

## DRAFT

### King Neighborhood Association Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, October 1, 2019

**KNA Board Members Present:** Amy Wilson, Jacquie Walton, Libby Deal (by phone), John Kim, Sarah Moses

**Community Members Present:** Teresa McGrath, Nat Kim, Susheela Jayapal, Sara Ryan, Prentice Onayemi, Darcell Dance, Mark Takiguchi, Laverne Martin, Kellie Shaw

#### Old Business

- **Approval of KNA September Minutes**
  - KNA meeting minutes from September 3, 2019 were approved as presented. Motioned by Jacquie, seconded by Amy, and approved unanimously.

#### New Business

- **Guest Speaker Susheela Jayapal, Multnomah County Commissioner**  
**(<https://multco.us/commissioner-jayapal>)**
- Jayapal represents District 2, which includes North and Northeast Portland
- Jayapal talked about stopping displacement and preventing homelessness.
- Jayapal has lived in District 2 for almost 25 years and currently lives in the Sabin neighborhood. She said that if “black and brown people keep getting pushed out, this isn’t somewhere I want to live anymore.”
- Jayapal described the Bushong & Co. building at 333 S.W. Park Avenue, which Multnomah County bought earlier this year to create a mental health and walk-in clinic. See <https://www.oregonlive.com/health/2019/06/multnomah-county-hopes-to-create-alternative-to-jail-ers-for-mentally-ill-homeless-people.html>.
- When asked about turning the never-opened Wapato Jail facility into a homeless shelter and/or addiction and mental health center, Jayapal said that she does not support it. She said that Wapato is too far from downtown, that mass shelters are not a good solution for pulling people out of homelessness, and that all the homeless people that she’s spoken have said that they do not want to go there. She also said that turning Wapato into a homeless shelter would be “quite expensive.” She did not know how much it would cost.
- **Franklin Family Foundation presentation (Laverne Martin)**
  - Martin described her private non-profit, the Franklin Family Foundation, which she started last year. Martin said that her non-profit works with women who are coming out of prison, supports families in need, and tries to prevent children from becoming at risk.
  - Martin said that her foundation helped at least six families last year. “If there’s just one family that we make better, that’s a blessing,” she said.

- Martin said that her foundation is planning to host a brunch during Black History Month next February.
- **Web updates (Jacquie Walton, KNA Secretary)**
  - Jacquie announced that problems with the KNA blog (kingneighborhood.org) have been fixed and discussed ongoing problems with the KNA email, which is hosted by Bluehost.
  - The KNA board decided to move its email from Bluehost to Gmail. Jacquie took an action item to send instructions to board members for setting up Gmail accounts.
- **Treasurer Update (Sarah Moses, KNA Treasurer)**
  - Sarah presented a summary of the KNA expenses from 2014 to the present.
  - Sarah said that the NECN will be sending a request for a budget soon.
  - John suggested that some of the KNA funds be allocated to improving traffic safety around Martin Luther King Jr. Elementary School and the park.
  - The KNA board approved reimbursing board member Cheri Folsom for expenses related to creating fliers for upcoming KNA-sponsored events.
- **Code Change update (Amy, KNA Chair)**
  - Amy gave an update on the status of Civic Life's code change project, which will affect how the City interacts with neighborhood associations. The Council vote on the code change was recently postponed. See <https://www.wweek.com/news/2019/09/25/city-commissioner-chloe-eudaly-moves-to-delay-changes-to-portlands-neighborhood-associations/>.
- **KNA outreach update (Amy, KNA Chair)**
  - The King, Vernon, Humboldt, and Woodlawn neighborhoods sponsored a neighborhood association meet-up at Alberta Abbey on September 26. Laverne Martin and Kellie Shaw, who both attended the meeting, said that the event was valuable to the community. They both suggested that similar events be held twice or four times per year.
  - The KNA, MLK Jr. Elementary School, and Green King are sponsoring a garden clean-up day at MLK Jr. Elementary School on Saturday, Oct. 12, from 9 AM to 12 PM. For more information, go to <https://kingneighborhood.org/event/garden-clean-up-at-mlk-jr-elementary-school/>.
- **Miscellaneous**
  - Prentice Onayemi, Alberta Abbey Foundation board member, announced that a public hearing for the Abbey's application to legalize commercial use will be held on October 23. The hearing will be at 9 AM at 1900 SW Fourth Ave., Suite 3000. Onayemi said that he expects an initial decision will be made at the hearing. Onayemi said that life safety and accessibility issues will not be addressed at the hearing, but that they will be addressed in a separate process. Onayemi said that the Abbey will meet with PBOT before the hearing, on Oct. 3, to discuss parking requirements for Abbey events. Jacquie Walton (KNA secretary) shared information that she received from PBOT via email regarding her concerns about whether emergency vehicles can reach houses on the 24-foot wide sections of NE Rodney and NE Mallory when people park there during large Abbey events. PBOT told Jacquie that her concerns are "very valid." According to the public hearing notice, Alberta Abbey is asking to reduce the number of required off-street parking spaces from 133 to 0 spaces, meaning that all event parking would be on

the residential streets surrounding the Abbey. For more information, see the public hearing notice at <https://kingneighborhood.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/Alberta-Abbey-Public-Hearing.pdf>.

- Libby Deal (KNA at-large member) described a lawsuit that Restore Oregon has brought against the City regarding changes to the Central City 2035 Plan. See <https://restoreoregon.org/2019/09/03/saving-portlands-chinatown-japantown/>. Seven or eight neighborhood associations have already pledged support, including financial resources, for the lawsuit. The KNA board voted unanimously to support the lawsuit.
- Mark Takiguchi, Executive Director of the Alberta Abbey Foundation, announced that the Abbey will host “Race and Place: Racism and Resilience in Oregon’s Past and Future,” a free conversation with Anita Yap and Traci Price, on October 2. He said that this presentation will be the first of a series of conversations about race. Mark also mentioned that the Abbey will likely host an event for National Recycling Day in November.
- PBOT is hosting a community meeting and public open house to discuss the NE 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue Greenway project on Oct. 17, from 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM, at MLK Jr. Elementary School. For more information, go to <https://kingneighborhood.org/event/ne-9th-ave-neighborhood-greenway-community-meeting-public-open-house/>.