



# Grant Park

## Neighborhood Association

Special GPNA board member orientation meeting. May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022, via Zoom @ 7:00 pm. (APPROVED)

Board members in attendance this evening includes Ron, Stacey, Neon, Mary Cal, Jessica, Marion, Mary, Kara, Tom. Gary Stamps is here as a guest but is requesting an at large GPNA board membership. Excused absences include Laurene and Linda.

Ron started the meeting at 7:03 with current board members self-introductions. At this time Neon clarified that she is both the vice president and Land Use chair.

Ron then requested two changes to the posted agenda: The two items are Land Use updates and CNN representation. With these two changes the motion was made by Marion to approve the updated agenda and that was seconded by Neon. All voting members approved the agenda as updated with no oppositions or abstentions.

Gary Stamps is interested in becoming an official GPNA Board member at large. Gary gave a brief overview as to his interests and it was agreed unanimously to add Gary to the position of board member at large. Welcome Gary.

Mary was up next and mentioned her interest in new opportunities and a better understanding of what the NA does for the neighborhood. Also liked the idea of the Clean Up. Kara too wants to be more involved with the neighborhood and is interested in filling any gaps in the NA. She too is interested in the Clean Up.

Ron then transitioned into some ideas about possible ideas to get reinvolved with the community. Remembering the great turnout for the Earthquake preparedness forums held about 3 years ago. All three evening discussions were very well attended. So, he encouraged the group to be thinking about coming up with ideas for activities like that.

The GPNA board members are covered by the insurance that the city of Portland provides. And regarding GPNA board members voting on issues it usually is only the board members who vote but on occasion, if there is a very popular topic with lots of neighbors in attendance there can be a 'straw vote' to get a feel for how the neighbors feel about the issue. But at the end of the day only board members get to vote. This is in line with the recommendations from Robert's Rules.

Ron requested a review of the upcoming meeting dates. Stacey supplied that info as June 28<sup>th</sup>, and October 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022. Then in 2023 the meeting dates are January 10<sup>th</sup> and April 11<sup>th</sup>.

Discussion points with Neon: 1) Zoom links on the GPNA website? It sounds as if the Hollywood NA (HNA) has an email list of the neighbors who are interested in joining the HNA meetings. Questions arose re: who would be responsible for this email list, who and how to maintain the email info and would/could this email list also be used as an electronic list for a e-letter vs or in addition to the paper format that GPNA currently uses.

Ron agreed with Neon that the website is a passive connecting option for the neighbors.

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2) Neon's next point was that we as a group would need to come up with some protocols to have as a guideline for this process of a new email list for Grant Park neighbors.

This brought up the question of who and how are the emails that get sent to the GPNA website reviewed, replied to and/or shared? Currently Ron is the sole recipient of these very few emails to the GPNA website. Ron will send the emails that need to have some board review to the board members to weigh in on. And if the topic is board member specific then he sends them to the appropriate board member.

It was discussed that just Ron, Neon and Stacey receive the emails but then upon reflection the group thinks that some sort of protocol should be written for the steps of when to share and when to not share emails. Ron thinks that all board members should receive the emails to share the info equally. But there was a point brought up about response etiquette. Again, Neon volunteered to come up with a template for this process.

Neon made a motion to start posting the meeting agenda and the Zoom link on the website. In addition, adding an electronic version of the newsletter into the website. The board members agreed with this motion unanimously.

Stacey was up next to discuss the newsletter and all the work that goes into that product. She gave a quick overview as to how she has come up with some of the recent articles, but she would really love other board members to try and write an article or two if possible. She tries hard to keep the articles about the Grant Park neighborhood. She then brought up the issue of the reciprocal agreement between the Grant Park Church and the GPNA. This was an arrangement whereby the GPNA would have use of a meeting space for all their meetings and in exchange the grant Park church received free advertisement in the newsletter.

Stacey made a motion to rescind the free advertising in the GPNA newsletter. Jessica seconded this motion. All members but Mary Cal agreed with this motion and Mary Cal abstained.

