

Grant Park Neighborhood Association (GPNA) Board meeting minutes (APPROVED)

March 21, 2017

This meeting was called to order by Ken Peterson and an informal introduction of the GPNA board members present include Pat Schmidt, Jane Comeault, Ron Laster, Brian Cefola, Stacey Tipp and Mary Cal Hanson. There were also two neighbors attending Prashant Dubey and Sarah Geenen.

Ron moved to approved the agenda and Pat seconded the motion. The vote was taken and the agenda was approved as presented. The next order of business was the review and approval of the meeting minutes from the Special meeting from February 21, 2017. Ron made the motion to approve the minutes as presented, Pat seconded the motion. There were 3 abstentions from Brian, Jane and Mary Cal all of whom did not attend this meeting. Otherwise the minutes were approved

Jane was up next and gave a quick overview of the 3 Emergency preparedness forums that recently took place at the Grant Park Baptist Church. She mentioned that the feedback was positive from those who attended and that there were 10 new Grant Park residents who've signed up for the Neighborhood Emergency Team (NET) from these forums. Jane and the subcommittee hope to continue the momentum and possibly try to schedule another forum. Most likely it will be someone from the Red Cross. This may happen in June. The sub-committee would like to get more parents of the children in the neighborhood in attendance as there are 800 children who attend the Beverly Cleary/Fernwood campus. The subcommittee is looking into options to continue the liaison between the Grant Park neighbors and the NET.

Stacey Tipp is our liaison and has attended 2 of the recent Central Northeast Neighborhood Public Safety Action Committee (CNN PSAC) meetings. Some of the parties that regularly attend are the North Precinct police officer, a representative from the District Attorney's office and a public safety officer from the City and a variety of neighbors. The meetings take place at the CNN headquarters on 4415 NE 87th the second Wednesday of each month. There is also a "pre-meeting" option to discuss neighborhood specific issues like the homeless, crime/drug use in the neighborhood, illegal camping etc. Stacey also had the most recent page of emergency phone numbers to pass out. She also mentioned that there will be new rules coming about the parking of RV's on public streets.

The Grant Park Neighborhood Clean Up is May 20th, 2017 from 9 am until 1 pm. Mary Cal and Stacey are co-coordinating this event and have started getting vendors, volunteers and donations set up. Ronda Johnson at CNN has set up the haulers. Stacey made a great flyer that will be in the upcoming newsletter. Of note Stacey has coordinated with a volunteer from the William Temple house in Portland to set up a food donations barrel. The William Temple house provides counseling and social services for the poor. Ron made a motion to approve the food barrels at the Clean Up, Mary Cal seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Safe Routes to School was the next item on the agenda. Ken gave a summary of the recent meeting on this topic that he attended. There is \$768,000.00 in funds that can be used by the schools in the "Grant cluster". This is a large geographic area of the city and include Grant Park, Irvington and

Laurelhurst. The meeting was not well attended by the Grant Park neighbors. There were several board members and neighbors who mentioned that the Grant High school and Beverly Cleary Parent Teachers Association (PTA) along with the parents of these two schools all know about these funds and have been advertising these meetings. After some discussion on how best to proceed and try and get more neighborhood involvement Jane volunteered to contact the PTA president and the principal at the Beverly Cleary School to encourage them to coordinate another presentation by the Safe Routes to schools group but that the GPNA would not be responsible for coordinating the event. Ken will send Jane the contact information.

The bottle and can recycling program at the QFC market was brought up briefly. The group was given a conservative guess that since 2013 this program has generated roughly \$7000.00 of funds for the Beverly Cleary School PTA. These funds have no limits or restriction for their use.

Coming up in April there will be GPNA board member elections. A brief round table of who was still interested in their current positions or needing to make changes. Brian spoke up that he will not resume his Vice President position but will continue as the communication officer. Ron also offered up the extra duties that he dose as Treasurer to anyone in attendance but no one offered to take over that activity and Ron will continue in this position in addition to the Vice President position. Mary Cal has agreed to continue as secretary and Ken also agreed to continue as the President. The three "at large" members were quiet. The voting will take place during the April GPNA meeting.

The Office of Neighborhood Involvement (ONI) contact information was discussed briefly. It was decided that Mary Cal will deliver all mail that has been delivered to the GPNA Post Office box. As an aside Ron mentioned that there was a recent change in the directorship at ONI.

The Grant High School Modernization project with the Bureau of Development Services (BDS) Hearing is set for tomorrow (4/22/2017) and will be in downtown Portland at 9:00 am. This is a meeting that the public can bring up any issues that they have. The relevant information to the GPNA was just emailed to Ken this morning which is less than 24 hour notice. In the document there is very little information on the issues that have been brought up to the BDS regarding parking , traffic concerns, loss of park space due to the girls softball field expansion and loss of parking spaces. Since there has not been a consensus reached within the GPNA or concerned neighbors we as a group will not have a specific position on the project.

The Dog Off Leash Area (DOLA) subcommittee is up next. There have been two meetings for this group but Portland Park has been less than helpful in working with the members to try and develop a dedicated area in Grant Park park for a DOLA. Portland Park will be holding a public meeting at the Grant Park Baptist church on April 20th, 2017 from 6:30 until 8:00 on this topic. Ken has written an article for the upcoming newsletter. Pat made a motion to disband this subcommittee, Ron seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously. The group wanted to thank Ken and the group for the dedication and hard work to try and secure what would have been an asset to the neighborhood.

New business was next on the agenda. Ken mentioned that he had been contacted by a Girl Scout group who is interested in becoming involved with the GPNA. Not sure what this would entail but it is

exciting that there is some interest from this group. Ken will invite them to the next meeting. Jane brought up a great idea to remove all of the acronyms when printing the agendas. Several of the acronyms are confusing. Mary Cal brought forward a letter and flyer for the Portland Bureau of Transportations upcoming Sunday Parkways events. Stacey took the flyer to share with neighbors.

Jane made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Pat seconded the motion and there was a unanimous approval to adjourn this meeting at 8:27 pm

Minutes taken and submitted by Mary Cal Hanson