KNA Board Members Present: Amy Wilson, Cheri Folsom, Jacquie Walton, John Kim, Sarah Moses, Lavern Martin, Kellie Shaw, and Libby Deal.

Community Members Present: Nat Kim, Teresa McGrath, Allen Gurney, Mark Takiguchi, Mary Peveto, Darcell Dance, Misha Hashitani, Rana Uzzaman, Jenny Taylor

Old Business

Approval of KNA December minutes

- KNA meeting minutes from December 3, 2019 were approved as presented. Motioned by Amy, seconded by Jacquie, and approved unanimously.

New Business

Guest speaker Mary Peveto, President of Neighbors for Clean Air (http://www.whatsinourair.org/)

- Mary co-founded Neighbors for Clean Air in 2010 with friends and neighbors to work for stricter state standards to regulate air toxics in Oregon and to continue to strengthen and galvanize the citizen action necessary to effect change in regulating toxic air pollution.
- Mary calls herself an “accidental activist.” She started organizing neighbors and parents when she stumbled upon a national study published in 2008 that showed her daughters’ school to be ranked among the worst 2% in the nation for schools at risk to toxic industrial air pollution. Mary guides our policy work in addition to leading the organization as a whole.
- Mary talked about the 2016 US Forestry study that revealed heavy metal pollutants in moss in the Portland metro area. See https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jHy2qcxDLDM.
- Mary said that diesel emissions are the biggest pollutant in the Portland metro area. See https://www.opb.org/news/article/diesel-pollution-portland-reduce-lewis-clark/.
- During the Oregon 2019 legislative session, Mary’s organization help to pass HB 2007, which regulates diesel emissions from trucks in the Portland metro area. Trucks account for only 15 percent of the diesel emission problems, so Mary said that much more work needs to be done. To learn more about diesel pollution, go to http://www.whatsinourair.org/learn-more/diesel-particulates/.
- Mary’s organization, along with 20 co-signers, started a petition to get the Environmental Quality Commission (EQC) to adopt an “indirect source rule” so that other diesel emission producers can be regulated. An indirect source rule is a type of regulation that aims to improve air quality by reducing or restricting aggregate emissions from all mobile sources operating at, or associated with, an indirect source.
• For information about how you can help, go to http://www.whatsinourair.org/take-action/ or https://www.facebook.com/neighborsforcleanair.

Guest speaker Rana Uzzaman, Portland YouthBuilders (http://pybpdx.org/)

• The mission of Portland YouthBuilders (PYB) is to support young people who are committed to changing their lives to become self-sufficient, contributing members of the workforce and their community.
• PYB offers hope and a second chance at success for youth age 17-24 whose experiences with poverty, violence, drugs, hunger and loss have interrupted their route to success.
• Serving more than 200 young people a year, PYB offers a program of high school completion, vocational training, counseling, and support that helps our students find a new path and a clear vision of success filled with pride, leadership, and commitment to community.
• PYB offers two career tracks: construction and technology. After completing the program, PYB students earn from $25 to $30 an hour on average.
• PYB is currently offering a free 11-week construction training for high school graduates who are between the ages of 18 and 26. To apply, contact Sean at 503-286-9350 x235 or email sean.parks@pybpdx.org, or call Juli at 503-286-9350 x221 or email juli.michael@pybpdx.org.

Guest speaker Rachel Munzig, Co-Chair Portland Fruit Tree Project (https://www.portlandfruit.org/staff-board).

• Portland Fruit Tree Project is a grassroots 501(c)(3) non-profit gleaning organization that provides a community-based solution to a critical and growing need in Portland and beyond: access to healthy food. By empowering neighbors to share in the harvest and care of urban fruit trees, they prevent waste, build community knowledge and resources, and create sustainable ways to obtain healthy, locally-grown food.
• Through their Harvest Program and Community Orchards, they strive to improve the quality of life for people in Portland through the shared harvest and equitable distribution of one of our city’s greatest natural resources: fresh fruit!
• One in seven Oregonians faces food insecurity. Of the approximately 552,900 Oregonians who are food insecure, over 35% are children. And even more, people struggle to afford fresh produce, which is critical to healthful eating and prevention of diet-related disease. Portland Fruit Tree Project provides fresh fruit to those most in need in our community.
• If you want to share some excess fruit, you can join their Share in the Harvest Facebook Group to find neighbors near you who want to come harvest it. If you are interested in gleaning in your own neighborhood, you can use their group to find places where your neighbors need their fruit harvested.
• For more information about how you can get involved, go to https://www.portlandfruit.org/volunteer.
• PFTP is looking for a new Executive Director to lead the organization. Read the full job description here!

Mark Takiguchi, Executive Director, Alberta Abbey
• Mark said that he has talked to Natural Grocers management and they have agreed to provide up to 50 spaces in their parking lot during Abbey events.
• Mark discussed the upcoming hearing for Alberta Abbey’s application to legalize commercial use and the recently released staff report, which is available at https://www.portlandoregon.gov/bds/article/750789.
• The hearing for Alberta Abbey’s application is currently scheduled for January 15, at 9 AM, at 1900 SW Fourth Ave., Suite 3000.
• The deadline for comments is January 15, 2020. See the KNA blog for information about how you can submit testimony (https://kingneighborhood.org/update-alberta-abbey-s-application-for-commercial-use/).
• The KNA board agreed to take a position on two of the conditions of approval described in the staff report: limiting the size of events and the timeline for improving to the former church property to meet current building code.
• Jacquie Walton (KNA secretary) took an action item to draft a letter to the City stating the KNA’s position on Alberta Abbey’s application.

Kellie Shaw, KNA board member, DEI workshop

• Kellie offered to host a DEI (Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion) workshop for the KNA board members, and possibly other NA board members. Libby Deal took an action item to reach out to other NA board members about the workshop.
• Kellie is a racial equity and community advocate with a passionate commitment to social justice. She is the board president of TCS (https://www.tcspdx.org/our-people), and she volunteers as a facilitator at Resolutions Northwest.