

Board members in attendance: Chris Hyde, Katie Davenport, Mary Cal Hanson

Public in attendance: Geoff Hyde, Merryl Mix, Val Smith, Jamie Melchert, Ryan Reagan, Tony Hill, Janet Brandt

The agenda was approved unanimously with some minor changes in time of presentation.

The Police Report: Tony Hill and Ryan Reagan were kind enough to attend tonight's meeting and explained to those in attendance the most recent police activity within the Grant Park neighborhood. Luckily the main sort of illegal activity is day time burglaries.

Treasury report: Raj was not in attendance so no report.

Land Use: There was mention of the issue that Irvington neighborhood is having due to the establishment of the historic district and the high cost of remodel projects due to the new guidelines for historic preservation. We hope that a representative from the Irvington will be able to be at the next meeting to discuss this issue.

New business: Val Smith and Jamie Melchert were here to be introduced to the GPNA members and to explain their new School of Experiential education that will open in the GP Baptist Church. The opening was November 7th 2011. Current stats include: 5 students increasing to 12 by January. Val and Jamie are the owners and teachers and another teacher will be hired in January. There is a chef on site. The philosophy is similar to that of Montessori. They are going to touch bases with the Hollywood staff and will eventually have children in class all day.

Next to speak was Janet Brandt from Resolutions Northwest. This group is made of volunteers available for neighborhood mediation. Mediation needs can be needed for any of the following groups or individuals. Businesses, land lords, tenants, neighborhood noise issues or land disputes. Resolution meetings usually last about 2 hours with the help of a facilitator. The funding for this free or low cost service is derived from grants and fund raising activity. There are multilingual counselors available. Hours of operation are Monday through Friday usual business hours. There is no charge for individuals and a sliding scale or very low fee for family sessions. The business is located at NE 44th and Sandy Avenue.

Bylaws: The members in attendance reread the GPNA bylaws through for a second time. There was an item that came up regarding the omission of the Treasurer.

Donation Request form: this form was reviewed by those in attendance as there were revisions from the last meeting. The 1st page includes the guidelines, info and priorities. The second page is the actual form that the requesting party must complete and send into the GPNA for review. Groups can then send the form into the PO Box, email to the website or drop off to a board member who will bring it to the next meeting.

Grant Park tree removal: Chris brought up the issue that there had been several large, old trees removed from Grant Park. She did a bit of research and discovered that they were removed due to instability in structure, insect infestations and limb loss. The city does plan to replace the trees that have been removed.

Dog Park area: There have been new signs set up in and around Grant Park lately. The information isn't new, but as there have been complaints the city decided to make the rules more clearly available and reduce confusion about the dog areas. Ali Ryan is the City of ODX dog park contact. She will be attending an upcoming meeting to inform the group of what changes are in place.

New business: The idea of reviewing the cost of the ads in our GPNA newsletter was brought up and will be reviewed at an upcoming meeting.

May 2011 and October 2011 meetings minutes were unanimously approved.

Recycling issues: Katie is a master recycler and was inquiring if there were any issues with the changes that the city has made with regard to the recycling changes. Geoff Hyde mentioned that they haulers are being much pickier about the weight of the garbage and recycling can weights. Katie mentioned that the city will be updating their website soon.

Friends of Grant Park fields (FGPF) update: The fund raising continues for the FGPF but this ran into a snag as the bond measure was voted down in November. The process regard the timeline of fund raising has been changed without public input. Has been changed to 2 phases. Grant Park bowl would be included in the first phase due to the larger size of the improvement to the field and such. The second phase would include the soccer field and baseball field. The plan by the city and parks and rec is to start the work this spring and finish by fall 2012. None of these changes were in the original agreement. And there is also less support from the soccer supporters.

Signage: Merryl Mix proposed looking into the purchase of better signage to notify the public of upcoming general meetings. She has volunteered to look into the cost and will report back to the GPNA with her results. She is thinking to copy the Sullivans Gulch signs.

Will notify Ron that since Liz was going to run the March 6th General meeting and is not available he will need to run that meeting. If he is unable to Katie Davenport volunteered to chair the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 pm

Minutes by Mary Cal Hanson