

GPNA Board Meeting
Meeting Minutes – March 10, 2026
Submitted by Ari Grubner

Attending Board Members: Miro Wesener, Stacey Tipp, Eldo Varghese, David Richardson, Jake Wicks, Ari Grubner, Jill DeRosa, Tess Ipsen, Molly Hamill, Steve Haines

Absent: Daniel Hoyer

Guests: Alongside guest speaker Shannon Singleton, we welcomed approximately 15 guests throughout this meeting.

Call to Order: Molly called the meeting to order at 7:02pm

1. Welcome, Sponsor Announcement & Thank You, Introductions

Molly began by thanking our sponsor COOPER Design Build and announced a sponsorship renewal. With additional guests in the room, the board provided brief introductions. Molly provided an introduction to the purpose of our annual meeting. We also thanked our guest speaker Shannon Singleton for joining us for a discussion and Q&A on livability, homelessness, and housing.

2. Approval of the agenda* (Miro)

- One change was presented: amending item #11 to be Committee Reports
- * David Richardson motioned to approve the agenda, seconded by Eldo Varghese, all in favor.

3. Guest Speaker: Commissioner Shannon Singleton

District 2 Commissioner Shannon Singleton began a productive conversation with our Grant Park neighbors concerning livability, homelessness, and housing. Beginning with an overview of Multnomah County's current assessment in regards to homelessness and housing, Commissioner Singleton located Multnomah County evolving from an original "10-year plan to end homelessness." Resulting from this 10-year plan, a number of tangible and productive data sets were formed that have helped Multnomah County services better understand the effectiveness of support services being offered as well as rising/declining areas of need. Currently and alongside Mayor Wilson's overnight shelters, there is an emphasis and push to better integrate these data sets to be used and maintained by organizations offering support services. Commissioner Singleton also offered to connect interested participants with the publicly-accessible dashboard containing the organized data.

The Q&A portion proceeded from here. Discussions included:

- Supportive housing
- Cuts related to DV/immigrant federal funds, followed by Multnomah County's prioritization of families/DV/youth
- Conversation related to homeless services budget deficit and larger insights related to county budget
- Further conversation re: the "dashboard" and some of the data that has stood out to Commissioner Singleton
- Commissioner Singleton shared some insights related to eviction rates; 40% of eviction in Oregon is in Multnomah County but there is not 40% of Oregon housing in Multnomah County, indicating a pressing issue.
- Questions came up regarding empty housing; Commissioner Singleton shared the relationship between City and County as it relates to empty housing in the Portland metro area.

Commissioner Singleton concluded this time by expressing gratitude for the invitation to speak and for the active interest and participation in conversation. Participants were left with three specific notes from Commissioner Singleton:

1. Upcoming Town Halls re: budget process with Commissioners throughout PDX
2. Continued work being done re: severe weather shelters
3. We can contact her via email: <district2@mutlco.us>

4. Approval of last meeting's minutes* (Ari)

- * Eldo Varghese motioned to approve the January meeting minutes, seconded by Miro Wesener, all in favor.

5. Treasurer's Report * (David):

David Richardson provided a brief treasurer's report with accompanying files and documents for in-person and online attendees to review. With no activity within our accounts in February, we currently sit at around \$15,000 in the bank. All looking healthy.

- * Ari Grubner motioned to accept the Treasurer's Report, seconded by Jill DeRosa, all in favor.

6. Progress on Nonprofit Status & Vote re: Corporate Financial Deposits * (David):

David provided a refresher on our process to obtain 501c3 Nonprofit Status. With the new 501c3 entity established, there is no need to maintain two separate entities. David also provided a number of documents containing proposals to proceed with this progress. David answered a number of questions as well as engaged in brief conversation about the benefits of proceeding with this business.

