

# King Neighborhood Association (KNA) Meeting Minutes

## April 8, 2015, 2015 (6:36 – 8:30 pm)

- Neighbors in Attendance
  
- Board Members in Attendance (Quorum as of meeting commencement)
  - Jeff Scott
  - Margo Dobbertin
  - Eileen Kennedy
  - Alan Silver
  - Nick LaRue
  - Diego Gioseffi
  - Leigh Rappaport
  
- Speakers in Attendance
  - Officer Anthony Zoeller (Portland Police)
  - Cat Gogenour (Kenton neighborhood)
  - Shalonde Mieneke

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## Introductions (all) 6:36 P.M Margo Dobbertin

Introductions begun by Margo and Call for additional agenda items

- Due to broken printer, there are no agendas or March 2015 General Meeting Minutes for approval
- The agenda is written on wipe board as a substitute

Call for additional agenda items

- Two meeting attendees (Cat Goughnour & Shalonde Mieneke )have requested discussion of the plan demolition of the Old St Paul’s Church on NE 8<sup>th</sup> and Failing.

### Call to Approve the Agenda

Motion by: Jeff

Second by: Leigh

Y - 7 , N- 0, A, - 0 ; **Motion passes**

### Call to Approve the February and March meeting minutes with the provision of Leigh (March ‘Fill-in’ Secretary) make adjustments to include abbreviation definitions and adjust announcement for a workshop.

Motion by: Jeff

Second by: Margo

Y - 6 , N- 0, A, - 1 ; **Motion passes**

## Officer Zoeller Neighborhood Police update: (6:40)

- Safeway at MLK and Ainsworth
  - Increasing parking lot patrols by Safeway employees to discourage undesirable behavior from non-customers loitering in the parking lot
  
- 4505 NE Grand (NE Prescott and Grand)
  - Vacant house had been encouraging squatters on the porch

- Numerous neighbor complaints
- Exterior has been cleaned up and this has improved things
- 4329 NE Garfield
  - Lots of refuse and undesirable activity
  - Numerous neighbor complaints
  - The owner has cleaned up the property, neighbors happy
- Harry Jackson Plaza
  - Efforts are being made to improve the plaza
  - Hope to work with new tenants to beautify
  -
- Other
  - Uptick in gang activities and a few shootings
  - Fire at Grand Near Going, No determination of cause
  - 'Zombie' house near on Simpson across from Safeway is to be demolished
  - ❖ Request from neighbor
    - Please investigate an abandoned house @ 534 NE Going and adjacent property. Lots of trash, mattresses etc....
    - <https://www.portlandmaps.com/> has options to look for nuisance complaints at properties
  - ❖ Request from neighbor
    - Asking Officer Zoeller to investigate the shooting 2 weeks prior and report back when returns in two months about what happened. He agreed to do so, but information may be limited in on going investigations
  - ❖ Request from neighbor
    - Investigate alleged drug dealing activity on NE Grand and Alberta and sometimes in Ki Park too

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## Land Use Committee Updates: (6:58) Leigh Rappaport

- General Updates
  - The Land Use Committee (LUC) meets the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of every month at Beacon Sound on Mississippi Ave @7:30
  - Looking to recruit new members for various working committees
  - Tree at NE 13<sup>th</sup> and NE Wygant is slated for removal
- Vanport Development Updates ( Empty lot at NE Alberta and NE MKL)
  - Leigh was contacted by Susan Kuhn at Portland Development Commission (PDC) to ask if the Advisory Design Committee wanted to see the design or ask the PDC should move forward.
  - Leigh express yes, it is extremely important that the advisory board and neighborhood association be involved.
  - The contact was via voicemail and she will follow up to assure involvement by the community to a priority to the process
  - KNA wrote a letter in November and have not received any response from PDC
  - Humboldt and Boise neighborhood associations have also written letters related to community concerns.
- Church Demolition at 801 NE Failing (NE Failing and NE 8<sup>th</sup>)
  - ~13 neighbors met with developer Peter Kusyk at the church to discuss concerns

- He claims the church in to badly neglected and demolition is the only way for the investment to 'pencil out'
- He is not willing to make any concessions in demolition or design. Plans are for a modern duplex similar to the one at NE Fremont and NE 10<sup>th</sup>
- A change.org petition was created by our guest Cat Gogenour to stop the demolition
  - Shalonde Mienke's family were the holders of the church and caretakers of the church for many years
  - The Historic Resources Inventory included the Church until it recently waived during the permitting process
    - The Historic Resource Inventory was a volunteers led project to identify important historic buildings in neighborhoods all across the city
    - Anything on the Inventory requires a 120 day delay before demolition
    - The process was legal, but leads to questions about respecting what the citizens believe are important
  - Cat feels the developer has a history or under the radar, quick purchasing, permitting and development without concern for the neighborhood character. Many in attendance agree
  - Six more black churches in North and NE Portland are potentially slated for demolition
- Shalonde Mienke discusses many of the issue related to maintaining the church
  - Her father and grand father were caretakers for the 108 year old church
  - There is much confusion with property acquisition and its legality. She is seeking legal counsel and did not wish to discuss details.
  - She is seeking a moratorium and delay to reconcile the legal issues

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**Call to review the posted demolition notice on the church and take the needed action to delay the demolition**

Motion by: Nick

Second by: Leigh

Y - 7 , N- 0, A, - 0 ; **Motion passes**

**Call to Approve a 'media talking points' letter on the condition of reviewed by the board via email before realease. It will cover the demolition of the church, the loss of community character and historic preservation. Margo will draft a letter and email to members**

Motion by: Leigh

Second by: Jeff (?)

Y - 7 , N- 0, A, - 0 ; **Motion passes**

- Request to have second opinion of willow to be removed adjacent to Two Plum Park
  - Is removal needed? It's very important asset to the park
- Margo has received notice to demolish a structure at 4723 NE 14<sup>th</sup> (13<sup>th</sup> and Wygant)

## Discussion of Strategic Planning: (7:45)

- Potential By-law Changes?
  - Meeting Frequency
  - Committee Power and Delegation of Tasks
  - Allows more time for committee work
  - New grievance policy suggested by Office of Neighborhood involvement
  - What do we want to accomplish as a Neighborhood association and how do we do what we decide on. Reaction vs. Action. What are our priorities
- Ideas expressed included
  - Less Frequent neighborhood business meetings (5-7 times a year) with other meeting times being reserved for speakers and other lecture type information meet ups
  - Delegate more power to Land Use Committee to act on behalf of KNA
  - Non-business meeting months will be considered as potential nights for meetings if emergency measures are needed. An example being an time sensitive action requested of KNA
  - This will all be discusses at the May meeting along with Board Elections

## General Election Announcement: (8:15)

- Board Members Election positions being vacated
  - Vice Chair
  - Treasurer
  - Two (2) at-large positions

## Announcements: (8:25)

- Backpack Program Fund raising happening at Chipotle details to follow
- KNA Entertainment Committee meets Saturday 4/11 @ 11:00 am at Bushel and Peck Bakery on MLK
  - Planning for KNA Movie will be Karate Kid (original) and will be in July
  - Planning for 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade

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