

King Neighborhood Association Membership Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, June 6, 2023

Virtual Meeting

KNA Board Members Present

n/a

Absent: n/a

Community Members Present

John Kim

Kathleen McConnell, Sabin Community Association Land Use and Transportation Committee

Leah Mocsy, Executive Director Alberta Abbey Foundation

Martina Steinkuzs

Nat Kim

Patrick Hannah

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. Alberta Abbey Foundation

Guest speaker, Leah Mocsy, Executive Director of the Alberta Abbey Foundation started the evening off. She gave an overview of some of the community events being hosted at the abbey, including: the Writers' Group on the first Monday of each

month, the Reggae Showcase, typically held on the last Sunday of each month, and ongoing community events for seniors.

Like many venue providers, Alberta Abbey Foundation struggled during the Covid Pandemic. Right now, they're looking for ways to engage the community and to expand on their mission of serving the community at large, and their ongoing support of the BIPOC community. As such, they're open to be contacted by community organizations who would like to partner and make use of the Abbey space for community events. Interested parties can go to the volunteer page on the Abbey website: albertaabbey.org/get-involved.

We discussed the foundation's offer of giving neighbors a two-for-one deal (not valid for all shows) for all Portland neighbors and what the requirements would be. (There will be another more specific post on this later with details on how neighbors can claim this offer).

2. Sabin Community Association

Kathleen McConnell was next, giving us an overview of what the Sabin Community Association is up to. For instance, they are hosting an upcoming community event, along several other area neighborhood associations and the NECN, featuring Commissioner Gonzalez.

They also have public viewings of family-friendly movies at Jefferson High School (\$5 but Jefferson High School students get in for free by showing a student ID), and open mic nights. She suggested that the KNA could contact CNA social event organizer, Javier, if the KNA needs help setting up same.

We had to explain to Kathleen that the KNA has had insufficient board members since the advent of the pandemic and that we cannot officially vote on anything until the required positions have been filled.

3. Block Party with Kent Ford

Martina reported on her attendance at this event featuring headliner, Kent Ford, co-founder of the Portland chapter of the Black Panther Party. Martina was able to make a number of connections and gather phone numbers to continue the conversation of seeing where the KNA can work with other organizations at work in the neighborhood, as well as harnessing their help for efforts put forward by the KNA.

4. Traffic Safety on Prescott Street

Patrick Hannah, who lived near 11th and Prescott, has personally witnessed a number of accidents. By coincidence, there was a fatal accident in this vicinity only a few days before the meeting that underscored this reality.

Patrick attended a community meeting at Sabin Elementary where PBoT addressed the community. Unfortunately, PBoT didn't have any solutions for Patrick beyond what they have done to date: lowering the speed limit to 24 mph; prohibiting parking near intersections for pedestrian visibility; pruning trees for better visibility.

PBoT felt that Prescott was not as bad as some streets and that it wouldn't be getting the same attention as what they feel to be more problematic streets that make up its High Crash Network, which cumulatively account for 60% of Portland's fatal crashes, despite being only a fraction of the number of streets overall.

Nonetheless, PBoT promised to take another look later and said that it would install some speed displays and radar electronic signs to discourage speeding.

Neighbors were not satisfied that this was enough, pointing out that few are respecting the speed limit, no matter what is posted, and that the street has become a racing course, especially late at night. Neighbors are subjected to the noise and danger on a constant basis. They have started an Instagram page, @slowdownonprescott, for neighbors to submit their photos and accounts, in hopes of building up empirical evidence to convince PBoT to take their concerns more seriously. Principally they are after traffic controls, such as speed bumps, that will enforce a safer speed without human oversight.

Meeting was adjourned