

King Neighborhood Association Meeting
King Neighborhood Facility
4815 NE 7th Avenue
<http://kingneighborhood.org>

May 11, 2011 – 6:30 to 8:30 pm

List of attendees (at end of minutes)

Quorum met.

Agenda (Exhibit 1)

Minutes from previous meetings

February minutes: Irek Wieglosz moved to approve minutes. Jeff Scott seconded. Unanimously approved.

March minutes: Jeff moved to approve minutes. Teri Phillips seconded. Unanimously approved with one abstention.

April minutes: Trace Salmon moved to approve minutes. Alan Silver seconded. Unanimously approved.

Announcements and Motions

Elections for four KNA board positions were held: Co-chair, Treasurer, At-large Representative #2, At-large Representative #4. Alan presented the positions of Co-Chair and At-large Representative #4 as a slate to re-elect Nora Diver as the former and Irek as the latter. No other interested parties stepped forward. Alan motioned to re-elect Nora and Irek. Jeff seconded. 12 yeas, 0 nays, 0 abstentions.

Jeff offered to continue on as Treasurer if no one else showed interest in filling the position. Alan moved to elect Jeff. Teri seconded. 12 yeas, 0 nays, 0 abstentions

Lyndsey Vaughn-Dieter offered to serve in the At-large Representative #2 position. Alan nominated Lyndsey and Maureen Mimiaga seconded. 12 yeas, 0 nays, 0 abstentions.

Alan encouraged people who are interested in helping elderly neighbors with yard work to contact him about the Blue Door Project.

There will be a meeting called Potential MLK Jr Blvd Community Event: Brainstorming Session on Wednesday, June 1st at 5:30pm at Planned Parenthood. This session will be held to talk about the potential for organizing an MLK Jr Blvd community event as the next evolution from Spiffin Up MLK Clean-up.

The Oregon Convention Center Urban Renewal Area (OCCURA) requested a representative from KNA. OCCURA holds quarterly meetings. Irek offered to become the KNA rep. Alan moved to make Irek rep for OCCURA. Katy seconded. 12 yeas, 0 nays, 0 abstentions.

Standing reports

Update from Portland Police

Officer Dennis Mako gave info on crime from April 1st to May 11th and found that the King Neighborhood was not considered to be a “hot spot.” By contrast, the Humboldt and Cully neighborhoods were particularly hard hit with car thefts, vandalism, and burglaries. Officer Mako mentioned that between 8pm-12am is the time when a majority of crimes are being committed, and if neighbors see something suspicious during that time to call and report. Woody Broadnax suggested that taverns on every block are increasing foot traffic and have something to do with crime. Lyndsey asked if shootings were included in Officer

Mako's report and he said that they were not.

Parking Control will have four officers specifically dedicated to Last Thursday for May. If neighbors have a violation to report, they should call the non-emergency number and report the LT parking problem. Officer Mako said it is important to call immediately because day-of calls are used for creating statistics when talking to City Hall about LT issues. Officer Mako said operators on the non-emergency line will refer callers to Parking Control, but that callers should remind operators of the officers on patrol especially for LT.

Alan asked about gun exclusion zones and Officer Mako said that zones are technically in effect. The caveat is that there were five different ordinances made with only two currently being enforced, and only the gun task force has the authority to enforce them. Trace asked about the shooting on 9th and Alberta and inquired about why the intersection seems to be particularly prone to crime. Officer Mako replied that the site might not necessarily encourage crime, but that incidences might be opportunistic. Rick Sills noted an uptick in gang activity being reported in the newspaper. Officer Mako says this is likely due to retaliation—when there is one incident, it spurs more activity. Officer Mako suggested KNA have a member of the gang enforcement force come and present at a meeting, and Teri thought that would be helpful because she doesn't feel cognizant about what contemporary gang members look like or where they congregate.

Northeast Coalition of Neighborhoods

After Office Mako's presentation, Shoshana Cohen let everyone know that youth violence in NE will be a topic on the agenda at the next SALT meeting. There will also be a discussion on emergency risk reduction projects created using grant money from the Portland Office of Emergency Management (POEM). At the upcoming NECN Land Use and Transportation meeting VisionZero will present, and there will possibly be someone to present Alta Planning proposals for N. Williams Ave. There will also be discussion about the Portland Plan concerning a build-able lands survey—looking at what's been built out and what development the building codes allow for. On May 25th at 8am the new Community Economic Development Committee will meet and participants will continue discussion about economic possibilities.

