



P.O. Box 13102, Portland, OR 97213

spring 2017

Save the Date!

2017 Neighborhood Cleanup
Saturday May 20 • 9 am - 1 pm

GPNA moves from NECN to CNN

After careful consideration and discussion GPNA has moved affiliations from Northeast Coalition of Neighborhoods (NECN) to Central Northeast Neighbors (CNN). Beyond issues at NECN, the Board found that the CNN focus is more compatible with the mission of GPNA. The motion to change affiliation was approved in September with five members voting in favor, one member voting against, and one member abstaining. The actual change happened through the Portland Office of Neighborhood Involvement (ONI).

GPNA is now affiliated through CNN with: Beaumont-Wilshire, Cully, Hollywood, Madison South, Rose City Park, Roseway, Sumner, and Sunderland neighborhoods. Also, please note our new GPNA contact email address: general@grantpark-na.org

More in upcoming issues.

Get involved in Public Safety

On the second Wednesday of each month, there is a meeting of the Public Safety Action Committee (PSAC) held at the Central Northeast Neighborhoods (CNN) coalition at their offices at 4415 NE 87th Ave. This is an opportunity for the neighborhood associations in CNN, and members of the general public to work together in problem-solving crime and livability issues in NE Portland.

The meeting is led by Meg Juarez, a Crime Prevention Coordinator with the City of Portland, and is also attended by North Precinct Portland Police, as well as the Neighborhood Deputy District Attorney.

The session begins with a pre-meeting from 6:00 to 6:30 pm, where community members can meet individually with police officers to discuss specific locations or incidents. The full meeting goes from 6:30 to 7:30 pm, and includes updates from the North Precinct Command Staff and the District Attorney. This is a great opportunity to connect with your neighbors and police in a collaborative partnership.

www.grantpark-na.org

STAY IN TOUCH

Find us at Facebook:
[GrantParkNeighborhood](https://www.facebook.com/GrantParkNeighborhood);
Tweet us at [@GPNAPortland](https://twitter.com/GPNAPortland)
Join our discussion group at: groups.google.com/forum/#!forum/gpna-forum
Or join us at: grantparkor.nextdoor.com

GPNA MEETINGS

Meetings are held quarterly on the third Tuesday of the month. Our annual meeting, when elections are held is in April. Special meetings, when needed, may be scheduled at any time. Meetings are open.

Grant Park Neighborhood Association is open to ALL persons living or working within its boundaries. If you need special accommodations, please contact a Board member.

NEXT MEETING & AGENDA

Annual Meeting Apr 18, 2017 Board
Meeting Jun 20, 2017
Board Meeting Sept 19, 2017
Regular Meeting Nov 21, 2017

To check the meeting schedule and agenda, or to suggest an agenda topic, please go to: grantpark-na.org/thehood/meetings.html

GPNA EXECUTIVE BOARD

President:

Ken Peterson

Vice Presidents:

Ron Laster

Brian Cefola

Treasurer:

Ron Laster

Secretary:

Mary Cal Hanson

Communications:

Brian Cefola - Webmaster

KC Davenport - Newsletter

At Large:

Jane Comeault

John Prell

Stacey Tipp

Land Use Chair:

Ken Peterson

Contact the board at:

general@grantpar-na.org

What Has GPNA Done for You Lately?

By Ken Peterson

The work of Portland's 95 recognized neighborhood organizations often goes on quietly, unnoticed by those who live or work within their boundaries. GPNA is no different. Our meetings sometimes generate few attendees other than volunteer Board members. True, when a "hot topic" arises, attendance can rise to 50 or more, but such meetings are rare. Yet the GPNA Board (currently eight members - though we would love to recruit more at our upcoming election) gets a lot done. Here are examples of relatively recent accomplishments:

- Held a series of Disaster Preparedness Workshops to help neighbors prepare for future calamities, and to organize their immediate neighborhoods to facilitate urgent local communications.
- Sponsored a yearly Neighborhood Clean Up to help residents get rid of unneeded household items, and to share usable ones with others.
- Negotiated a "good neighbor" agreement with Jacksons and Fred Meyer to completely eliminate sales of low cost, high alcohol content beverages (matching one long in effect at QFC), and to limit hours of all alcoholic beverage sales. This led to a marked reduction in complaints by nearby neighbors about intoxicated individuals.
- Helped neighbors implement a bottle and can recycling program through QFC that generated about \$7,000 in donations to the Beverly Cleary PTA since fall, 2013.
- Secured agreement by Portland Parks and Recreation (PPR) to repair and resurface the tennis courts at Grant Park, neglected for decades.
- Donated funds yearly to Grant High seniors for a safe and healthy graduation party.
- Donated funds to the centennial celebration of neighborhood icon Beverly Cleary's birthday (yes, those great cupcakes were from GPNA!)
- Donated funds to NE Village PDX to help with startup, and later to subsidize neighbors in need who desire to "age in place" rather than moving to assisted living housing.
- Secured conceptual approval from PPR to create a permanent fenced dog off leash area in Grant Park (a complex work still in progress).
- With other nearby neighborhoods, helped plan the recently opened '20s Bikeway Project to provide safer bicycling options and a new user activated signalized crossing at 26th and Broadway.
- Secured agreement by Portland Bureau of Transportation (PBOT) to add bicycle "cut-throughs" at 32nd and Schuyler, so those using small-wheeled vehicles can easily get to New Seasons or Fred Meyer without encountering a dead end cul-de-sac.
- Monitored home remodeling and demolition in order to assist nearby concerned neighbors.
- Held traffic safety meetings with PBOT representatives to provide a forum for Grant park neighbors to seek solutions to perceived parking, street crossing, and congestion issues.
- Together with Sullivan's Gulch Neighborhood, lobbied to add a MAX station at NE 28th Avenue to provide improved access to public transit.
- As part of the recently formed Broadway-Weidler Alliance (a consortium of neighborhoods and businesses), supported a study to investigate the viability of a Broadway streetcar line.
- Attended countless neighborhood coalition and City of Portland Bureau meetings to monitor and address issues related to Grant Park.
- Changed neighborhood coalitions to help ensure that Grant Park has a meaningful and supported voice concerning issues of concern.

Regular newsletter readers may know most of the things listed above. A historical summary provides perspective about your neighborhood association and the work it does on your behalf. It may even inspire you to become a member of the GPNA Board. Many current board members wear two, three, or more hats, and the old saying that "many hands make light work" definitely applies. Come join us to help make our wonderful neighborhood even better.

Grant Park Neighborhood Association Elections Are in April

Recent events may make the word "election" one that does not evoke entirely positive thoughts. Cast them aside, and volunteer to help shape our neighborhood and what goes on here. This is your chance! If you receive this newsletter, you are a member of the Grant Park Neighborhood Association (GPNA) and are eligible to hold office. Another article in this issue lists some past accomplishments of our relatively small board. Take a look, and if any interest you, help shape our future by becoming an officer.

In Portland, a neighborhood association is the officially designated, recognized organization for a specific geographic location. Each association is self-governed, has citizen-written bylaws that determine boundaries, the election and function of officers, and the frequency of meetings.

The GPNA Board strives to enhance the livability of Grant Park and to act as liaison for our neighborhood with various government entities, groups, businesses, and other Portland neighborhoods. The Board is also responsible for maintaining and updating the bylaws; ensuring the fiscal well being of the association; developing transparent, open and objective

processes; and acting for the association on time sensitive issues. You can be a part of that, and we need your help.

Election of 2017-2018 GPNA Officers will happen at the Annual Meeting on April 18. The board will recommend a slate of officers, and nominations will be taken from the floor. Any member of the neighborhood can nominate themselves.

