

King Neighborhood Association Meeting
February 12, 2014
Draft meeting minutes

See sign-in sheet for attendees

Alan: going to try introductions all around, run through updates on current projects, hear from PBOT, then have small group discussions.

Katy: ground rules. Intro to NECN, this is their office, NECN offers help to volunteers from all the NAs. Aware that some people have strong feelings about their feelings tonight so have some ground rules. (1) listening to understand: challenging thing to do, but listening to another person does not mean you agree with them and might increase possibility another person will listen to you. (2) try for one voice at a time, one speaker at a time so that we can hear. (3) sharing the space, be self aware of how long you've been talking and let others have a chance to speak. (4) speak respectfully. (5) support our facilitator's efforts to moderate the discussion.

Comment: asked that preference be given to people who live in the neighborhood. Refined: asked that non-residents identify of themselves as such. Be respectful of residents.

Introductions: went around to everyone in the room. The following attendees had specific announcements:

Eileen Kennedy: Next month, asking that people coming to the board mtg bring a can of food for the pdx food project.

Diego: Saved money on Bioswale project. May get more funding in May to expand work. Partnered with PSU to make a rain garden in the King School courtyard; working on a grant from BES. Planning to install an irrigation system on Earth Day. Need to do soil testing before starting to depave around the King School; need to pay DePave \$300. Alan: can we take that up when we meet next Sunday? Diego: Yes.

Shoshana: NECN will be giving away 5-6 grants of \$1,000 each. Currently taking applications re improving quality of life, due march 14th.

Officer: no big revelations or updates, on Alberta 1212 ne Alberta is getting hit with tagging. Trying to determine who is doing it. Please report if you see anyone hanging suspiciously in the area. 509 NE ALberta receiving more calls there lately, not a lock down facility; be aware if you see someone near the facilyt who needs help. Safeway: getting a very high amount of theft; please report a description if you see someone committing theft. Qt re Quicktrip: no news, continue to receive calls; investigators don't always divulge the most immediate and pressing information.

Margo: Clean up announcement: April 26, can bring your junk and we'll take it away for a small fee/donation.

Officer: there is a prolific flasher in NE PDX, tends to flash female joggers in the morning and kids in afternoon, 4-5 pm. Area of the flashings is from 72 to 22, from prescott to Knott. Often wearing boxer shorts and running shoes, white male, middle aged, sketch and description are available online. Police is taking any leads. Some people are blowing it off and not reporting it quickly, please call 911 if you think you see this perpetrator.

BackPack Lunch Program (Alan) March 4th" Philanthropub (on Dekum) fundraiser for the Back Pack Lunch program.

Rich Newland, program manager for north williams project safety plan. mj change to n willims to facilitate multi modal transportation. recomment to develop a parallel route, acknowledging that not everyone feels safe using the new facilities on north williams. this would be a classic greenway: speed bumps, signage, etc. key issues still revolve around crossing major arterials. initial analysis show need safer options for n killingsworth, and again at fremont (funky offset intersection). Rich will be going to various NAs, our opportunity to interact with this project will come soon. April 9th open house at immaculate heart church. have a cookie cutter approach to developing greenways, but want to address individual issues and take community input. Trying to build the N williams projects this summer. N rodney piece will come later, probably the fall. designed for 100 bikes in the peak hours. qt: fix pavement? a: yes qt: s rodney is narrow, congestion issues? a: works to naturally calm traffic and make people opt out of this as a run-around. qt: can you talk about merging of cars and bikes on williams during evening and morning? a: s of cook and n of skidmore, will be same, between the two will have a unique design to address higher volumes and parking activity. western travel lane: for bikes or for cars looking for parking; will force cars to turn left to ensure low volume and speed of cars. qt: how will merge lane make it more comfortable and safety? a: probably not going to be total comfortable. qt: have the impression that pbot has made williams less safe and thrown rodney out as a bone. a: don't agree, also there was a long pubic process or the design of williams. qt: ? a: study indicates there is excess capacity on williams. qt; south of new seasons, whole other section is working on it. will be another public meeting on this before any work starts. qt: southbound bikes on vancouver at cook. a: get a lot of wts, grant didn't cover it, but funded through a special improvement district involving residents and the hospital.

qt: how easily can you get on n williams to go to pcc campus? a: this is mostly designed to facilitate north/south movements. going to have turn boxes and crossing improvements.