Discussion/presentation topics

International Plastic Quilt Project

Cheryl Lohrmann of Create Plenty and the International Plastic Quilt Project gave an update about her project and was joined by Suzy Root, a teacher at King Elementary. Create plenty raises awareness about single use plastic waste, questioning why it has to be part of our daily lives and working toward solutions to waste. For the International Plastic Quilt Project, King Elementary students save plastic and bring it to the classroom, then make art out of it. Their artwork will join the work of eleven other schools in an exhibition on June 11th at Zoomtopia on SE 8th and SE Belmont. Over 200 squares have been submitted to the project and over 400 students were involved with the project. King students wrote a plastic “rap” and plan to make a video of it. Cheryl passed around examples of plastic quilt squares. Alan said an announcement about the quilt exhibition will be posted on the KNA blog.

Juneteenth Forward

Woody Broadnax presented his Juneteenth Forward event scheduled for June 19th. Woody plans for Juneteenth Forward to impress certain principles on the youth: responsibility, accountability, productivity, and looking for peace within yourself. Woody plans to have 60 tents filled with organizations who will hire, give information to, and make referrals for young people so that they might “be involved in living life and not be a part of the problem.” He is also negotiating with a carnival to be part of that site. Woody asked that the King neighborhood support his request for the site of NE Alberta and NE MLK—PDC requires approval from the NA that encompasses a site. Woody also asked for financial support and volunteers. The KNA board decided to give the topic further consideration.

NNEBA MLK Dream Run

Jim Hansen, of NNEBA and Henry V Events, gave information about the MLK Dream Run 5k Walk, 10k & 15k Competitive Run and asked for a letter of support from the KNA board. The run course is still in the development phase, but NNEBA would like the start and end point to be in the vacant lot at MLK and Alberta. Runners would queue up on Alberta and the run would start at 7:45am, head east on Alberta, roughly head up to NE 15th, then go south through Irving Park, cut across and pick up at Russell, run up Mississippi and through Peninsula Park, then back down to Alberta. The 15k would additionally go through Woodlawn Park. The event is a fundraiser for NNEBA and will fund a youth entrepreneurial project; it will also generally promote fitness. August 13th is the proposed date and the race could end as late as 11:30am. Jim explained that state law requires signal intersections to be patrolled by officers, not citizen volunteers, and that's why most of the run isn't on MLK. Jim brought a model letter of support. The KNA board decided to give the topic further consideration.

Friends of Last Thursday (FoLT)

Alan announced that FoLT hopes to take over Last Thursday and are looking for a representative from King to participate on the steering committee. FoLT initially sent a pledge that they require steering committee members to sign, but KNA members did not respond positively to the pledge. FoLT has since offered to instead have an "interview" with the King representative, though it was unclear what the interview would consist of and what the results would be. Rochelle, who is on the FoLT steering committee, has offered to come to a KNA meeting to talk about what a rep would do. Alan said he would invite her to the next meeting.

KNA Clean-up and Garage Sale

Lyndsey Vaughn-Dieter passed around the new flier that announces both the neighborhood clean up event and garage sale. Irek solicited for clean up volunteers, especially those with trucks to drive electronics and Styrofoam from the North Precinct to recycling centers. Trace asked if there will be a free pile for people to drop unwanted but usable items, and Irek responded that we might have to be more selective this year about what we accept for that pile, citing last year's large amount of unwanted "donations." Trace asked about bringing items to Scrap, which is a donation center for creative materials. Organizers agreed that information will be provided about Scrap and Metro regional recycling, but KNA will not coordinate drops to those centers. Lyndsey estimated promotional printing (brochures, fliers, signs) costs for both events to be a maximum of \$200. Alan says send brochure edits by Saturday. Shoshana suggests maybe investing in insert signs. Lyndsey suggest communications sub committee work on that for next year. Maureen moved to approve \$200 printing budget and Trace seconded. 14 yeas, 0 nays, 0 abstentions. Trace asked about volunteers for the King neighborhood graffiti clean up, and David Lomax said five have signed up, but he needs ten more. Alan proposes Sat 21st special board meeting.

VisionZero

Michele van Tijen and Marielle Brown gave an update on VisionZero, a program that holds we should design our streets to prevent road fatalities and injuries. Michele and Marielle, who have been working closely with a neighborhood residents, passed around their draft safety guides and draft neighborhood action plans for King, Humboldt and Boise. A section on MLK Boulevard on page 6 will be of particular interest to King neighbors. Michele asked for feedback about the documents to be submitted via email, and also said there would be two hard copies (with return postage) left at NECN for those who don't have internet access. Michele and Marielle talked about some experiences they've had while working on the project, including a visit to the Boys and Girls Club to do a "slow down" activity with the kids, where as a group they made signs and chanted out on MLK. On May 31st the VisionZero team will give their final presentation on PSU's campus.