There are five elected positions on the board:

- President - the chief executive officer of the GPNA corporation, who presides at all meetings of the membership and the board;
- Vice President (one or two) – acts as president when the president is unavailable;
- Treasurer - responsible for the corporation funds;
- Secretary - manages correspondence and takes the minutes of meetings, maintains lists of meeting attendees.
- Communications - manages the newsletter and maintains websites.

Aside from these officer positions, there can be up to 10 "At Large" board members. The board can also appoint committees to cover specific topics or designate a GPNA representative to another group. For additional information please contact any current board member (listed on page 1) through our general e-mail: general@grantpar-na.org

Beverly Cleary Rummage Sale

Mark your calendars...The annual Beverly Cleary School Rummage Sale is coming up!

When: Saturday, April 8, 2017
9:00 am- 2:00 pm

Where: Beverly Cleary School
Fernwood Campus
1915 NE 33rd Ave.
Enter gym from NE Hancock Street

Hundreds of Items for Sale

Furniture, sports equipment, books, clothes, strollers, toys, kitchen and housewares and much more!

All the proceeds support the BCS PTA!

Grant Park Church

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Dog Park Progress Stalls

by Ken Peterson

As reported in the last newsletter, Portland Public Schools (PPS) and Portland Parks and Recreation (PPR) jointly presented the plans to modernize Grant High School (GHS) at a regular GPNA membership meeting in November 2016. As part of that process, PPS intends to create a new softball field, including dugout, benches, and other structures that will significantly impinge upon the current unfenced Dog Off-Leash Area (DOLA) location, which has become known as Option B.

Option B is immediately north of and adjacent to the existing soccer field with an irregular shape extending between the soccer field and the basketball courts. Another potential location, known as **Option A**, is no longer available as a result of an agreement reached between homeowners adjacent to that area and the city. A third location, **Option C**, is adjacent to the Beverly Cleary Hollyrood School, and appears still to be available although it has not been fully explored.

Following the GHS presentation, the GPNA Board voted to establish a Dog Off-Leash Area (DOLA) Subcommittee. The board charged the subcommittee to investigate alternate locations within Grant Park for a permanent, fenced DOLA.

The formal members of the DOLA subcommittee were Ken Peterson, GPNA President and Land Use Chair, Stacey Tipp, GPNA Board Member at Large, and Laurene Mullen, a longtime Grant Park resident. All members of the committee have dogs and visit the current unfenced DOLA regularly. Time was of the essence when the subcommittee formed, because a formal hearing to consider and likely approve the GHS project had been scheduled before the Bureau

of Development Services (BDS) for early January 2017 (since rescheduled to March 22). Finding an alternative DOLA location before the hearing was thought to be imperative to help GPNA determine what, if any, position to take concerning the GHS expansion plans. The subcommittee repeatedly requested input and assistance from PPR to conduct a site search, but received absolutely no useful information in response.

Early on, the subcommittee concluded that any remaining DOLA locations within Grant Park have drawbacks. Heavy park use and programming leave few locations to consider without encroachment or creation of noise issues. The subcommittee identified additional areas for consideration, which for continuity have been named **Option D** and **Option D2**. These are actually two adjacent areas, one large area north of the tennis courts, and a second smaller area east of the tennis courts. Both areas have existing boundaries demarcated by paths or other structures (except for the north D boundary which is 100-125 feet from the park edge, which the subcommittee selected to help mitigate DOLA noise that could adversely impact homes nearby).

Yet without prompt identification of a potential location, off leash dog use could become a casualty of the many current space-consuming activities or those planned for the future. Given the long history of DOLA use within the park, members of the public might well respond by simply de facto turning the entire park into an informal DOLA area depending upon what might be going on at any given time, and by randomly identifying locations that appear to be available.

At a GPNA special meeting on February 22, the subcommittee submitted its recommendations. Homeowners north of the newly identified D areas objected vehemently to the proposed new location, contending that noise would adversely affect them despite the proposed 100-125 foot buffer area.

Given the absence of hoped for consensus, and the tacit refusal by Parks to provide meaningful assistance, the GPNA Board neither approved nor disapproved the report and recommendations of the subcommittee. At its March 21 meeting, the GPNA Board voted to disband the DOLA subcommittee and to leave the issue for PPR to resolve.

