

Draft General Meeting Minutes of the Woodlawn Neighborhood Association

January 21, 2009

Introductions:

(See sign-in list for details; B after a name means Board Member). Ross (B), Anna Rosa (B), Michael (PUMP church member), Eric, Connie, Nikki, Kress, Kevin, Gregg, Rich (with an idea about a civil rights square), Brent (PUMP church member), FayAnna (about to graduate from PSU) Kenya (interested in Dekum Triangle – an urban designer) another woman named Nikki who came with Kenya (both live in Piedmont), Courtney (Mo's frozen food for pets), Deepak, Jim Newcomer (community organizing for Transition Towns Portland), Sarah, Rebeca Tepleck, and Officer Ryan Bren, our new liaison officer (district 610 encompasses Woodlawn and Concordia). He says former liaison officer Koenig has been assigned to the TRAFFIC not Transit division. Officer Bren works Wed. through Saturday, night shift. Also attending, Benjamin, Anjala (B), Alan (MLK Jr. Blvd. Blogger) visiting from King, Matt Cartwright, Jen who lives technically in Concordia just over 22nd, and Andrée (B and our Meeting Chair).

Liaison Officer Report:

No really noticeable increase or trends in crime, mostly because of winter. He's noticed events taking place in Woodlawn Park, graffiti appearing, being quickly covered and quickly reappearing. Car prowls are up a little bit in the neighborhood.

Announcements:

Anjala explains the duties and requests a volunteer for Treasurer (talk to a Board Member after the meeting if you're interested.)

Reports:

No reports available.

Old Business:

Discuss options for newsletter. Publish it online only or write a Woodlawn news page for insertion in either the Concordia newsletter or the Sentinel newspaper. Discuss the workload involved, the need for an editor to solicit and edit articles and keep track of things. Suggestion that all articles be short and sweet and lead folks to look for Go-Woodlawn.com for extended articles and calendars of events.

Can hang up our Go-Woodlawn.com banners. Maybe. Discussion: Do we know how big they are, where they are? How tricky they are to hang up? Do we need permits to hang them up?

Unanimous vote in favor of trying to have a page in the Sentinel.

Between now and the next meeting we can investigate the possibilities with the Sentinel. Rebeca will be the Woodlawn liaison to the Sentinel. Jen volunteers that she will be our Concordia newsletter liaison. Let's ask Ayleen to print up stickers for Go-Woodlawn.com. Deepak offers to create 20-40 flyers at his expense to place in Dekum Triangle stores to let people know there is the website. Discuss the concerns with having a handle on what folks are saying about Woodlawn; We need a Board subcommittee to handle publicity. **Gregg and Anji are appointed the Publicity review committee.** Deepak and any other Woodlawn booster should run things by them.

Announcements:

Gregg Lavender talks about the possible Woodlawn Corner = 13th and Holman park = underutilized. Could it be made into a focal point like 34th and Hawthorn and 7th and Sherrett? the tea corner in SE? It could start small and over years could overflow into neighbor yards with their consent. Lots of neighbors like the idea of making it a focal point. Deepak went to City Repair to discuss working on this. He says the CR process helps neighborhoods do projects. They help the neighbors work together and have meetings and they provide meeting and planning tools. HOWEVER. They want this year's project proposals by Jan 29th. Deepak doesn't think the Woodlawn Corner planning folks want to rush. This project could take years to fully flower.

Ross makes the motion that the NA endorses their work with City Repair. Multiple seconds of the motion. Discussion. Andrée asks Gregg and Deepak to write someone for Go-Woodlawn. Will do. Vote, unanimous.

Woodlawn Corner has a lot of neighbor interest. Plans are underway. What other projects does the WNA want to do for 2009?

Rebeca thinks the Parks department doesn't have the money for movies in the park this year.

Tool Library: Gregg talks about his and Eric Fair-Layman's efforts to form the NE Portland Tool Library (NEPTL). They have talked to Grigsby Box company who has lots of space but would charge some amount of rent, and that's the problem, NEPTL does not have not much funding. They're looking for a

storefront location. Right now the NEPTL is in a garage at 19th and Killingsworth and loans out tools Saturday's from 9-2. Gregg's thinking of starting a seed library (organic, heirloom), a bicycle library and a board game library also.

Transition Towns

Jim Newcomer represents Transition Towns (started in Ireland, in the city of Totness by a teacher) which is interested in community sustainability. Planning for food, housing, learning from the elders, developing a community plan for living together in a resilient community are elements of Transition Towns. They have local representation on transitiontowns.org and transitionpdx.org Ross is part of the steering committee. Meets the third Wednesday every month. They welcome new members.

Childhood Obesity

Rebeca is with a faith-based group doing preventive actions regarding childhood obesity. She links with WNA members who are active at the school, the community gardens, and with Jen, who is a graduate student at PSU studying similar issues.

Meeting adjourns 8:45 with lots of networking and excitement.