

King Neighborhood Association
Minutes from Neighborhood Association Meeting
August 12, 2009
503-823-9133 (voice mail number for KNA)
<http://kingneighborhood.org/>
<http://kingneighborhood.wordpress.com/>

List of attendees (at end of minutes)

Quorum met.

Agenda (*Exhibit 1*)

Minutes from July meeting

The minutes from August, 12 were approved without changes.

Standing reports

Update from Portland Police

Officer Sims reported that August's Last Thursday went well with the street closure and reopening going smoothly. The largest problem stemmed from overcrowding in the Nest bar. In the last month, August 8th to September 8th, overall reported crime was down as compared to the same dates last year. He distributed a map of reports (*Exhibit 2*), that shows burglaries and larceny down approximately 50% and no aggravated assaults. He credited increased vigilance by residents and homeowners in the decrease of theft with the lower numbers. Fewer people leaving windows open and valuables in vehicles is a factor. Also the State of Oregon crime lab has shortened turn-around time on DNA evidence turned in so that serial burglars can be more quickly identified. There have been few drug house complaints. When asked about houses where marijuana is obviously consumed but not sold to strangers, he said many of these cases are houses where a resident has an easily obtained medical marijuana grow license. People with licenses have been known to grow more than authorized and can be targets for thieves or home invasions. He encourages people with concerns contact him.

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

Northeast Coalition of Neighborhoods

There was no report.

Ride Connection

James Uyeda of Ride Connection explained his organization's services. Ride Connection is a nonprofit, community service organization established to link accessible, responsive transportation with community needs. Ride Connection provides transportation assistance to elderly and disabled persons or anyone who has special transportation needs. Funded by the State of Oregon via Tri-Met, Ride Connection provides scheduled and on-demand transportation and transportation counseling to people who are new to public transit. They served over 10,000 individuals last year. While Tri-Met's LIFT program serves only more severely disabled persons, Ride

Connection provides mobility to a larger population. Ride Connection can be contacted by calling 503-226-0700 or via their website: <http://www.rideconnection.org/index.htm>.

Vacation of Garfield/Martin Luther King Alley

Cyrus Yamin of Multnomah County facilities notified the Association of the county's request to the City of Portland to vacate the alley behind the county service center at Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd and Killingsworth Street. By making the alley no longer a public right-of-way, the county will be able to secure the parking lot. Eventually a fence will probably be erected around the lot as well as gates at the ends of the alley. Officer Sims reported that there have been problems with loitering and drug dealing in the vicinity in the past. There was no objection to the plan from those present at the meeting.

Willamette Pedestrian Coalition

Arlie Adkins told the King Neighborhood Association about his group's effort to remove barriers to pedestrian travel. The Coalition is attempting to identify barriers to pedestrian travel in King and elsewhere. Members told of difficult crossings in high-traffic areas such as along Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. and across from the Post Office on Killingsworth. Another concern is the prevalence of overgrowth from private properties obscuring sidewalks and the deterioration of our one hundred year old sidewalk infrastructure. As property owners are responsible for sidewalk maintenance and repair, the need for a fund to subsidize repairs for low-income property owners was mentioned. The top three concerns were reported via an online survey by the Co-Chair and a survey open to everyone will be released in late September and publicized in the King electronic newsletter. Print copies will be made available at the NECN office at 4815 NE 7th Avenue.

Neighborhood Small Grant Program

Scott Breon, KNA Treasurer, told of the Small Grant Program whose application deadline is November 2nd. The grant amounts range from \$250 to \$5000. KNA should decide as a group whether to apply for a grant. Any group, existing or yet to be formed can partner with KNA to meet the requirement of being The grants fund grassroots community building projects in the neighborhood coalition area. There is an upcoming grant writing workshop to help applicants with the process at NECN on September 24, 2009, 6:30-8pm. Mr. Breon will attend. The application materials are available at the NECN office at 4815 NE 7th Avenue and online at: <http://portland.necoalition.org/>.

Advertising in King Publications

Trace Salmon began a discussion as to whether KNA should sell or allow advertising in the electronic newsletter or online. Over the past year, KNA has received requests to advertise in our electronic newsletter. These requests have been deferred in the absence of a policy as to what should be charged and who could advertise. Ideas mentioned were to only allow King Area advertisers and to have no or reduced charges for new businesses for a period. The board will develop a written advertising policy and bring it for continued discussion and a vote in October.

Land Use Committe

Maureen Mimiaga mentioned some new developments in King.

There will be a public meeting and opportunity to comment on the plans for a new multi-story mixed-use development on the southwest corner of Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd and Skidmore Street. The meeting will be held on September 23rd from 6 to 9 pm at OAME Large Conference Room, 4134 N Vancouver Avenue, Light refreshments will be provided.

The St. Andrews service center and school expansion project will have its ground breaking at 11:00 am on September 20th in the parking lot near 8th Avenue and Alberta.

Community Warehouse, a non-profit that collects and redistributes furniture and household items to people in need is moving to the former location of Hanna Bea's at 3969 Martin Luther King Jr. and Shaver Street. Furniture donations are needed.

Resolution of Unclaimed Area between Vernon and King Neighborhoods

Charles Boardman reported that due to an error many years ago in the way individual neighborhood associations defined their boundaries, there is a resulting gap between Vernon and King. The area from Ainsworth to Killingsworth between 9th and 10th avenues is unclaimed by either association. Brian Hoop of the Portland Office of Neighborhood Involvement, asked that King adopt this area into its boundary. Regular attendee Misha Hashitani stated that she and some of her neighbors had assumed they were residents of King. There was no objection by those present. KNA will inform all the affected neighbors in these three blocks and solicit their feedback prior to voting to amend the bylaws.

Martin Luther King Gateway

Charles Boardman submitted KNA's letter of support for the Portland Development Commission's design for the gateway project at Grand Avenue between Broadway and Schuyler.

Treasurer's Report

Scott Breon reported that due to an accounting error KNA's annual stipend from the city for communications was not distributed for two years. Having corrected the error our balance is now increased by \$2000 to over \$10,000.

LIST OF NEW ACTION ITEMS

Develop advertising policy for discussion and vote	Board
Write budget for remainder of fiscal year	Scott Breon
Outreach to unincorporated neighbors	Misha Hashitani, Charles Boardman
Write new language for amendment of KNA boundary in bylaws	Charles Boardman
Distribute pedestrian survey from Willamette Ped. Coal.	Trace Salmon
Brainstorm ideas for small grant applications	Board, Membership

Attendees:

Charles Boardman, resident (*Chair*)
Trace Salmon, resident (*Co-Chair*)

Scott Breon, resident (*Treasurer*)
Cyrus Yamin, Multnomah County

Janice Lucas, resident (At-Large Rep #5)
Jennifer Gonnella, resident
Maureen Mimiaga, resident (Land Use Chair)
Lisa Hovey, resident
Diego Gioseffi, resident
Misha Hashitani, almost resident
Arlie Adkins, Willamette Pedestrian Coalition
Phil Selinger, Willamette Pedestrian Coalition
James Uyeda, Ride Connection
Jenny Malcom, resident
Marcus Malcom, resident
Leslie Cormier, resident (At-Large Rep #1)
Alice Meyers, resident
Daniel Howbett, resident