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Parks to Hold Dog Park Meeting

As noted in a companion article this issue, the GPNA Board voted to disband its Dog Off-Leash Area (DOLA) subcommittee. GPNA took this action due to apparently insurmountable obstacles in reaching neighborhood consensus concerning the future of a DOLA in Grant Park, and the inability to obtain any meaningful action from Portland Parks.

Portland Parks and Recreation has decided to hold a community meeting concerning the DOLA issue. GPNA will not participate in the meeting institutionally and will not co-sponsor it.

However, as a courtesy to Parks and to inform the neighborhood, GPNA agreed to publish the time, date and location of the event:

- Thursday, April 20, 2017
- 6:30-8 pm
- Grant Park Church, 2728 NE 34th Avenue (corner of Knott Street and 34th)

Parks advised that the meeting will also be publicized in other ways as well, with flyers and signs.



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I hold an MFA and teach at PSU. I have taught extensively throughout the region, at universities, through Literary Arts, and with all grade levels. I also work with non-native speakers through Multnomah County Library. I am the author of several books and work prolifically as a freelance writer.

Kirsten Rian: 503.348.5249, riankirsten@gmail.com

Recycle & Donate to Our Schools

by Brian Cefola

Looking for an easy way to help neighborhood schools? Consider bringing your deposit cans and bottles to QFC, with proceeds donated to the Beverly Cleary School PTA. BCS is a public school serving kids in grades K-8, and the PTA helps provide them with things like school supplies and books.

QFC accepts school donations only on Saturdays from 4 pm to 8 pm. Just bring in a bag, leave it along the wall behind the cash registers, and tell a clerk about your donation. Since fall, 2013, donations have resulted in about \$7,000 to help local kids.

Another way to donate is to bring deposit containers to the New Seasons in Grant Park Village. Any time during business hours, use the collection bin by the left upper level pedestrian entrance near the community bulletin board, marked by a "Cans for Kids" sign. Proceeds from these donations go to All Hands Raised, the umbrella group for Portland public school foundations.

If you currently put containers on the street in the blue and yellow bins, this is a great time to start donating. On April 1 (no fooling) the deposit amount will double, from a nickel to a dime. The dime return is valid even if you only paid a nickel.

As reported in a recent Willamette Week article, funds from unclaimed deposits are passed on to beverage distributors. Why donate to them when you can donate to an underfunded school? A small community effort can raise many thousands to benefit our elementary children, especially with the new doubled deposit.

If helping schools isn't incentive enough, there's also the environment to consider. Cans and bottles recycled through deposit redemptions have a higher reclamation rate than containers in blue bins. The latter are at higher risk of getting mixed with non-recyclables that ultimately go to a landfill.

Encouraging recycling was the legislature's goal in raising the deposit rate.

Donating your empties is a win-win for kids and the environment. Give it a try!

What is Fixing Our Streets?

In May 2016, Portland voters passed Measure 26-173, Portland's first local funding source dedicated to fixing our streets for people of all ages and abilities. Fixing Our Streets (FOS) is projected to raise \$64 million for road maintenance and street safety projects across the City of Portland over the next four years. Safe Routes to School (SRTS) expects \$8 million in investments from the new measure to make routes safer and more convenient for kids to walk, bike, and roll to school.

How is the money allocated?

SRTS divided FOS funds geographically across Portland's 12 high school clusters, each including boundaries of 3 to 13 schools (elementary, K-8, and middle). The allocation process considered cluster-wide demographic information (including student body population) compared with the existing network of pedestrian and bicycle facilities.

The final funding recommendations prioritize communities of concern across the clusters, namely schools with high rates of communities of color, free & reduced lunch, and English language learners.

How can I make my voice heard?

SRTS staff are organizing several open house and community outreach events in partnership with Portland Public School District to better understand the unique needs of each school community. PBOT & SRTS would like to hear about two important questions at each event:

- The major safety needs of each school?
- The primary walking routes to each school?

