



# Grant Park

## Neighborhood Association

### GPNA General meeting October 12, 2021, via ZOOM (APPROVED)

GPNA Board members in attendance included Ron Laster, Stacey Tipp, Neon Brooks, Lois Okrasinski, Linda Burch, Marion Horna and Mary Cal Hanson. Absent members were Laurene Mullen, Jessica Decker and Vivek Kothari

Guest speakers included DJ Heffernan for WeShinePDX and Kiley Yuthas for Transition Projects.

Neighborhood attendees were Debra Brooks and Dan Hurwitz, Jennifer Crowell

Ron started the meeting at 7:04 pm with a call to order. GPNA board members introduced themselves as did those neighbors and presenters in attendance at this time.

Next up was the approval of a modified agenda which Neon made a motion to accept and Linda seconded. The amended agenda was approved.

The draft meeting minutes from the June 8, 2021, GPNA meeting were reviewed, and Lois made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Stacey seconded the motion. The past meeting minutes are approved and will be sent on to CNN by Mary Cal Hanson.

Ron shared the updated Treasurer report to all board members. A motion was made to approve the report and Lois moved to approve the report and Mary Cal seconded the motion as presented.

Land Use updates by Neon -First up was the confirmation that the Upper fields at Grant High School and this project should be completed by March 2022. Neon gave an overview of her great article about the traffic adjustments that should be coming up soon regarding NE 33<sup>rd</sup> and the corners of NE US Grant Place and NE Hancock avenue.

A motion was made for Neon to write and send a thank you note to PBOT for this traffic improvement project. Linda moved to approve the letter and Lois seconded.

Up next was a quick overview of the latest developments on the Hollywood Hub project. There are still many steps that need to be completed but their work is proceeding. There was discussion about "vacating" NE 42<sup>nd</sup> Avenue. Which seems to be a consideration to closed NE 42<sup>nd</sup> in the future. That seemed a of a vague description of their plans.

The NE Broadway Speed and Pedestrian safety issues were addressed by DJ Heffernan. They are trying to petition the city of Portland to reduce the speed on NE Broadway to 25 mph (down from 30 mph) between NE 7<sup>th</sup> to NE 39<sup>th</sup> or so.

Ron gave a quick review from the last Central NE Neighbors (CNN) meeting. Lois had also attended. Items of interest included Trees for Life which is a program to promote taller trees and a better tree canopy throughout the district. The new "tax finance district" in the Cully neighborhood was discussed briefly. CNN is wanting to figure out how to have a better relationship with the city of Portland. And Lois mentioned a Slow Street Program.

**P.O. Box 13102, Portland, OR 97**



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Our first guest was D.J. Heffernan representing a new nonprofit, tax exempt nonprofit (501(c) 3) – WeShinePDX @ [www.weshinepdx.org](http://www.weshinepdx.org). They are a small group of volunteers from the Laurelhurst, Sullivans Gulch and Kerns neighborhood who are trying to create temporary small-scale villages within inner NE neighborhoods. This group contact property owners to get temporary moveable homes and needed facilities to help our city homeless citizens. “Guest” will be required to be screened, sign a “Good neighbor” agreement to abide by certain neighborly standards. They are not allowed to use alcohol or drugs on the premises. Different genders and gender identification groups will be separated. This current place in east of the old Gordons fireplace store. They won’t be housing women with children at this site if it goes forward.

The next guest speaker was Kiley Yuthas from Transition Projects in Portland. Kylie gave a brief but very encompassing overview of many of the great programs in place for homeless citizens on Portland. Transition Projects is a older established social network for the homeless. They oversee the neighborhood homeless shelter at the Banfield hotel which has 60 beds. This hotel houses medically vulnerable who may or may not have pets. Kylie recommended checking out their website for more information @ [tprojects.org](http://tprojects.org). This group is also looking for volunteers in several different capacities.

#### New Business:

Ron requested that the GPNA response to the Grant High School principal Mr. McGee as an Open Letter to the Community be placed in the record. The motion carried first by Linda and seconded by Marion. The motion was agreed to by all board members in attendance.

Ron then wanted to discuss an agenda for the November GPNA. Wondering if a meeting in November is appropriate since the October meeting was pushed out a month in coordination with the newsletter delivery schedule. We will need to set a schedule for 2022 meetings and newsletter timeline. Ron shared with a packet to all board members that includes the bylaws, board member responsibilities. In addition, we’ll need to do some housekeeping duties before the next election in May 2022.

He’d also like to engage the People for Portland (P4P) group soon. CNN doesn’t seem too interested in getting this group engaged. If we did get a representative from P4P to join a GPNA meeting, we would want to make it very clear that this would be an informational meeting.

Additionally we discussed devoting the November meeting as a follow up to the safety meeting held in September watermark by inviting Jacob Brostoff and neighbor who had attend that meeting.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting first by Mary Cal and seconded by Neon at 9:08 pm