simone Goldfeder, Don Livingstone, Nancy Seton

Guest: Kendall Youngblood of Energy Trust of Oregon

Next meeting: Tuesday, 7 August 2007, 7pm

2020 SW Edgewood Road

(We’ll skip a formal meeting in July in lieu of working on our neighborhood plan / design guidelines.)

Guest speaker: Kendall Youngblood of Energy Trust of Oregon

www.energytrust.org

kendall.youngblood@energytrust.org

Energy Trust of Oregon is a non-profit organization, which promotes energy efficiency and renewable energy generation to industrial, commercial and residential customers of several Oregon utilities. It offers cash incentives to offset investment in energy efficient improvements and renewable energy systems for new or existing buildings. It also provides technical assistance and referrals to qualified contractors.

Kendall Youngblood works with the home Energy Star certification program. Energy Trust offers free energy efficiency audits, and can help participants apply for federal and state tax credits for energy efficient home improvements.

SWHRL can mention some advantages to builders, when they work with Energy Trust to implement energy efficient building strategies:

1. Fewer call backs from customers with complaints: Kendall has found that often building techniques improve when builders work with Energy Trust. (E.g. fewer issues with mold, drafts.)
2. Healthier indoor environment, good indoor air > fewer customer health problems.
3. Marketing support from Energy Trust to builders, ads can feature individual builders – good publicity.

Oregon is in the process up updating its energy code for new building. It will be stricter, and on a par with current requirements for Energy Star certification.

Don: There's content for a SWHRL newsletter article here.

Historic Home Preservation in the SWHRL NH:

Huntie Wall contacted Nancy Seton (she signed up on the Land Use Committee sign up sheet, expressing an interest in historic home preservation.) She has a friend knowledgeable in the process. They might be willing to organize a SWHRL effort in this area. We could look into getting historic design district designation for SWHRL. How about organizing SWHRL NH historic home tours?

Portland's Bureau of Planning has a historic resources webpage, with information on the City of Portland's historic preservation activity:

<http://www.portlandonline.com/planning/index.cfm?c=39750>

Simone:

Attended Citywide Land Use Meeting last month

- Discussed Airport conditional use area and possible future Airport development zone; new committee established- looking for interested volunteers to participate
- Presentation by grad students from PSU and City of Portland about "off-site mitigation" pilot project
- Presentation by Deborah Stein about Neighborhood Liaison program and introduction of West side representative

Attended Bureau of Planning Meeting on May 22, 2007

- East Portland Review presentation (very thorough and detailed). Report available online. www.portlandonline.com/planning
- Land Division Monitoring Project report/ presentation. Report available online. Observations after Five Years of Implementing the 2002 Land Division Code.
- Shows 13% of Land Division Applications in Southwest Neighborhoods Inc. (not broken down by SWHRL) i.e. compared to 42% in East Portland.
- Identifies Types of Site Context: Urban Infill, Outer Neighborhood Redevelopment, Suburban Greenfield Development. Last two most applicable to SWHRL.

-Common Issues of Concern: Environmental Protection, Tree Preservation, Traffic impacts, Storm water Disposal, Lack of Infrastructure

-Attended Tryon Creek watershed open house (with Nancy Seton)

Topics: Ditch to Swale conversions, SW 19th Ave. green street pilot project, skate parks
Spoke with Bureau of Environmental Services Amin Wahab. Josh Robben at BES can come to our homes to advise us on best strategies for storm water management on our property.

joshuaR@bes.ci.portland.or.us

Outreach to neighborhood business: Nancy Seton visited with Strohecker's manager Eric Davis, and invited him to attend Land Use Committee meetings. His main concern is non-customers (from sports events at the field) filling up Stroh's parking lot.

TO DO:

Need to get pre-approval from SWHRL Board for appealing SW Upper Accent Homes project to City Council, if necessary. [Note: Approval granted at Board meeting 6/21]

Need to determine what SWHRL can live with (can do this through emails afterward and/or once we see the Hearing Officer's decision as well.)

Work on list of useful contacts for SWHRL neighbors, to include important city bureau personnel, professionals such as land use consultants, attorneys, arborists.

Work on SWHRL Neighborhood Plan / Design Guidelines during the summer, preparatory to fall visit from Bureau of Planning.

Recruit more members and helpers for Land Use Committee.

EVENTS:

SWHRL walking tour of Council Crest historic trolley route led by Daniel Carr: July and/or August. Date to be determined. Look for details on the SWHRL website. Send your email address to Nancy Seton to get on the email list for this and other possible neighborhood walks.

Architectural Heritage Center presents: "The Houses of Vista Avenue" lecture and walking tour
Saturday, Sept 15, 10:00 am – 12:30 pm
Sunday, Sept. 16, 2:00-4:30 pm

Southwest Hills Residential League (SWHRL) Land Use Committee meeting

Land Use Committee meetings (open to the public) are normally on the first Tuesday of the month.

Next meeting: Tuesday, August 7, 2007

2020 SW Edgewood Road, Portland

Southwest Neighborhoods, Inc. (SWNI) neighborhood coalition

Land Use Committee meeting: Tuesday, June 19 was cancelled in favor of Sam Adam's Transportation Town Hall meeting.

SWNI Conference Room, Multnomah Center

7688 SW Capitol Hwy

Portland

Citywide Land Use Forum monthly meeting on tools to deal with the City's Land Use Notices:
Monday, June 25, 7-9 pm
Room 2500 B
1900 Building
1900 SW Fourth Ave
Our own SW Upper Drive proposed development was one of the examples discussed!
(Example of problematic building on steep, landslide prone terrain in an environmental zone.)

ISSUES:

Replacement of deteriorating radio frequency transmission tower in Portland Parks and Recreation's Council Crest Park.

BDS Case No. PC 06-174334

BDS planner: Sylvia Cate (503) 823-7771

Land use reviews required: Type III Conditional Use and Type III Environmental Reviews

Project lead: City of Portland's Bureau of Technology, contact: Bob Ochs.

Kendall Youngblood, who lives close to the park entrance, contacted Bob Ochs to discuss her concerns about potential traffic hazards to her neighborhood associated with the construction. Construction is expected to start in spring of 2008. Bob indicated they would carefully consider her request to close Council Crest at the Greenway intersection, rather than up above before the park entrance.

Further information about land use issues can be found on Portland's Bureau of Development Services (BDS) website: www.portlandonline.com/bds "Review land use notices," "Notices and Hearings"

Notices are found under both Southwest Neighborhoods Inc (SWNI) and Southwest Hills Residential League in "Unincorporated and Unclaimed Area".

See also: www.bds.ci.portland.or.us

Jim adjourned the meeting at 9:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Nanette Klimkow

Executive Assistant to SWHRL