

# ***King Neighborhood Association Membership Meeting Minutes***

Tuesday, August 8, 2023

## **KNA Board Members Present**

n/a

Absent: n/a

## **Community Members Present**

Joe Cowan  
John Kim  
Libby Deal  
Malissa Wehrli  
Martina Steinkuzs  
Melissa Katich  
Nat Kim  
Patrick Hannah  
River Hannah  
Stephanie Wax  
Theresa McGrath

**Without Board Members to call meeting to order nor to vote, meeting proceeded as an informal meeting.**

## **Old Business**

None (Without a functioning board, cannot vote on minutes)

## **New Business**

None (Without a functioning board, cannot proceed with board matters)

## **Open Forum**

### **1. Commissioner Gonzalez / Firefighters Community Event**

Commissioner Gonzalez's team sent out an open invitation to an event to be held on August 17<sup>th</sup>, at Firestation #14 on NE Killingsworth. John mentioned to meeting attendees that this would be potentially a good opportunity for community

members to bring their concerns forward to Commissioner Gonzalez. Given that neighbors have so many issues, this would be an opportunity to bring those concerns directly forward to someone that might be in a position to address those concerns.

## **2. Commissioner Mapps Community Town Hall at Alberta Abbey**

John reported that Commissioner Mapps' team had responded indicating that they would be interested in attending a town hall hosted by the KNA and Alberta Abbey foundation, but there were no further details. (Update: this will be discussed more in the September meeting, but Commissioner Mapps has agreed to a community meeting at the Abbey, and right now, it's looking like it will be tentatively held sometime in October. Exact details and dates are still being worked out).

## **3. Use of Streets for Business Parking (Auto Repair)**

Martina has reported that an auto repair business on Dr MLK Jr. Boulevard, has been parking cars they're servicing on adjacent neighborhood residential streets. Martina says that this practice has been excessive, with several cars being parked off lot, and has been going on for some time. The previous owners had been very respectful and this was never an issue under their tenure. But since a new owner took over, that owner has not respected their neighbors, who now have to deal with not being able to park their cars anywhere near their homes, which is more than an inconvenience, as it is distressful to neighbors with limited mobility, parents with young children, and neighbors carrying heavy loads, such as groceries. Contact with the owner of the auto repair business has not resulted in any changes. It was reported that the new owner doesn't seem to care about the neighbors' concerns in this regard.

There was some discussion about the KNA reaching out to try and negotiate a good neighbor agreement between the business and the neighbors. However, this would have to wait until there is a seated board able to vote on this action.

Update: upon research, it turns out that businesses are not allowed to park client vehicles on neighborhood streets and must keep those vehicles on their own premise. Ref: <https://www.portland.gov/code/16/20/160>

That said, even though it appears that this practice is illegal, it comes down to enforcement. Currently calls for action from Police and other City agencies to address non-emergency issues are often met with inaction and at best, an apologetic statement of helplessness due to oft-cited factors such as manpower and budget.

Recommend that we discuss potential next steps in the upcoming KNA meeting.

## **4. Graphic Design Help**

Patrick mentioned having contacts with a design firm. Martina asked him if he could reach out and see if they would be interested in doing some work for the KNA, for upcoming initiatives such as the KNA Farmers Market booth and other upcoming community events.

## **5. Intersection Street Art**

Joe picked up on a topic he had brought up in the July meeting, regarding painted streets and street intersections, which Portlanders can see throughout the city. Libby was able to offer Joe some advice and it was suggested that research would need to be done as there had been a defined process prior to the pandemic, as well as resources to help neighbors effect these projects. Joe had already volunteered to be the driver on this and will report back on his efforts. He believes that such projects will be good to help build community and help children develop art skills and confidence with such projects. Being an artist himself, Joe is very keen to see more community art projects take place in King.

Update:

Apply for a Street Painting permit

<https://www.portland.gov/transportation/permitting/street-painting>

The City Repair Project – The City Repair Project educates and inspires communities and individuals to creative transform the places where they live.

<https://cityrepair.org/>

VBC 2023 Project Proposal

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc1I3BdsV-5QQ1euOx-d7RlpwxSMp7CfZbXwwFVujUiiZarUw/viewform>

**Meeting was adjourned**