Irek: as KNA rep to n williams process: your input makes a difference, so please go and look at different options. traffic engineers and budgets can limit options, but community suggestions and concerns are part o the process.

curb extensions on each leg of the offset intersection with bike lanes

cycle track treatment: instead of crossing, bikes to between the two legs on the n

side with a rapid flash beacon like going and 33rd.

qt: between alberta and killingsworth lanes very narrow. a: bike lanes tend to calm traffic.

Comment: going not a good comparison because it's wider

qt: congestion on rodney may also be residents. a: yes, we also hear about people using it as a by-pass

qt: any safety data on doing a greenway on a road this narrow elsewhere in pdx? a: no

comment: bike plan talks about a goal of 25% by 2030. fail to see how this significantly increases bike traffic.

qt: heard that bta's primary focus was having 7th become a north-south thruway. is that being considered? a: yes, hoping that rodney will put off the 7th avenue project, but rodney is good on it's own. still going to pursue 7th in the future.

qt: are two thruways really necessary. a: want bikes to be a mode share in the future.

Vanport Discussion

Katy (with Alan and Damon from NECN Board): some people have very passionate feelings about the TJ project and want to give everyone a small time to speak to each other. want to break into small groups to briefly share own experiences.

what would you like to see happen next? what help from the NA? what next for vanport?

qt: came to hear facts of what happened. a: maybe have this in march. qt: how about benchmarks?

vanport business owner: 7 years ago, original developer promised a grocery as an anchor tenant. some ideas that fell through: 24 hour fitness, albertsons, medical clinic, 24 hour call center.

comment: before that, 12 years ago, pdx invited residents to come to a series of advisory committee meetings

comment: has a king neigh plan with metrics: april 28, 2000: said that neighborhood was underserved by 33%. were original developers plan from 2001-2002. the developers and the PDC asked residents to lobby feds for tax credits, and the credits were granted and then switched to a downtown project.

alan: commissioners voted in nov to accept a bid from majestic to build and have tj; announced to NA that same day (later in the evening). asks John to review last 3

months of development.

John Jackley: was head of NA division of PDC. don't have a signed DDA. lots of news coverage, trader joe's and majestic announced they were no longer. with mayor's office, going to let these conversations unfold.

alan: has been put out that the KNA voted in 2010 to support TJ. there was no discussion and no vote on this.

rachel: from PAALF. the media has sensationalized PAALF's position and never even interviewed anyone from PAALF. PAALF is new but its leaders have been working in the community for many years. albina plan was never initiated, so PAALF members feel much the same as TJ supporters now feel.

asked mayor for (1) transparency of records (2) PAALF or other established black leadership organization be included in any decision around future development in n/ne pdx. PAALF is not against TJ or development: sent an open letter to Mayor asking to create some space for low-income people

april 18 meeting: perspectives
another visioning meeting

comment: uncomfortable with what just happened: not respectful of residents. a: just adding to the history, since someone asked that to be

diego: good to clarify because the media distorted a lot of facts, including the stance of KNA.

Damon: next going to break into small groups, want to ask whether we should have the conversation as a large group or in small groups.

Comments

- ask for a quick show of hands
- two things people were angry about were the subsidy and no community involvement, and "you" came out against this saying it didn't happen.
- there was a lot of neighborhood involvement but PDC changed and that disappeared.
- there were meetings through the process, even as the developers changed.
- brainstorm ways to continue conversation to hold forth a health conversation going forward, because that is more important than many other things.

Jackley: add three steps to the communication process: in March pdc told KNA they were in, sent email to LU chair, July said that MOU with Majestic was underway.

comment: would like to see a local business in that lot and thinks that mixed use with a local grocery is possible.

comment: wants commitment from PDC to communicate directly.

