

Minutes of the Grant Park Neighborhood Association Board Meeting

April 10, 2018

Board Members in Attendance: Mary Cal, Ken, Ron, Jane, John

Regrets: Patrick

Agenda

Call to order at 7:03

Review and approve agenda.

- Ron moved, John seconded, agenda was approved.

Review of minutes.

- One change noted by Ron, Mary Cal will amend and the revised minutes will be posted. Jane made a motion to approve the minutes, Ron seconded. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report – Ron

- Ron provided a chart with recent deposit and withdrawals. In summary, we have \$7567.54 in the bank.

Election of Officers – Ken

- A poll of current Board members intention for this year's Board slate: Ken Peterson is willing to remain President, Ron Laster willing to remain Vice President and Treasurer, Jane Comeault will step forward as Secretary, John Prell would like to remain Member at Large, Patrick Schmidt would like to remain Member at Large, Mary Cal Hanson would like to be a Member at Large. New members stepped forward: Neon Brooks nominated herself to be a member at large, as did Greg Nika.
- Ron moved that we accept the slate of existing candidates plus the two new members at large. John seconded. Motion approved.

The 2018-2019 Grant Park Neighborhood Association Board is

President and Land Use Chair – Ken Peterson

Vice President and Treasurer – Ron Laster

Secretary – Jane Comeault

Members at Large – Mary Cal Hanson, John Prell, Patrick Schmidt, Neon Brooks, and Greg Nika

- Comments followed about voting rights of the Board, and that Members at Large can be added at any time throughout the year.

Selection of 2018 Meeting Dates

- The Board meets four to five times per year, but can add meetings as issues arise. We can also add Special Meetings (seven day advance notice) or Emergency Meetings (as much notice as possible). Ken proposed the following dates for 2018 (all Tuesdays): June 5, September 11, and November 13. The dates were approved by the Board members.

Clean up Report – Mary Cal

- We are set to go on Saturday May 19th, Jeremy (Grant Park Church Pastor) is trying to rally members of the church to volunteer. We will be taking scrap metal, e-waste, have a free area, The Rebuilding Center, and of course garbage. We are getting up to six dumpsters this year. \$10 per car, \$20 per truck. We have three volunteers so far, in addition to Mary Cal, Jane and Kate. Lis Cooper from NET said that the NET team is interested in volunteering, Mary Cal will coordinate with her regarding timing. Kate Davenport, Master Recycler, will be there to help sort items.

Newsletter and Website Update – Ken

- Stacey Tipp just moved to Florida, we could really use more people contributing, editing, etc. Greg volunteered to speak with a high school neighbor about submitting an article.
- We have a volunteer working on updating the GPNA website, thank you and much needed!

Grant Park Neighborhood Emergency Team (NET) Report – Lis Cooper

- Lis Cooper, Grant Park NET Team Leader has been in the neighborhood since 1981, she had some emergency training background and is happy to serve on the NET. Other members in attendance, John D'Avolio, has three kids, been in GP for about six years, and Steve Haber, has been in the neighborhood for about two years.
- Grant Park has about 20 people on the NET. The GPNA Board is enthusiastic and appreciative of the NET. The NET is also appreciative of the Neighborhood Association.
- Lis shared some maps of how the NET team has divided up the neighborhood. The ABCDEFG areas are how the team has broken down the entire neighborhood into reasonable areas.

- The map includes some unaffiliated areas. Steve asked if GPNA could bring some of the unaffiliated areas into our NA because at present it is uncertain who would be helping them. Ken agreed that GPNA can commit to doing that, but there is a formal process to follow.
- Net has approximately 20 members trained, not everyone comes to meetings. About 15 people come to meetings regularly. They have teachers, medical professionals, retired folks, and other skills such as carpentry, electrician, HAM radio operators. The City is actively recruiting more people to get trained and also offer continued training for current NET members.
- NET members are not professionals, They are volunteers. Their first priority is to ensure their own safety and their families safety. GP NET members have already been active in warming shelters, and they are on call for a variety of emergencies that crop up.
- Steve added information about downed powerline training that he attended. If a powerline goes down, rather than a trained professional standing around to make sure no one goes near it and a NET member can do that job, freeing up the professional to do other work. NET members are “multipliers”.
- Lis offered that they could go over an operations plan at an upcoming Board meeting, or at an open house. There was general interest in doing this.
- There are several categories of volunteers. One level is the trained NET member. Another is an SUV: Spontaneous Untrained Volunteer, spontaneous volunteer in the event of a disaster, a role is delegated to them in the moment. Affiliated Trained Volunteer (ATV): EG Morgan West is a firefighter. He can't serve on NET because he will be at work. Emphasis is on safety, and emphasis on training.
- They meet once a month, at the Grant Church.
- Several NET members are parents of kids at our neighborhood schools. Making Fernwood safe is a very high priority for the team.
- Looking for help with Map Your Neighborhood. This would help NET to identify SUVs and ATVs and also who in the neighborhood has extra needs. It can be done by hosting a block party or neighbors in your home. Not looking for formal GPNA help, this will need to be organic for privacy reasons. Perhaps we could include a newsletter article about this and include an offering to send a person to block parties this summer. NET members to write an article and will coordinate with Ken about the deadline.
- NET would like to have funding to get an emergency cache. At present, each individual volunteer has their own backpack and first aid supplies. They need much more, including items that cannot be carried around in backpacks. For example, tent, pry bars, water/ sewerage supplies, food, first aid, tarps, cots, coolers, etc. Also need a secure and safe place to store it, because they want to keep it private, if anyone has ideas please share privately with the NET team. Could be a smallish

