**DRAFT**

**King Neighborhood Association Meeting Minutes**

**Tuesday, September 3, 2019**

**KNA Board Members Present**: Amy Wilson, Cheri Folsom, Jacquie Walton, Libby Deal, John Kim, Sarah Moses

**Community Members Present**: Misha Hashitani, Dan Dieckhaus, Darcell Dance, Meg VanBuren, Tom Hickey, Mark Takiguchi, Dev Serk, Sid Snider, Allen Gurney, Amanda Fritz

**Old Business**

* **Approval of KNA July Minutes**
  + KNA meeting minutes from July 10, 2019 were approved as presented. Motioned by Jacquie, seconded by Cheri, and approved unanimously.

**New Business**

* **Guest Speaker Amanda Fritz, Portland City Council Commissioner**
  + Fritz encouraged attendees to vote “yes” on the four new ballot measures that will be included in the November 5th special election (see https://multco.us/elections/current-and-upcoming-elections-multnomah-county-elections). Two of the measures, 26-204 and 26-205, have to do with the Portland Water Bureau. For more information about these measures, see Fritz’s blog at <http://www.portlandonline.com/fritz/index.cfm?a=733974&c=49233>.
  + Fritz discussed the Office of Community and Civic Life (OCCL, or Civic Life for short) proposed update to Code 3.96, which governs neighborhood associations. Some highlights from Fritz’s presentation:
    - Council receives about a half dozen emails a day regarding the code change. The emails are “making a difference.”
    - Anything that is not specifically included in the code change wording can get changed by the current director of Civic Life.
    - At this moment, it appears unlikely that there will be three votes in favor of the proposal as currently written.
    - Fritz encouraged people at the meeting to stay engaged. Phone calls and emails are effective ways to get Council’s attention.
    - Change.org petitions are a less effective way to get Council’s attention.
    - Communities of color and faith communities have been writing letters to Council asking for more diversity in representation to Civic Life, but they are not asking to abolish neighborhood associations.
    - Open meeting laws (which neighborhood associations are currently bound to, but which will be abolished under the current code change proposal) can be a problem for undocumented community members.
    - Fritz quoted her mentor, Gretchen Kafoury, as stating, “We fund the neighborhood associations to disagree with us.”
* **PBOT and Safe Routes to School concerns (presented by at-large board member John Kim)**
  + John brought a neighbor’s concern about the safety of the streets near MLK Jr. Elementary School to Portland’s Safe Routes to School leadership (https://www.portlandoregon.gov/transportation/article/536532).
  + John reported that not a lot is currently planned by PBOT to improve the streets around the school.
  + John plans to attend an upcoming MLK Jr. Elementary School PTA meeting to get parent’s input about improving the safety of the streets around the school.
* **Update on the 9th Avenue Greenway project (presented by KNA chair Amy Wilson)**
  + Three diverters were originally planned on 9th Avenue as part of the greenway project, but now only one diverter (at NE Killingsworth) is planned.
  + PBOT wants to hold another meeting about the proposed greenway to get more input from the community. The date and place have yet to be determined.
* **KNA outreach (presented by KNA co-chair Cheri Wilson)**
  + The KNA had a tent at the King Farmers Market in August to gather feedback from community members.
  + KNA members participated in the recent clean-up day at MLK Jr. Elementary School.
  + The KNA plans to be present at a King Farmers Market in October.
* **Miscellaneous business**
  + Mark Takiguchi, executive director of Alberta Abbey LLC (the non-profit that runs Alberta Abbey at 126 NE Alberta St.), shared the following information:
    - Alberta Abbey will host an event on Wednesday, October 2, at 6:30 p.m. called “Race and Place: Racism and Resilience in Oregon’s Past and Future.”
    - Alberta Abbey is hoping to host neighborhood history tours in the future.
    - Alberta Abbey is trying to obtain a conditional use permit to legalize commercial use of Alberta Abbey. A hearing with the City will most likely take place in mid-October.
    - Alberta Abbey wants to repaint the exterior of the building. They asked for people to vote on three color choices: hot pink, bright orange, or lime green.





