

King Neighborhood Association
Minutes from Neighborhood Association Meeting
January 14, 2009

List of attendees (at end of minutes)

Quorum met.

Agenda (*Exhibit 1*)

Minutes from December meeting

The minutes from December 10, 2008 were approved without changes.

Standing reports

Update from Portland Police

Officer Brian Sims said the police are seeing resurgence in gang violence in Portland. Local pastors in churches are asking their congregations for help. HEAT (a gang enforcement team) has been funded for investigation and will also patrol hot spots.

Police fountain – it had a safety issue that hasn't been addressed yet.

Smokeshop at MLK and Ainsworth is now selling crack pipes – would be good if neighbors contacted the owners and indicated their concern.

Officer Sims also reported on other local establishments that have security issues and OLCC concerns. The police department can request restrictions for licenses if there have been violations.

Please email Officer Sims directly with specific questions and incidents (for example, give addresses, dates, or other information that he can research): bsims@portlandpolice.org or call the police non-emergency number at 503-823-5833.

Northeast Coalition of Neighborhoods (*Exhibit 2*)

Lauren McCartney reported for Sylvia Evans. She announced a bicycle safety workshop on 1/15, Martin Luther King service day on 1/19, and a Senior Resource Day on 1/17. You can check out the coalition website and sign up for an electronic newsletter at: <http://portland.necoalition.org/>

Public safety action committee

Charles Boardman indicated there was no update.

Discussion/presentation topics

Global Environmental Fair

Zapoura Calvert reported on an event to be held at King School on the evening of 3/5/09 for kids and families. She is working with PSU students and partnering with other agencies for the event. She is interested in seeing if the King school courtyard could become a greenspace/garden, including bioswales as part of the fair. There will be a meeting to discuss the opportunities. (Trace Salmon, Maureen Mimiaga, Zapoura Calvert, Sylvia Evans, Leslie Cormier).

Emerson Street Garden (*Exhibit 3*)

Andrea Hamberg is working on a community garden. She announced a meeting on 1/22 to help design a new community garden between 8th and 9th on NE Emerson. More information is at <http://groundworkportland.org/>

ONI grant program

Lauren McCartney provided an update on the grant applications. A committee has been reviewing the applications and by the end of January will be able to announce their recommendations.

PianoWerks music studio (Exhibit 4)

Robyn Pfeifer explained that she has received a grant from the national MusicLink Foundation (<http://www.musiclinkfoundation.org/index.php4>) for a scholarship program that allows a sliding fee for local eligible students. This will provide an opportunity to introduce students to music through small groups for instrumental instruction. The studio can facilitate instrument rental.

Any student can apply for piano, voice, composition, preschool piano, or baby music. Lessons are appropriate for beginners and entry-level at the studio located at NE 28th and Prescott. Classes are also available for adults. <http://pianowerks.com/>; <http://musicwerksstudio.com/index.html>; or 503-287-5028.

Miracles Club update

Maureen Mimiaga summarized the neighbors' concerns about the current design. The previous design presented to the neighborhood association showed a fence along Grand Ave. that would block all egress from the parking lot. The current proposal includes a walkway and a gate controlled by electronic key fob for residents only (40 units). There are still some concerns about the gate from Grand Ave. residents. They do not feel that the proposal addresses the needs of the residents on Grand.

The parking lot is limited in size, so there is concern that residents will park on Grand and use the gate to access their building. The immediate neighbors would prefer a solid fence so that parking will be spread out on neighboring streets rather than concentrated by the gate. Some of the issues raised by the developers are access to the property in the event of emergency, and use by children or disabled persons. The neighbors wondered if the distribution of key fobs could be limited to management (rather than to residents)? They had contacted the developer, Ross Cornelius, to suggest a compromise which would limit the number of key fobs to management to be used by physically disabled persons/emergency personnel. This compromise was not accepted.

There was a discussion of the process and whether the design can be appealed to the design review board. Concerns were raised that changes to the plan are not being communicated to the entire board. The neighbors would like the King Neighborhood Association to file the appeal, as that might carry more weight and does not incur a fee for appealing. If an appeal is filed, the Portland Design Commission will set a date for the public hearing, which will most likely occur sometime in February.

At that hearing, citizens may provide comment and opinion. A presentation is made by appellants (i.e., the neighbors) which would offer a counter-proposal.

Celeste Carey (Office of Neighborhood Involvement-Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design) clarified that the design makes a distinction between residents and club activities. One of her goals is to find safe routes for children to walk to school. She also suggested that the neighbors could apply for traffic calming measures in the parking lot and on Grand Ave.

The underlying problem appears that the design does not accommodate the number of cars that might be owned by the residents. Generally, since MLK provides good transit options, there might not be as many cars as anticipated. Is permit parking an option?

Proposal: that KNA register an appeal with the Bureau of Development Services on the current design amendment for the Miracles Club. The neighbors would be required to seek the board's approval for the specifics of their appeal prior to the public hearing date.

Vote: 4 in favor, one opposed, one abstention. Motion Approved.

