

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

April 18, 2017

The meeting was called to order by Ken Peterson at 7:08 pm. Since there were several neighbors and guests in the room the members of the board introduced themselves to the audience. Board members in attendance included Ken Peterson, Brian Cefola, Jane Comeault, Stacey Tipp, Ron Laster and Mary Cal Hanson. A list of attendees was filled out and will be kept on file.

Ron moved to approve the agenda for tonight's meeting. This was seconded by Brian and unanimously approved.

The March meeting minutes were next on the agenda and these were reviewed by the board. There were two slight modifications noted and then Ron moved to approve the March meeting minutes with the changes and again Brian seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.

Ron gave a brief overview of the amount of funds in the GPNA account. This amount was roughly \$8,400.00.

Mary Cal was up next to give an update on the May 20, 2017 GPNA Clean-Up. Things look to be on track. There aren't any vendors who are willing to come and pick up usable household items on a Saturday due to additional staffing and costs. A U-Haul truck will be rented to keep these items out of the garbage dumpsters at the end of the event. Stacey has confirmed 11 volunteers so far. There have been a few issues with dealing with the new neighborhood association (CNN) but these seem to be cleared up. Stacey has also procured some food donation barrels from the William Temple House. This is a nonprofit organization in the Portland area which provides mental health and other services to the citizens.

An update on the Safe Routes to Schools (SRS) program was presented by Jane. She has reached out to both the Beverly Cleary principal and the PTA but hasn't received any response to her two separate inquiries if the school will consider putting on a SRS program. John D'Avolio, who is a GP neighbor was in the audience and volunteered to address this lack of concern to the issue with the PTA as he will soon be a new member (his position will start in May). Jane will contact the Portland Bureau of Transportation and include Mr. D'Avolio in hopes that more interest in this important issue could get more exposure to the GP neighbors, parents and teachers.

The group was delighted that Barbara Smith Warner was able to be in attendance this evening. Ms. Smith-Warner is the State Representative for House District 45. This district includes Grant Park neighborhood in addition to several other neighborhoods in close proximity. Opening this discussion was a timeline and background of how she became involved and committed to politics in Oregon. She gave a lively overview of some of the pressing legislative issues that she is working on. First and foremost is the huge budget shortfall of \$1.6 billion for this biennium. Barbara then gave an analysis of how the state got to this point. She also gave a review of the tax system in Oregon and how it continues to fall short because both the income and property taxes fluctuate and we don't have a sales tax like most of the other states. Some of the other points of interest included some upcoming taxation ideas, bottle deposit tracking and some limitations caused by state laws that prohibit municipalities from creating new or additional tax revenue. One of her pet projects is to try and get more transparency in the depositable drink bottles from the distributors. She left her contact information with

the group and is happy to have anyone contact her to discuss these or other issues concerning the Oregon legislature. Barbara's contact info is rep.barbarasmithwarner@state.or.us.

The April meeting for Grant Park includes the voting of officers for the board. Ken took a straw vote at the last meeting and the board members agreed to continue in the following positions:

Ken Peterson- Will continue as President and Land Use representative.

Ron Laster- Vice President and Treasurer. He would like to give the treasurer position up to another board member but there were no volunteers and will continue in the Vice President position.

Brian Cefola-removed from Co-Vice President and will remain the Communications officer.

Mary Cal Hanson – Will remain on as the secretary.

Jane Comeault, John Prell, Stacey Tipp and Patrick (Pat) Schmidt will all continue as At Large members.

Fortunately another neighbor who was in the audience this evening, Olivia Louise would like to become an At Large GPNA board member. Ms. Louise gave us a bit of history and interest in the political process and her name was added to the preapproved slate mentioned above and Ron made a motion to approve the slate of officers and the addition of Olivia Louise. Mary Cal seconded the motion and the officer positions were approved unanimously.

New business was the next agenda item. Ron brought forth the idea that GPNA donate a \$100.00 for each Grant Park neighbor who completes the Neighborhood Emergency Team (Net) training. He would also like to have one or two of the GP neighbors who complete the training to be a liaison with the GPNA. This donation will be reviewed annually. A motion was made by Brian to allow \$100.00 to be available to any GP neighbors to cover the cost of the NET backpack items that are required to complete the certification. Jane seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously by the board members. Ron and Jane will collaborate with the Net subcommittee via email and include Mitch Schaub (?).

Ken then proposed a gift to Earnie Smith for acknowledgment of his outstanding service to the GPNA. Ron made the motion; it was seconded by Brian and approved. Ken will procure a bottle or six (for the discount) of wine to be given to Earnest.

Finally, Mary Cal brought forth a notice that the Hollywood Star newspaper has inquired about GPNA purchasing an ad in the May newspaper. Upon review of the size, price and payback it was decided not to pursue any ads at this time with the Hollywood Star.

Ken made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9 pm, it was seconded and unanimously approved.

The minutes were taken and submitted by Mary Cal Hanson