Tom brought up the idea of in person meetings. Ron chimed in that he has been trying to take the steps that CNN has been sharing with the NA's. Currently CNN is not having in person meetings. The added note was whatever format gets the most neighbors involved is the goal. Tom also mentioned the possibility of "hybrid" NA meetings. Not sure how that would work but will be discussed at an upcoming meeting.

The question of a Summer Social for the Board was also discussed. Ron has requested that everyone send him days of the week, week of the months and month of the summer – June, July and August that might work for each board member.

In that similar vein the question re: where meeting have taken place. As mentioned previously the Grant Park church had been the primary meeting place. Although pre-Covid the GPNA did have two meetings in the new area of Grant High school (GHS). Some of the pro's and con's were discussed for both places. At Grant Park church the meeting area varied depending on other activities in the church, number of attendees and access. As for GHS – the rooms also varied, they were sometimes difficult to locate and depending on the size of the room discussion could be difficult to hear clearly. Some history was shared that both GHS and Fernwood would be a meeting place until they wanted to charge GPNA for the room. That was when the GPNA moved the meetings to the church. More to discuss and decide at an upcoming meeting.

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Previously Lois, a former GPNA board member wondered about the possibility of board members who might want some business cards to share with neighbors. If this is something that you would like, please let Ron know via email and he will get some printed up for you.

Grant Park school liaison is a position that is needing to be filled. This position would have a board member engage with the many schools within the neighborhood boundary to encourage interaction and collaborations if possible. It would be nice to contact the principals of those neighborhood schools. Gary Stamps has volunteered and is interested in this position.

Next up is the Charter Review committee liaison. Every 10 years the city of Portland reviews their next 10-year plan as a committee on how city business is done. This committee includes 20 members from the community. There are some voting dynamics: if there are greater than or equal to 15 committee members who agree on a topic/issue – that item goes directly to the voters for approval or denial. If there are < 15 members who agree on an issue, then this issue goes to the city council for approval to be placed on the ballot or not. The Portland city council is comprised of 4 commissioners and the mayor. Currently the commission has agreed unanimously to change the city of Portland's form of government by adding a city manager. This is a form of government used in many cities use. Ron would like someone from the board to try and attend some of the meetings. There would be three representatives from the four quadrants of the city- NE, SE, SW and NW areas. Again – please notify Ron if you are interested in learning more about this position and what it entails and would require time wise. The meetings are roughly every two months or so.

Website manager- volunteers? This position would include maintenance of the GPNA website by putting up the meeting agendas, meeting minutes, Zoom links etc. There could be an events tab in addition to the meetings tab info. Keeping the website up to date and cleaned up for ease of use would be nice too. Mary, one of the new board members has volunteered to work on the website and coordinate thins with Sharon Colombo. Thank you, Mary.

Ron would also like a board member to consider training up to be a Parliamentarian for the group. This position makes sure that the meeting processes are followed. Typically, the base format follows Roberts Rules and helps assist in the decisions when there is a stalemate.

Topics for Community Engagement/Forums: please share any ideas that you can think of to bring in neighbors and assist in group discussions. The most recent and very popular forum held by GPNA was the Emergency response programs. This consisted of three separate evening discussions and engagements to educate the community about emergency preparedness. All three evenings were well attended. Send all ideas to Ron.

New Business: Newsletter info re: the merging of the Hollyrood and Beverly Cleary/Fernwood (BCF) elementary campuses. Going forward the GHS students will be using the Hollyrood campus for classes due to the increased number of GHS students. Neon will write up an article for the upcoming newsletter. Mary had a question regarding the class size capacity at the BCF campus. She too will help Stacey with the newsletter.

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Land Use updates: The Aircraft building on the corner of NE 33<sup>rd</sup> and NE Broadway is proceeding very slowly. The primary concern in the Land Use arena is traffic safety and safe street crossings. CNN Land Use meetings could really use a representative from the GPNA. Kara may be interested in this activity. Tom inquired as to the frequency of the CNN land Use meetings. And the answer was “sporadically” and primarily when there are pressing Land Use issues.

Mary Cal made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Tom seconded the motion and all voting members in attendance agreed to adjourn this meeting at 8:38 pm

Meeting minutes taken/types by Mary Cal Hanson GPNA secretary