Four motions were made and brought before a vote:

1. Proposal to open an OnPoint Checking account for the newly formed 501c3 GPNA.
 - * David Richardson motioned, seconded by Eldo Varghese. 19 “yes” votes were recorded, 0 “no” votes were recorded, and the motion passed unanimously.
2. Proposal to authorize the GPNA Treasurer and President to work together to open an account to invest up to \$10,000 in a CD or savings account that offers an attractive rate.
 - * Eldo Varghese motioned, seconded by Steve Haines. 19 “yes” votes were recorded, 0 “no” votes were recorded, and the motion passed unanimously.
3. Motion to grant all current 501c4 GPNA assets to the newly created 501c3 GPNA.
 - * Gretchen Newmark motioned, seconded by Mara Stine. 19 “yes” votes were recorded, 0 “no” votes were recorded, and the motion passed unanimously.
4. Motion to proceed filing a plan dissolution for the current 501c4 organization that includes a statement that the current 501c4’s assets have been granted to the successor 501c3 organization, and that no liabilities exist.
 - * Gretchen Newmark motioned, Jake Wicks seconded. 19 “yes” votes were recorded, 0 “no” votes were recorded, and the motion passed unanimously.

7. PEMO Report (Jill):

Jill provided updates on the PEMO meetings taking place every other Monday online. Recent conversations have centered around fire, graffiti, and homeless services. Concerns have been voiced lately related to Portland People’s Outreach in Hollywood. Jill expressed that PEMO is a good avenue to voice concerns, feedback, and initiative as PEMO takes on issues based on what neighbors and neighborhood associations bring to them.

8. Newsletter Editor’s Report (Stacey):

Our March newsletter successfully went out to neighbors. There was less content for this edition, so Stacey encouraged folks to write for the next one. For distributing and delivering newsletters around the neighborhood, we are currently taking on new volunteers!

Stacey brought for discussion the idea of hosting a 2026 essay contest in upcoming editions of the newsletter. Energy was high around this idea and discussion was productive towards moving forward with the idea.

- * Mara Stine motioned to authorize up to \$200 to be used for the GPNA essay contest prizes, seconded by Jill DeRosa, and the motion passed unanimously.

9. Election of / Vote on Slate of Officers (Molly):

Molly presented the current proposed slate of officers.

President: Molly Hamill

Vice President: Miro Wesener (GPNA rep. to NECN)

Secretary: Ari Grubner

Treasurer: David Richardson

Land Use Chair: Eldo Varghese

Newsletter Editor: Stacey Tipp

NET Board Representative: Steve Haines

Member at large: Tess Ipsen, Grant High School rep. until June graduation

Member at large: Jill De Rosa

Member at large: Jake Wicks

Member at large: Daniel Hoyer

After providing time for nominations to the board from the audience, no nominations were received either for officer positions or for a position at-large.

- * Jill DeRosa motioned to accept the slate of officers as presented, seconded by David Richardson, and the motion passed unanimously.

10. GPNA Meeting Signs (Stacey):

Board members were encouraged to take home yard signs with the info related to GPNA's upcoming meetings. Thank You, Stacey, for having these signs made!

11. Committee Reports (Molly):

NET (Steve):

NECN (Miro):

Three meetings recently. Time is now for neighborhood association annual compliance reports. The switch to Google Classroom and the new login system has generated plenty of conversation and early support; GPNA still smoothing out usage, but overall doing well on compliance.

Events (Miro/Stacey):

Postponed cleanup more likely to be rescheduled towards the end of summer or early fall. Connected with SOLVE recently to receive resources for this cleanup event. Stacey provided an update on GPNA plant sale and fundraiser. Event with Dean Fagan is set

for Saturday, May 2 in the Grant Park Church parking lot. Discussion centered around including our sponsor, taking good photos, and advertising the event ahead of time.

Grant HS (Tess):

June 4 is set for the Grant HS graduation; May will be Tess' last meeting as our GHS rep. We are thankful for all the time and energy Tess has given to our neighborhood and our association! Tess provided some updates on events as well as where to access information on future GHS events.

IT (Eldo):

Eldo provided a brief update on our IT and website. He also asked for help managing the website and the document uploads needed to maintain our website well. Jake Wicks offered to assist.

12. Social Event (Molly):

Be on the lookout for an email to schedule a social gathering for sometime in April.

13. Adjourn *

- * Jill DeRosa motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Jake Wicks, and the motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:56pm.

Next Meeting

May 12, 2026
7-9pm
Grant Park Church