

Board Meeting, November 8, 2017

6:30pm at NECN office

Board Members present: David Kennedy, Emily Leuning, Diego Gioseffi

Neighbors present: Shelly Caldwell (Chair of Woodlawn NA), Ben Lavine (Woodlawn), JT Flowers, Mariah Wildgen, Stephanie Savage (King resident)

Agenda:

6:35pm **Intros & check-ins** (5-10 min)

New folks share their interest: Shelly wants to visit as many other NE neighborhood meetings as she can, planning for holiday party, then Easter egg hunt, etc. Air National Guard noise has been a recent issue, also infill and parking are topics of discussion – making position paper for those topics that consistently come up. In process of designing bumper sticker and fridge magnets to get the word out about meetings/show neighborhood pride.

Ben says he's running for the Democratic nomination in the 3rd district of Congress – things that the incumbent and Democratic party aren't addressing.

JT came after reading about the Montavilla NA meeting – wondered if King had a NA and found the website. Was born in King, and has lived here his whole life other than college. Lots has changed throughout the time he has lived here – demographics, housing, etc. Says it's tough to blame individuals for systemic problems like gentrification – wants to be part of collective vision of what this place could look like.

Mariah said JT shared the article with her and asked if she wanted to go to the NA meeting. Has been in Portland for almost 6 years, went to UP, wants to see how she can be a letter advocate at the local level.

Stephanie has lived here for 10+ years, educator at PPS for 7 years. Wants to walk to a large library in her neighborhood, make sure kids/schools get fair treatment. Thinks our neighborhood deserves bright warm library where kids can be educated. Wants to improve Dishman Community Center and schools in general.

David says thanks for coming – we're always looking for new projects, so let us know if you have ideas for initiatives we could work on in the neighborhood.

6:40pm: **Approving October meeting minutes** (5 min)

7:05pm Bylaws update - final draft (15 min)

Fairly final draft ready to go – sent out to board via email.

Shelly asks what the difference is between board meetings and general membership meetings – David says the main difference is who can vote on what's brought up at the meetings.

Emily says members can vote on electing board members and approving bylaws at membership meetings – other “votes” that members take are advisory votes.

Diego says the bylaws were changed a few years ago but there have been complaints about them, there are issues that need to be addressed so we are taking steps to do that.

Diego says we could send out the bylaws via an e-newsletter so people have a chance to read and consider them. Could do facebook, nextdoor if wanted.

December meeting changes will be presented – January meeting will be voted on. Both meetings will be membership meetings.

7:20pm **Just Energy Transition Initiative** (NAACP) (20-30 min) Speaker not here, but David says it's a proposal to levy a fee and the money would be used for renewable energy, weatherization and either affordable housing or senior citizens initiatives. Climate justice initiative - coalition between NAACP, NAYA, CCC, APANO

7:22pm **Announcements**

Diego started Green King committee a few years ago – have gotten several grants, most recently around community engagement. Lost federal funding but still have about \$4,000 to help pay an intern to do the job. Have Architects Without Borders and an architecture firm working for them – but need a person to support those groups, coordinate with the school and do some community engagement. Diego needs someone to fill this role – NECN can probably help with the hiring process. How do we reach out to find this person? Would probably be 10-15 hours per week.

JT says one idea is to reach out to Jefferson or PCC, other high schools. Mariah says “handshake” is a website where you can post intern/job opportunities to local colleges but that might include a lot of folks not in the neighborhood.

Shelly says she has a friend who is the Principal at Jefferson.

Stephanie asks what the final project is – Diego says coming up with a concept plan for the park. Did a lot of community engagement last year with the Americorps member. Second phase will be focused on connecting with King School since they are one of the main stakeholders. Stephanie asks is there a specific purpose for the money- only for paying intern or could we use for actual work on the park? Diego says we'll have to get larger grants for the work to be done – need big money, this will be a multi-year plan with lots of layers (have to work with PPS, Portland Parks and Rec, etc). Diego says please contact him if interested- need more hands and brains.

David asks what are the main things you need from volunteers? Recruit and mentor intern, do outreach to PPS and PPR- keep these negotiations on the table constantly. Someone to take on establishing a NE Portland parks coalition or committee. SDCs from each newly constructed house go to PPR – we need to fight to get that money back in the neighborhood. Also need someone with communications/grantwriting skills. Someone to coordinate programming for the park – bring people to the park! We have movies in the park, an Easter egg hunt (but most of those folks aren't from King), what else can we do?

Shelly says they also do Movie in the Park, Sunday Parkways, Easter egg hunt – those are the big ones.

Next Green King meeting will likely be in beginning of December – will send an email out. Main conversation now is about hiring intern and next steps with the school.

Shelly says they had a guy from PPR (Eric) at last meeting – talked about nature patches they're putting into various parks.

Diego says he knows him, Eric is aware of project and is on board.

7:45pm We adjourn.