Follow-up action:

- Lauren McCartney will work with Maureen Mimiaga to track what happened during the design review process for the Miracles Club to see why it didn't work for the neighbors.

Short Updates

Boise, Eliot, Humboldt, King, Piedmont, and Sabin Neighborhood **tree planting** is scheduled for 2/14/09 from 8:45 to 1:00 pm. Now is the time to sign up to help with the planting – maybe create a King crew. Trucks are also needed. (<http://www.friendsoftrees.org/>) Friends of Trees is located at 3117 NE Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.

PDC and Killingsworth Street Improvement

Maureen Mimiaga reported on the pedestrian safety issues along Killingsworth. A document clarifying all the pedestrian safety issues on Killingsworth from all 4 neighborhoods involved, including King, is being submitted to Stuart Gwin of Portland Department of Transportation. He will identify the costs of fixing pedestrian issues, and then the Killingsworth improvement committee will meet again to narrow down the list and discuss allocations of funds. Maureen solicited feedback from Walnut Park business people and residents. She notified John Fall (head of the committee) that improved pedestrian safety when crossing Killingsworth to get to businesses is desired, provided it does not eliminate parking.

PDC Gateway Heritage Marker Program

The project received a \$100,000 award/grant to from the Portland Bureau of Environmental Services to manage the stormwater as part of the facility design and construction. It is part of the 1% for Green Program at the bureau.

Oregon Convention Center Urban Renewal Advisory Comm.

The URAC met to discuss budget issues. With the current changes in the structure and budget of many Portland City Bureaus as a result of the new Mayor Sam Adams' vision of how the city will be run under his administration (i.e., PDC, Planning and Housing) it is somewhat uncertain how to make budget recommendations when the budget numbers are also unclear.

The URAC will be meeting again in the next month to continue its budget deliberations. At the conclusion of its discussion it will have a budget recommendation that will be presented to PDC which in turn will present the URAC budget and all other budget matters to the Portland City Council. The OCC URAC budget recommendations will be part of the large PDC budget package that City Council will consider for adoption.

NE Going as a Bike Boulevard

The KNA sent a letter indicating their support for this proposal.

Follow-up action:

- Charles Boardman will send a copy of the KNA letter to the Bicycle Transportation Association to all board members for the official files.

Farmers market pilot committee

Charles Boardman stated that conversations are continuing with NECN. An ideal location would be at King School.

Form a King spring clean-up working committee

Charles Boardman indicated that the planning meetings will start in February. Please let Charles know if you are interested in being on this committee.

King School park – concerns about structures

Karen Trappen of Portland Parks would like the support of KNA to remove and replace the existing structure.

Follow-up action:

- Karen Trappen will draft a letter for the board to consider about the structures at King School. The letter will be addressed at the general meeting in February.

Kindergarten Roundup

Trace Salmon reported that it's time for Kindergarten Round-Up for kids starting kindergarten next fall in Portland Public Schools. There are a number of 2009-10 Kindergarten Round-Up events which provide an opportunity to prepare you and your child for the new school year. If you aren't able to attend a Round-Up, you can still register at your neighborhood school. Information about upcoming events on February 25 (at King School) and 28 (at Blazers Boys and Girls Club) is found at

<http://kingneighborhood.wordpress.com/2009/01/22/kindergarten-round-up/>.

Standing committee reports

Treasurer's report – no update

Land use committee – board discussion of charter – no update.

Future topics:

Grant writing workshop, Allyson Spencer

Update on communication initiatives (e.g., phone, website, emails)

Last Thursday – KNA and the permit, Rick Sills

ONI – need for a community garden, Lauren McCartney (research funding)

LIST OF NEW ACTION ITEMS

- Lauren McCartney will work with Maureen Mimiaga to track what happened during the design review process for the Miracles Club to see why it didn't work for the neighbors.
- Charles Boardman will send a copy of the KNA letter to the Bicycle Transportation Association to all board members for the official files.
- Karen Trappen will draft a letter for the board to consider about the structures at King School. The letter will be addressed at the general meeting in February.

Attendees:

Bo Baumgartner, resident

Karen Trappen, resident

Charles Boardman, resident (*Chair*)

Shirley Vidal, resident

Herman Bryant, Miracles Club

Irek Wielgosz, resident (*At-Large Rep #4*)

Zapoura Calvert, resident

Fred Zoller, resident

Celeste Carey, ONI

Faith Cathcart, resident

Leslie Cormier, resident (*At-Large Rep #1*)

Erin Diamond, resident

Gabrielle Foulkes, resident (*Secretary*)

Sierra Gardiner, resident

Gesher Kitzler, resident

Scott Lanier, resident

Rebecca Lester, resident

Janice Lucas, resident (*At-Large Rep #5*)

Lauren McCartney, Northeast Neighborhood

Coalition

Maureen Mimiaga, resident

Richard Mimiaga, resident

Trace Salmon, resident (*Treasurer*)

Ofc. Brian Sims, Portland Police

Allyson Spencer, resident (*At-Large Rep #2*)

Margo Taylor, resident