Jackley: can give him your email directly

comment: sticking point is whether or not this parcel was ever slated to have housing on it. has read different things about this. wonders if the issue was more about not having housing.

alan: zoned for mixed use but discussion never focused

pdc doesn't do housing directly, done by pdx housing bureau. there are many new housing units. walsh on king and rosa parks, south of fremont and ivy will have an IFQ out this summer.

Comments

- 12 years ago, in the original plan, space on garfield was going to be mixed use.
- a recent gentrification/displacement study commissioned by pdx identified that intersection as a particular risk for displacement. in 1993 albina plan this NE PDX is one of the fastest gentrifying cities in the country.
- must it be this intersection that gets housing?
- every time a new development comes, the black community is told their needs will be met and it doesn't happen, so PAALF drew a line in the sand.
- what is wrong with cheap, good grocer store? gentrification is philosophical.
- insulted by the notion that gentrification is philosophical
- does anyone want to hear from this man?
- concerned that black people are perceived as anti-white. think the plan as adopted should be followed.

Qt: can someone at pdc or city or kna could you give us metrics on how many housing units have been added and how many are affordable or low income?

Jackley: would be happy to give that to you. one of the challenges we have is funding. killingsworth station was a mixed use project that pdc worked with the community on for a while. when PDC did housing, PDC could more quickly consult stakeholders. now at housing bureau, put out notice of funding availabilities.

comment: teacher who has lived in neighborhood and paid taxes for 20+ years. will soon be too old to work and would like to have a safe place to live as an older adult. older people may feel a little displaced. let's make it a safe place for elders and little kids. it's not just about the gentrifying ones.

alan: hand out cards and ask everyone to list what they want to see on the spot.

comment: ask that only KNA residents and business owners participate.

discussion re merits and dangers of limiting discussion to KNA members.

Comments

- also include what we'd like to see the process look like going forward
- communication through KNA is flawed, and KNA is a volunteer organization whereas the government has more resources
- fair to ask for strategy going forward that is fair and inclusive.

Comments

- don't like the perspective that the conversation has just begun.
- don't want to start the process over again. want the city and the developer to make options to provide to the neighborhood. want to see concrete stuff.
- has there been follow up with ?roy J? who wanted to purchase the lot.

alan: this sounds like a suggestion for PDC to restart the urban renewal advisory committee.

comment from PDC: advisory committees are usually just NAs and that's not helpful.

alan: not having the advisory committees hasn't worked very well.

comment: want the meeting with all the stakeholders.

Rachel: the city made promises to PAALF and to the neighbors that are in conflict. wants to partner with community groups to discuss what to do going forward.

comments re paalf's role.

Comment from someone who identified himself as having worked directly with majestic (Colas maybe?) is here to listen. PAALF brings up good issue and he is about finding gentrification solutions with new projects. gentrification is opportunity and income disparity. mixed use development is very expensive and no developer is available.

Comments

- emotions were never deeper than when we had to decide whether to write on little cards, which points to the underlying issue of individuals interconnecting versus larger amorphous institutions.
- over years of meetings, the possible gets in the way of the perfect.
- wondering if most of us know whether there is still hope and what will it take to get TJs back.
- what is the point of this meeting? can't we see what the majority of people here want and go forward.
- need a survey that captures what a majority of the people here think.
- some angry comments directed at alan about his comments and discussion about finding the kna site.
- the issue is about the 10,000 people who have been displaced. people got upside down on their mortgages. need to include the people who have been displaced as well as the people who have been displaced.
- it would us to advance the conversation if those who are disappointed please read up on gentriducation int heis neighborhood. neighbors expressed

concern about PAALF monopolizing, PAALF has similar concerns about the PDC. promises were made to the black community in 1993 and 2000, promises were made to neighbors in 2000 and 2008; none of these is more important than the other. wish that those on tjs side would get together with PAALF and come together to put pressure on multi-million dollar agencies and developers to do something that meets all the promises.

katy: wrapping up: need to determine what KNA can do going forward.

comment: new to the neighborhood and only found out about this because he had a school assignment to learn more about this meeting.

alan: there is a question of capacity.

katy: let's pass out the cards.

Cards collected.

adjourned