

Grant Park Neighborhood Association

P.O. Box 13102, Portland, OR 97213

Spring 2016



Another Successful Spring Clean Up Fundraiser

Grant Park Neighborhood Association's annual Spring Clean Up was held on Saturday, April 30th. We served at least 160 households from Grant Park and Sullivan's Gulch neighborhoods, netting more than \$1800. After covering expenses (hauling, cleaning the parking lot, advertising), we raised about \$900. This money will be given out as grants supporting community projects and organizations contributing to making Grant Park a nice place to live - grant applications are available on our website, www.grantpark-na.org.

We partnered with the Sullivan's Gulch Neighborhood Association for the first time this year. It meant that we had more traffic through the event, but with the additional volunteers we were able to handle the volume without a noticeable difference in wait times. There was no significant impact on funds raised for GPNA, and it was nice to get to know neighbors south of Broadway.

In numbers, we reused and repurposed countless items from our FREE area (pictured above). We recycled 4500 lbs of scrap metal, 1234 lbs of miscellaneous electronics, an estimate 80-100 lbs of batteries, two boxes of CFL light bulbs, 24 tires, and we disposed of 5 – 40 yard bins of bulky waste.

One notable challenge for our organizers was linked to Metro tightening up restrictions on potential asbestos containing materials, due to new DEQ rules. The rules are meant to protect Metro workers and neighborhood volunteers and we support the policy. However, the edict came late in our planning process and we could have done a better job with communicating banned materials, if we had the information sooner. We apologize to those neighbors who brought materials we could not accept.

We hope to make significant improvements for next year, and on that note we welcome your feedback – what do you like about the spring clean up? What would you like to see changed? Write to us at: GrantPark@necoalition.org

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

GPNA MEETINGS

Board meetings are held quarterly on the second 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 something prevents you from participating, please contact a Board member and we'll make accommodations.

NEXT MEETING & AGENDA

Meeting dates for 2016-17 are not set yet and may change.

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

Land Use Chair:

Ken Peterson

Contact the board at:
GrantPark@necoalition.org

NE Village PDX Membership Drive

The NE Village is a group of like-minded people coming together to help each other age affordably in their own homes. NE Village is excited to begin its Membership Drive on July 1st. As part of the drive, a calendar of social/cultural events and programs will be available to interested neighbors starting in July.

Charter memberships will be available July 1. This initial membership drive will give the Membership Enrollment Team an opportunity to see how the process works and a cadre of early enrolling Charter members can give us feedback and assistance.

Regular member enrollment begins on August 1. There will be an online pre-enrollment form for both members and volunteers at www.nevillagepdx.org. You may also email vcondon100@gmail.com. A member of the Membership or Volunteer Enrollment Team will contact you. Membership fees are payable upon registration. See details on the website.

Services to will not begin until November 1.

Charter Memberships

Charter Memberships (CM) are available July through December 2016! To become a CM you make an additional \$500 tax-deductible contribution to the Village when purchasing a membership. CM is available with any membership class: Associate or Full Service; single or household. With a CM you join a select group of people whose generosity will help to sustain our Village in its first months.

Advantages of being a Charter Member include:

- No increase in membership rates through 2020.
- A Village celebration in January 2017 exclusively for Charter Members

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GPNA 2016-17 Elections

At our April 12th annual meeting GPNA elected a new Board of Directors, and though it is a familiar slate, we want to introduce them, and thank them for their willingness to serve.

President & Land Use & Traffic Chair (LUTC) - Ken Peterson

Ken moved to the Dolph Park section of Grant Park in 2009, with his wife, Linda, and Dalmatian, Sammy. A retired judge, Ken is also currently the Communications Chair for the Broadway-Weidler Alliance (BWA), a group devoted to improving the Broadway commercial corridor.

Co-Vice President & Treasurer - Ron Laster

Ron is the owner operator of a 22-year-old Portland based print communications company. He has been involved in GPNA, the District Coalition and various City Committees for the past 23 years. Ron strongly believes in the value of citizen involvement in ensuring livable and thriving communities.

Co-Vice President - Brian Cefola

Having just stepped down as President Brian is still actively involved in GPNA as our webmaster. With his family, Brian has been in the Grant Park neighborhood for a number of years and has been on the GPNA board since 2012.

Secretary - Mary Cal Hanson

MaryCal has live in Grant Park since 2000 and has been a GPNA Board member since 2007. For MaryCal the best things about our neighborhood include it's walkability, the Park, the wonderful homes, and amazing neighbors.

Member at Large - John Prell

John lives in Dolph Park with his wife Sarah, and their two girls. He operates Prell Equity Advisors LLC, a firm providing commercial and residential real estate services. John is an avid skier, biker, climber and also volunteers for the American Lung Association.

Member at Large - Jane Comeault

Jane is a sustainability professional who moved to Portland in 2011 with her family. She loves Grant Park for its walk and bike-ability, parks, and neighbors. Jane is one of the coordinators of the annual Spring Clean Up. She is interested in sustainable urban planning and creating community.

Better Block Broadway Project

Those venturing onto Broadway between 7th and 24th Avenues during the week of May 9-15 found a lot of changes.

