

GPNA Board meeting January 17, 2017

APPROVED

In attendance were Ron Laster, Jane Comeault, Brian Cefola, Mary Cal Hanson, Ken Peterson, and Stacey Tipp. Absent members included John Prell.

There were four guests including Laurene Mullen, Patrick Schmidt, Jeremy Richards (the new pastor at GPBC) and Alan Bates who spoke about ReachNow® Car Sharing in Portland.

The meeting was called to order by Ken Peterson. The members of the GPNA board were given name placards and then introductions commenced.

A review of the agenda was next and Ron requested the addition of some time at 7:10 to have the Treasurer's report. There was a motion made, seconded and approved to the addition of the Treasurers report and then the agenda was also approved.

The Nov 15, 2016 and Nov. 29, 2016 meeting minutes were reviewed for approval. The motions were made, seconded and approved. There were two abstentions for the Nov 29, 2016 meeting minutes.

Ron presented a quick overview of the Treasurer's report. There is currently \$8,872.32 in the GPNA account. This includes the recent addition of \$2250.00 from the CNN coalition. This amount is for our fiscal year 2016-2017. Brian inquired about any criteria for reporting on the use of these funds. Ken is on top of those reports and requirements and has to complete an action plan. These reports are then sent to the city of Portland for review and completeness.

Patrick Schmidt is a Grant Park neighbor who has been assisting the off leash dog area (DOLA) subcommittee, but who is not formally a member of the committee. He is interested in becoming an at large board member. A motion was made, seconded and approved unanimously to have Patrick join the GPNA board as an at large member. Welcome Patrick.

Alan Bates is here to inform the NA about a company by the name of ReachNow® car sharing program. Portland is the second city to have this exciting idea come to town. Seattle was the first city in April and ReachNow® (RN) started in Portland in September 2016. Portland Bureau of Transportation makes it a requirement to inform all of the NA because there may be company cars parked for a period of time in any given neighborhood. This company has a variety of vehicles to rent on a short term basis as another option for mobility in the city. These vehicles can carry four or five people. Alan mentioned that for every one car used for car sharing purposes seven to 11 vehicles leave an area. The current area that RN serves in Portland reaches north to Columbia Boulevard, south to West Moreland, west to Goose Hollow and east to 182nd Avenue. To find and pick up a RN vehicle you would need to add the app to your phone. There is also a number to call if you feel that a car has been parked in a neighborhood for too long. That phone number is 1-877-732-2466 and the car will be removed from the parking spot. This is a pay as you go service which comes to about \$0.49/min of use. This works out to about ½ the cost of either Uber or Lyft. The types of cars include: Mini Coopers, Mini Clubman, BMW models include the 3 series, x1 and I-3 which are an all-electric option. There are approximately 30 vehicles in the Portland area. RN has no vans/trucks. And lastly, when you use a RN vehicle you don't have to pay at a parking meter. Alan was also asked about writing a brief overview of this service for the next newsletter.

Update on the Dog Off Leash Area (DOLA): Ken reported that there have been two meetings. The first meeting was for “get acquainted” and goal setting. The second meeting was a field trip to Wallace Park to see how the DOLA there was set up. This information may be used to assist in the set-up of a future DOLA in Grant Park. There were some things at this DOLA Park that the group liked and some things that wouldn't be used/set up for our DOLA. Ken has also written and sent a letter to the Portland Parks and Rec (PPR) which has acknowledged receiving the letter. A phone call was then placed to PPR by Ken to the commissioner's administrative assistant who verified that there are “things in the works”. Going forward there will need to be a review of a potential new area to verify the feasibility of this area with PPR. Once that step is completed there would need to be a public meeting and notification to the adjacent neighbors. Ken will keep the board members informed as these things get rolling.

Next up is a Grant High School (GHS) Modernization and BDS hearing update. A question regarding the removal of the bleachers at the GHS track was brought up and after a bit of discussion it became clear to the group that this seemed very odd. Ken will follow up and attend the next planning meeting on the 25th of January and report his findings back to the board. GPNA is in favor of the GHS modernization project overall.

Ron and Ken gave the group a brief overview of a recent subcommittee meeting on the newsletter and some of the issues related to that process. Ron gave an overview to the group of all of the steps involved in the process to create, edit, print, collate and distribute the GPNA newsletter. Each step was discussed and a set schedule was agreed up for the newsletter timeline. The main people involved with this process seemed to come to an understanding and agreement on this process. Jane brought up the question of how to go about increasing the newsletter ads. The ad rates are on the GPNA website but should we add a one page insert into the newsletters that go to the various businesses in the neighborhood? Brian volunteered to create a draft insert for review. Ken mentioned that it would be nice to have additional people write some of the articles. He is happy to proofread and edit any articles for the newsletter.

Clean Up Committee: Stacey Tipp and Mary Cal Hanson have agreed to be co-chairs for the 2017 Clean UP. Jane has also offered to help in this endeavor. The first meeting will be in early February at CNN and both Stacey and Mary Cal will be attending. Then a date will be firmed up. Preferably the 20th of May is the first choice while the 6th of May could be the second choice. Stacey will check with the GP Baptist Church to make sure the parking lot would be available to the group for this fund raising event.

Emergency preparedness Update: Ron wanted to give a big thank you to Jane for being such a great coordinator of this very successful community event last week. Great job Jane! This event drew 64 people to the GPBC with nine of those in attendance volunteering to be on the GP Neighborhood Emergency teams (NET). The feedback was mostly very positive with 12 out of the 16 comment cards giving the event a 10. The next event will be on February 8th, 2017 and will feature Eric Hovmiller from the Irvington NET and Ian Timm from the Rose City Park NET. There is a possibility that these next two events will be videotaped somehow and be available to the public but that hasn't been finalized. There may also be another round of these events in the summer. Jane will keep the GPNA updated on this topic.

Central NE Neighborhood Coalition update: there haven't been any meetings recently due to the inclement weather.

Broadway-Weidler Alliance (BWA) update: the next meeting will be on the 30th of January. Ken will be attending. Ken has drafted a letter on behalf of the BWA regarding a request for a feasibility study of the Portland Streetcar. Dan Bower, Streetcar Executive Director, has mentioned that the BWA corridor may be the first in line for the next expansion of this service.

New Business: Ron requested that any newsletter articles be sent to Kate Davenport by March 17th, 2017. Bottle deposits for the Beverly Cleary- Fernwood School will be increasing in price from 5 cents to 10 cents in April. There was a question to see if there could be a more available option to drop off these items vs just at QFC on Saturdays from 4-8 pm. Brian will look into options and report back to the group. The money goes to the PTA.

Mary Cal presented a very large and nice thank you note from the children who put together the newsletters for distribution.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn this meeting at 8:15 pm

Minutes provided by Mary Cal Hanson