Portland hopes to achieve these goals by listening to families and school staff about their transportation safety concerns around school. And if you've included your concerns with a SRTS survey in the past few years, Those will be reviewed as well!

SRTS wants to hear from you! Attend the open house designated for your school & high school cluster any time 6-8 pm to make sure your voice is heard. For questions, contact the appropriate SRTS Coordinator. Please share with friends, family, and other concerned families!

To learn more go to:

portlandoregon.gov/transportation/71588

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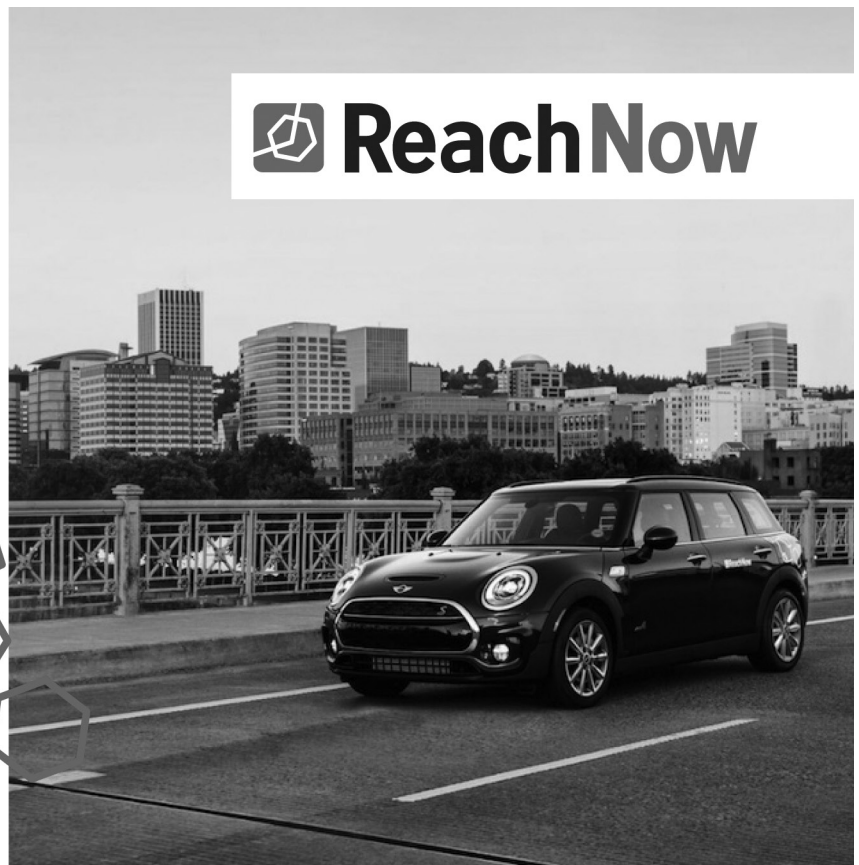
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Three Community Forums on Disaster Preparedness - Recap

Despite the weather, there were good turnouts at three forums sponsored by GPNA on how to prepare for a major disaster. Building on that success, the GPNA planning committee will proceed with next steps to help neighbors cope with large scale emergencies. Recap below:

Forum #1

Tuesday, January 10, 2017

Disaster Preparedness - Steve Eberlein, (American Red Cross, Cascades Region), focused on:

- the geology underlying the risk of a major northwest earthquake
- what to expect during and after an earthquake;
- how to prepare.

Portland's Vulnerabilities:

- scientists have verified 41 Cascadia subduction zone earthquakes in the past 10,000 years, occurring on an average of 243 years. The last one occurred 317 years ago, in 1700.
- if a magnitude 8 or 9 quake occurs, unreinforced buildings will collapse, roads and bridges will be impassable, utilities, phones, and credit cards won't work, and hospitals will be overwhelmed.