room or shed but has to be an earthquake safe building. Maybe the Grant Park Village building? Are there any grants available? The Board invited NET to apply for a grant, and also look at the CNN grant program for another possible source of funding.

- Ron offered to have a donation box for the NET team at the neighborhood clean up event.

GPNA Goal Setting for 2018

- Ken suggested that we defer the goal setting. Reserve this to do it with the new Board at a following meeting.

New Business

Jane – Donation to Beverly Cleary School Auction

- Beverly Cleary School Auction on Friday, May 4th. Jane asked for a budget of up to \$150 to purchase emergency supply gear as a donation to the school's silent auction. Ron made a motion to approve, John seconded. Motion carried.

Jane – Letter of Support for Beverly Cleary School Seismic Safety Committee Advocacy Work

- Jane is serving with several other BCS parents on a safety committee focused on earthquake preparedness. One of the things they are planning is to advocate for structural upgrades to be completed at the Fernwood campus. The BCS safety committee would appreciate a letter of support from GPNA as a show of broad community concern and support for the work.
- Ken suggested that we could also ask CNN to sign off, Ron will take it to the next CNN meeting.
- A comment was made that the letter should go to all of the School Board, School Board Safety Committee, and School Administrator. This is definitely the intent, as well as the PPS Bond Accountability Committee and State Representatives and staff.
- Ron moved that GPNA responds with a letter to that effect to PPS, Mary Cal seconded. Jane will draft the letter.

Ron - Update from CNN

- The City intends to revise the name of the Office of Neighborhood Involvement. It wants to evolve into something very different with the intention to add voices to the table who have not been heard from frequently in the past. There are differing opinions about the direction the city is taking. There are rumors of upcoming budget cuts, perhaps merging district coalitions.

Ken - Jacksons Convenience Store and Gordon's Fireplace Shop Building Updates

- Gordons: the firm hired to rehabilitate the Gordon's building specializes in historic restoration. Ken and someone from Sullivan's Gulch Neighborhood Association was in touch with Emerick Architects are doing the design. The Jackson's Convenience Store is being redesigned by a firm and Seth Garey is lead designer. Ken expects to have a meeting with him together with Sullivan's Gulch NA in the near future.

Greg - Proposed Parking Zone

- Greg has lived in the neighborhood for 14 years. There was a presentation about a proposal to create a restricted parking zone that bridges Sullivan's Gulch as well as Grant Park by Sullivan's Gulch resident, Nicolas Dodge, at the last GPNA meeting. There are both parking and safety concerns, especially around Fred Meyer. The problem is anticipated to worsen due to increased density being constructed in the area.
- The proponents of the parking zone in Sullivan's Gulch expanded north of Broadway to Grant Park neighborhood because there are a minimum number of blocks that need to be included to create a parking zone.
- Greg has some concerns that parking issues, to the extent they exist, are different north of Broadway compared to south of Broadway. Greg met with PBOT and conducted some research.
- The process going forward is this: If the proponent of the parking zone is successful in getting 50% of the signatures from people living on the affected blocks, then a series of steps would have to be followed, including the necessity of the NA forming a Parking Committee. After ballots are sent out, fifty percent of people need to return the ballot, and of those returned ballots, 60% must be in favor.
- Greg was concerned that misinformation is being spread. For example, the proposal for the parking zone suggests that increased police traffic would happen in the area but PBOT clarified that it is just parking patrol and only during the window of time the parking restriction is in place (i.e. 9 am to 7 pm).
- For people on Schuyler, non-resident parking is mostly from people visiting Broadway businesses for less than two hours (the parking restriction would be a two-hour zone). It is not worth it, because our problems are different from those south of NE Broadway.
- Greg didn't know the current status of the petition.
- Greg will write an article with an update on this issue and additional information from the previous article for the June newsletter.

Mary Cal - Clean up

- We need more yard signs printed and would like to purchase a small first aid kit. Mary Cal made a proposal to spend up to \$500 to purchase six new yard signs and a first aid kit. John made a motion, Ron seconded.

Adjourn

- John made a motion to adjourn. Mary Cal seconded. Time was about 8:45 pm.