Better Block, a national group devoted to creating "complete streets" urban redevelopment by creating demonstration projects to engage the public, added a protected bicycle lane, changed the location of north side parking, and built a bus stop one lane away from the current location. In addition, there were cross walks at each intersection, and some curbside business extensions from existing businesses. Better Block partnered with BWA to stage the project.

The street redesign ideas provoked a lot of discussion, both pro and con, and Better Block made some refinements as the week progressed to better demonstrate the changes proposed.

Better Block welcomes public input, and a survey can be completed on the group's website at tinyurl.com/BroadwayPDX

Beverly Cleary's Birthday

179 people were actively involved with the Hollywood Library's tours and crafts, and they appreciated the cupcakes provided by GPNA! 100 additional people also stopped in as part of the self-guided tour or on their way to the Cleary event at the Hollywood Theater that afternoon.

This event allowed the Library to bring together teen volunteers, staff, and neighborhood adults and children in a celebration of our neighborhood and a much beloved author. The Library appreciated GPNA's support!

Grant Park Church

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More at GrantParkChurch.com

All are Welcome!

Imagining a Better Broadway

Complaints concerning the Broadway business corridor are frequent and many (speeding cars, dangerous street crossings, inadequate public transit options, bicycle challenges, lack of consumer friendly streetside amenities, such as outside tables). Despite widespread agreement on at least some of the challenges faced when trying to improve Broadway, reaching consensus on how to do so is elusive.

Yet more than 70 residents and business owners tried to do just that on May 14 at the Better Broadway charrette sponsored by the Broadway-Weidler Alliance (BWA), a group of both neighborhood and business associations adjoining Broadway. This was its first large public engagement event.

Attendees heard from Metro Councilor Sam Chase, who spoke about the Climate Smart Strategies program developed to guide future regional transportation changes. Dan Bower from Portland Streetcar Company talked about a possible streetcar line on Broadway-Weidler and provided an update on streetcar economic benefits, financing options, and the national increase in metropolitan areas now using streetcars. Did you know that Portland once had over 200 miles of streetcar lines?

Following the speeches, attendees could visit topic specific tables staffed by Alta Planning & Design (a bicycle advocacy group), Better Block (a volunteer group that stages temporary street installations, to provide examples of possible changes), Oregon Department of Transportation, Oregon Walks, Portland Bureau of Planning and Sustainability, Portland Bureau of Transportation, Portland Streetcar Company, and TriMet. BWA plans to complete a report following the event that will be available on its website for review.

Relay For Life of Portland

The 2016 American Cancer Society Relay For Life of Portland, is a 24-hour event that celebrates cancer survivors, honors those currently battling cancer, and remembers loved ones lost. This event is Saturday, August 13, 2016 at 10am - Sunday, August 14, 2016 at 10am at Portland Christian School. For more information go to: www.relayforlife.org/portlandor/, email: mkouye23@gmail.com or call: 650.520.4403

80,000 trees 20+ Neighborhoods

This summer PP&R Urban Forestry will partner with neighborhood tree teams to complete street tree inventories in 11 more communities! They need many volunteers to help us collect and process data on an estimated 80,000 street trees. Volunteers are needed in the following roles: team leaders, data collectors, data entry, arborists, and tree team members.

2016 inventory neighborhoods include Alameda, Beaumont-Wilshire, Grant Park, and Hollywood.

For more details on volunteer opportunities and the project, visit: portlandoregon.gov/parks/treeinventory.

NE Broadway Summer Super Sale

July 15, 2016 - July 17, 2016

11:00 AM - 7:00 PM

NE Broadway Business District

Shop NE Broadway's biggest sale of the year featuring extended hours and specials at district businesses, a pet fair and farmer's market.

Grant Pool Renovations Begin

Construction is now underway to replace the mechanical systems (which date to the 1920s and 1940s) and improve accessibility at the Grant Park Pool. PP&R expects to reopen the pool in early August 2016, and hopefully even sooner.

Much of Grant Pool's crumbling inner workings have been unchanged since the 1920's. The work will also include ADA accessibility improvements.

For more: www.portlandoregon.gov/parks/69736

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GPNA to Seek Membership in CNN

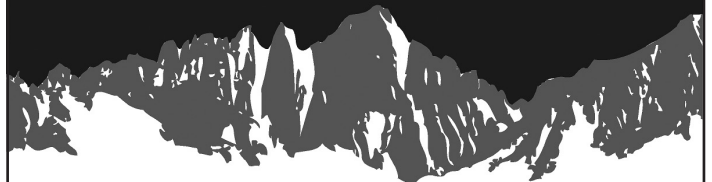
At April's Annual Meeting, GPNA voted to seek membership in the Central Northeast Neighbors (CNN), in place of its current affiliation with the Northeast Coalition of Neighborhoods (NECN). Each neighborhood organization in Portland is also a member of a larger group that seeks to represent the collective interests of geographically adjacent neighborhoods with similar issues and interests.

GPNA believes that current shared issues of traffic safety and congestion, Broadway revitalization, and school boundary issues, among others, make CNN a more appropriate "fit" than NECN. GPNA historically belonged to CNN for many years before changing to NECN during a time when crime and gang activities were major issues, and NECN had a program in place to deal with them.

Changing neighborhood coalitions is a multi-step process that must ultimately be approved by the Portland Office of Neighborhood Involvement (ONI). GPNA has completed most of the procedural process involved, but several steps remain.

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