MLK/Failing intersection

A study of traffic flow paid for by the City of Portland concluded that there should be a push-button walk

sign or blinking light at the NE Failing/MLK intersection, but there has not been city funding for such a remedy. In light of the VisionZero work, Kevin Brake drafted a letter he hopes KNA will send to the city. The letter, which Irek presented, asks the city to take the lead on finding a solution for the intersection. A previous version of the letter had suggested a KNA contribution to the costs of infrastructure, but that has since been edited out. Michele said the VisionZero project has identified MLK as a problem and suggested the letter cite that conclusion. Marielle suggested KNA look at solutions non-PBOT solutions because funding is a big issue and if PBOT doesn't have the funds it could be a long wait to see any action taken. Signs, overhead banners, and community outreach are all options. Marielle also thought it might be possible to partner with King School to receive Safe Crossings To School funds. Rick mentioned that a rapid blink crossing costs \$20,000, and the the city pays much more than that for Last Thursday events through-out the year. Marielle and other neighbors talked about a recent incident at MLK/NE Failing when a young girl was injured. Maureen brought up the coming change in density surrounding the intersection: Shaver Green, Planned Parenthood, and the Miracles Club will bring new residents without cars and new pedestrians crossing MLK. Shoshana said KNA should see if Boise/Humboldt NAs want to sign on to letter. Irek said he will copy those neighborhoods on the letter and go to NA meetings to present the issue. Alan moved to send the letter (with added content: VisionZero project citation; density-shift info suggested by Maureen). Lyndsey seconded. 14 yeas, 0 nays, 0 abstentions

Southeast corner of MLK & Shaver

Eli Haworth, representing small local developer/contractor the Sakura Group, explained that they've been hired to consult on the development of the southeast corner of MLK and NE Shaver. The group is open to input, ideas, and concerns. They'd like to include Christophers Gourmet Grill as an anchor tenant. Eli explained that zoning is "wide open" for the site, meaning it could be residential, office, or mixed-use. Emily Wilson suggested the spot could include a small grocer or movie theater. Neighbors generally agreed that surface parking is not desirable. Alan mentioned it would be a shame to lose the "burger barn" because of tits history and said he would contact Eli to give him information about the plot. The owners are thinking about utilizing the entire property, which would mean taking down Christophers as well as two houses. Eli provided his email address for contact: eli@thesakuragroup.

Alan moved to schedule a special board meeting for May 21 at TBA time and TBA location to make decisions about Woody's Juneteenth, Jim Hansen's Dream Run, and for general canvassing discussion. Rick seconded. 13 yeas, 0 nays, 0 abstentions

Tabled topics

- Voter-owned elections: request for campaign endorsement
- KNA Communications committee: logo design, brochure
- Mural projects in King Neighborhood
- Honoring Commander Ferraris

Attendees

Irek Wielgosz, *KNA At-Large Representative*

Trace Salmon, *King resident*

Marielle Brown, *VisionZero*

Michelle van Tijen, *VisionZero*

David Lomax, *Loaves and Fishes*

Eli Haworth, *Sakura Group*

Officer Ryan Bren, *Portland Police Bureau*

Cyndi Natalello, *Portland Community Reinvestment Initiatives*

Jim Hansen, *NNEBA*

Suzy Root, *Create Plenty/King School*

Jeff Scott, *KNA Treasurer*
Maureen Mimiaga, *KNA At-Large Representative*
Teri Phillips, *KNA At-Large Representative*
Officer Dennis Mako, *Portland Police Bureau*
Katy Kanfer, *KNA Secretary*
Alan Silver, *KNA Co-Chair*
Shoshana Cohen, *NE Coalition of Neighborhoods*
Sarah Cline, *King resident*
Andrew Neerman, *King resident*
Rick Sills, *King resident*
Nina Narelle, *NECN consultant*
Herman Bryant, *Miracles Club*
Emily Wilson, *Humboldt*
Lyndsey Vaughan-Dieter, *KNA At-Large Representative*
Woody Broadnax, *Juneteenth Forward*
Peter O'Halloran, *visitor*
Nora Diver, *KNA Co-chair*