

KNA meeting notes April 9, 2014

6:42 pm

Alan Silver, Chair
Eileen Kennedy, At-Large Representative
Leigh Rappaport, LUC Chair
Naomi Campbell, King neighbor
Wally Tesfa, 4068 MLK
Andrew Neerman, At-Large Representative
Jonah Majure, People's Water Trust
Margo Dobbertin, Secretary
Nickolas Caceb, People's Water Trust
Tracy Mattner, People's Water Trust
Ofc. Jason Wolff, PPB
Jeff Scott, Treasurer
Diego Gioseffi, At-Large Representative

introductions

announcements:

Alan: April 20th, 10:30 am egg hunt at Two Plum Park. Green King announcement. Affordable housing meeting tomorrow. MLK Blvd 25th anniversary celebration later this month; looking for volunteers.

Eileen: Neighborhood emergency team training coming up: contact Eileen. Collecting dry food donations for the Portland Food Project.

Alan: could use a volunteer to post events on next-door. Elections next month; 5 positions are open. Eileen will run for election to her current at-large position.

Safety (Ofc. Wolff): No changes in crime trends. Police recently broke up a ring of car thieves; made an arrest yesterday and hope to see a large reduction in car thefts. Most thefts were in N/NE Portland. Quicktrip investigation is ongoing; have a trespass agreement set up so that police can arrest people loitering in the lot.

qt: re tagging, particularly on churches at failing/8, and fremont/9. a: no info, have only 2 officers dedicated to graffiti. Have received calls about drinking and noise in King Park; people should continue to call and report.

qt: re theft and car chase from Lloyd center to Prescott. a: theft at Macy's turned to robbery; gang enforcement knew who the two men were; arrested one of them.

qt: re hotspots. a: 15 minutes, four times a day, an officer will be present at various hot spots (geographic locations with higher crime rates). King's spot is MLK/Ainsworth, based on calls, probably from activity at Quicktrip and Safeway.

qt: re quick trip, anything neighbors should do? a: call whenever you see anything

suspicious.

clean up (Margo): April 26th, 9-1 North Portland Precinct parking lot. Looking for volunteers to help out the day of the clean up as well as beforehand to hand deliver postcards advertising the clean up.

Last Thursday (Shoshana) SALT April 21 mtg will have Chad Stover from the Mayor's office and Commander Leelof will be here to discuss safety plans re Last Thursday. Will also have a rep from Alberta Main Street. SALT meets monthly and Commander Leelof will be coming once a quarter.

Public Water Trust Initiative (Nickolas): Nickolas is a professor at Concordia (?). The PWT wants to make local government act in the public interest using the public trust doctrine, which was used to make the Oregon coast public land. PWT does three things (1) creates new rights of water access/use clean, affordable water, for future generations and for local ecology to exist and flourish (2) creates a trust, (3) right of action to citizens.

Public trust puts a natural resource into a trust as and the city and persons become beneficiaries. New duties (BES, water, city elected officials) of transparency and accountability. So, the City can't ever privatize water, best use of cautionary principle in decision making, would regulate conflicts of interest (??), open and transparent process for government agencies and private contractors as well (city would have to insist in contracts with private firms that their documents be open and not closed as per ip law), city would have the duty to protect the Bull Run Watershed from harm, City would have duty to take action against anyone who has harmed or threatens harm to the water, other rights as well mostly pertaining to openness and accountability. Trust allows much to be accomplished with one ballot initiative. public interest lawsuit provision allows citizens to have a cause of action if the trust is violated.

This important because: Population is increasing, climate change is causing droughts in most of the Pacific coast, water is being privatized all over the world, there is a plan for an oil terminal that would result in increased water pollution, have a lot of air pollution in Portland and much of that pollution enters the water supply.

Want to qualify for the ballot in next November 2014. Need 29,000 signatures by July 7th. Looking for endorsements, donations, volunteers, and signatures on the initiative.

One of the concerns about a new water district is that district elections can put water and local services (like BES) in peril.

qt re clarifying 3 things Trust accomplishes.

qt re conflict of interest mechanism. a: conflict of interest created by election donations.

PWT is happy to come to gatherings and events to speak about their work.

motion to endorse, seconded, discussion: interesting model for community activism. initiative takes on a lot at once and will face many challenges at once. vote: (9 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstaining). Alan will write a blurb about why KNA endorses the initiative, for the PWT to use on its web site.

Diego: Saturday, April 26th 10 - 1 will do some work on the bioswale. Will install an irrigation system that will save water to help to water the plants in the summer.

Alan: Teresa from the 25th anniversary celebration has not arrived, so Alan will give more information on the celebration. History of naming of the blvd: after the renaming, 50,000 people signed a petition to prevent the blvd from having its name changed. Want a celebration to honor people who were involved in the movement and involve kids. Motion to co-sponsor the anniversary celebration, seconded. Discussion: the name change was divisive and grueling and it would be good to have a celebration that brings community together. vote: 10 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstaining (unanimous)

announcements: passed around an article on greenwashing and opportunities for community organizing to protect local resources.

qt: were we required to have an opposing viewpoint before endorsing? a: no, need to invite opposing candidates. Also, can't endorse candidates, only initiatives.

rodney greenway from killingsworth to broadway: designs are online and looking for public comments.

Bylaws (Margo) background info re NECN requested that KNA rewrite bylaws to limit member voting to conform with the standard model in order to continue to obtain insurance.

Shoshana: happening throughout the city with all district coalitions and NAs. In addition to D&O insurance, NECN policy covers liability for events. If KNA can't pass new bylaws limiting voting, NECN will no longer be able to provide services to KNA.

Comments

one KNA member filed a grievance and continues to pursue it.
could have the bylaws require a straw pole of the membership on each issue.

Reading of the proposed draft of the bylaws. Discussion: suggestion that businesses should be allowed to be members but not allowed to serve at directors.

adjourned 8:59 pm.