We Need to Prepare:

- communication plans, and emergency contacts;
- ways to reunite with family members;
- emergency kits in our cars;
- 42 meals and 14 gallons of water per person in storage (for two weeks);
- emergency supplies (e.g., documents, cash, radios, pet food, etc.).

Links to checklists and other important information are on the Red Cross website:
redcross.org/news/event/local/or/Prepare-Out-Loud

Forum #2

Wednesday, February 8, 2017

Neighborhood Emergency Teams (NETs) and BEECNs - Erik Hovmiller (Irvington NET)

Erik described how NET members save lives and property until professional responders can arrive. We are pleased that ten volunteers from Grant Park are registered for the NET training in April. Many more would be welcome and it is not too late to sign up for the April training, or to join the team after completing

future training sessions. You can register for the NET training at: portlandoregon.gov/pbem/58587
Mitch Schaub has volunteered to coordinate (971-717-5083 m.schaub9876@gmail.com).

Erik also described BEECNs (Basic Earthquake Emergency Communication Nodes)—temporary sites staffed by trained volunteers. If we don't have phone service and electricity for days or weeks, BEECN volunteers can provide support and information, using radios and working with local fire stations.

There are 48 BEECN sites in Portland, and we hope to create one in Grant Park. Minimal training and time commitment is needed.

There will be a BEECN training program on Wednesday, April 12 at Grant Park Church, 2728 NE 34th Ave, Portland, at 7:00 pm.

More information about NETs and BEECNs can be found at: portlandoregon.gov/pbem/

Forum #3

Wednesday, March 8, 2017

Emergency Management - Felicia Heaton (Portland Bureau of Emergency Management) and Kim Kosmas (Portland Fire and Rescue)

They summarized how their agencies coordinate, and what they learned from other major earthquakes.

We were encouraged to sign up for PublicAlerts, to receive landline phone, mobile phone, text, and email alerts that warn us to take action to stay safe.

Website: publicalerts.org/signup

The PBEM website has links to NETs, BEECNs, Preparedness Resources, and an article-- "Earthquake: A Northwest Survival Guide":
Website: portlandoregon.gov/pbem/

We hope to repeat the first forum in the near future.

Grant Park Disaster Prep Committee members:

<i>Jane Comeault – Chair</i>	<i>Ron Laster</i>
<i>John Prell</i>	<i>Linda Reisser</i>
<i>Mitch Schaub</i>	<i>Earnest Smith</i>

Contact the committee at: general@grantpar-na.org.

GRANT PARK NEIGHBORHOOD CLEAN UP

SATURDAY, MAY 20th 9am – 1 pm

Your one-stop-shop for getting rid of clutter from your home, yard, & garage

1. Clean out your closets, basement, yard and garage
2. Gather up stuff you no longer want
3. Drop it all off, right here in the neighborhood



Stuff You Can Bring



Household Junk



Used Batteries



Tires



Scrap Metal



Used Electronics: Small appliances, TVs, phones, computers, game consoles... anything with a cord



And anything else usable to give away: strollers, car seats, bikes, clothing, clean sheets, blankets, towels, furniture, mattresses, kitchenware, lamps, irons, fans, alarm clocks, canes, crutches, etc...even plants



Food Donations: Dry and canned goods to help the needy served by the William Temple House in PDX



NOT ACCEPTED: Hazardous or chemical waste. Motor oil. Paint. Cement or bricks. Ceiling or flooring tiles. Commercial byproducts. Home remodeling waste. Curbside recycling or yard debris. Styrofoam. Sharps and medicines. Documents for shredding. Large appliances such as stoves, washing machines or refrigerators. No CFL or fluorescent tube light bulbs

GRANT PARK CHURCH PARKING LOT (2728 NE 34 AVENUE)

\$10 for cars, \$20 for vans and trucks—all proceeds fund neighborhood projects and events.

For more information call Mary Cal Hanson (503) 288-2878. Volunteers will receive one free load to drop off, food and drinks. Contact Stacey Tipp (mrs.tipp@Hotmail.com) to volunteer