

Montavilla Neighborhood Association  
Board Meeting Minutes  
October 23, 2006

Present: Jennifer Tamayo, Erica Cutler, Sarah Selden, Erica Thygesen, Megan McCoy, Maria Sworske, Roger Warren, Victor Flaming, Craig Bach, Lisa Laurenceau, Sandra ----  
Absent: David Linn

Minutes: Erica Thygesen  
Audio Recording: Victor Flaming

6:36pm: Meeting called to order by Jennifer Tamayo.

6:38pm: The board reviewed ideas that had been discussed at a grant proposal meeting on Saturday 10/21/06. It was reported that most of the grant meeting had focused on some of the ideas that had come up on the list serve. The environment was a common theme among most of the ideas that had been discussed. The grant proposal committee acknowledged that there were many great ideas that had been proposed, but as there was very little time to complete the grant application, most of the topics should be considered for next year's application. In the meantime, it was suggested that the neighborhood cleanup be expanded from one day to one week and expanded to include a wide range of activities that would focus on outreaching to and engaging additional members of the community. Ideas for partnerships for the event included Kelly Moore Paint, Safeway, Milwaukie Lumber, PCC, Montavilla Baptist Church, other neighborhood churches, Cascade College, and many other neighbors.

7:10pm: Roger moved that the board applies for a grant using the neighborhood cleanup concept to focus on outreach to non-English speakers and renters.

Victor moved to amend Roger's proposal to change the language from non-English speakers and renters to underrepresented groups. Victor's amendment stated that the board applies for a grant using the neighborhood cleanup concept to focus on outreach to underrepresented groups within the neighborhood.

Erica C. seconded the amended motion.

The decision was passed unanimously.

7:11pm: Jennifer reported that she had been contacted by a neighbor who stated that he is beginning a video project that will be focusing on the history of residents in the Montavilla neighborhood. \_\_\_\_\_ requested assistance from the MNA board in securing a location from which to run his project. There was some discussion about what could be offered to help, whether the board new of any locations to use. Victor pointed out that this might be a great topic for one of the grant applications. Victor proposed that the board might sign on as a co-partner for a grant, if he was interested in pursuing it. Much concern was expressed about board liability, the ability to check on personal and professional references and to conduct a further review of the plan prior to signing off on it, and to the limited amount of time in which to apply for the grant. Jennifer agreed to follow up with \_\_\_\_ to provide him with information on the capacity building grant and to

invite him to come to a MNA general meeting to discuss his project. The discussion was then tabled until after additional information can be gathered.

7:31pm: The upcoming Burgerville Partnership Night was discussed. The event will occur on November, 14, 2006 from 5:30 – 8:30pm at the Burgerville on 82<sup>nd</sup> and Glisan. The MNA will have a table at the event where outreach to community members will occur. During that time the MNA will get to keep 10% of all sales. Additionally, the MNA will be able to keep 100% of all cookie sales. Volunteers will be needed to staff the table, hand out food, and sell cookies. It was recommended that shifts be scheduled so that volunteers can come from 5:30 – 7:00 and 7:00 – 8:30 pm. Requests for volunteers will go out on the list serve, in the newsletter, and at the next general meeting, which will occur on the night before the event.

7:41pm: Roger reported that he had no park committee update tonight.

7:42pm: Sarah announced that a building on 83<sup>rd</sup> and Hawthorne was being demolished. She also reported that the deadline for the Nature in Neighborhoods grant was January 18, 2007. This grant is requiring a 1:1 dollar match, so we will need to find a partner if we are to apply for the grant. It was discussed that Mabelville Gardens could be a good partner for the project. The discussion will be continued at a later board meeting.

7:45pm: Erica C. announced that the website was coming along, and it is still on schedule to be launched in November. She also reported that a more effective plan to distribute the newsletter has been developed by the Outreach and Communications committee. There are currently 20 volunteers who have signed up to help with the distribution. All edits to the newsletter are due to Jennifer by noon tomorrow, so that the newsletter will be ready during the first week of November. 7000 copies are being printing, and they will be delivered to residents and businesses. The total cost of printing is running at \$1075.00, and at this time there is either \$339.00 or \$385.00 that has been generated through advertising revenue. The total advertising revenue for this issue may come close to \$500.00, but that is not sufficient to cover the cost of the newsletter. Jennifer acknowledged that the newsletter may be reduced in scope for the next issue until advertising revenue increases. The goal is to have the advertising revenue cover the entire costs of printing.

7:48pm Erica C. made a motion to pay the remainder of the November newsletter printing bill with money from the Communication committee budget.

Roger seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

7:52pm: Sandra announced that there will be an 82<sup>nd</sup> Avenue of the Roses meeting tomorrow at 5:30pm at the PCC SE campus in Mt. Tabor room 214.

7:55pm: Craig reported that \$55,000 is being spent on cameras at the 82<sup>nd</sup> Avenue Max stop. Much of this money is coming from a budget to increase homeland security. Seven new cameras are being installed and four others are being replaced. This should occur in

November. Additionally, bomb sniffing dogs will be periodically searching the Max, and this may serve as a deterrent to other types of criminal activity.

8:01pm: Victor reminded the board about the upcoming Crime and Safety forum that was scheduled for October 25, 2006. SEUL is putting together a similar forum in November, but the MNA's crime prevention committee felt that it was important to have a forum in October as it is National Crime Prevention Month. The board was recruited to come early and help out. It was acknowledged that Victor and Craig did an exceptional job putting together a forum in only a couple of weeks.

8:10pm: The topic of establishing an environmental committee was raised. There has been much interest and discussion of the topic among neighbors on the association's list serve. It was suggested that we bring this topic to the general meeting to get community feedback about how to proceed. Megan agreed to contact the chair of the Mt. Tabor Neighborhood Association's environmental committee to invite them to the next general meeting as a speaker.

8:14pm: Jennifer requested that the board seek to clarify the decision that had been made regarding the board secretary position at the MNA general meeting on September 11, 2006. There had been some confusion among board members as to whether the vote on that day had been for Erica T. and Lisa to serve as co-secretaries or whether the vote had been for Erica T. to become the new secretary with Lisa offering up her expertise and assistance to Erica as needed. To assist in the clarification of the discussion, Victor offered up an audio recording that he had made of the meeting. Victor had sent the audio recording out via email prior to the board meeting, so it was not listened to at this time. Lisa stated that she believed that she had been voted in as co-secretary and was surprised at the suggestion that anything was different. She stated that she could not tell from the audio recording what had been decided, and she stood by her interpretation of the decision. Sarah reported that she too had been under the impression that the vote had been for co-secretaries, but upon hearing the audio recording she had realized that the vote was for a single secretary. Erica C. stated that she remembered the discussion clearly, and that although it had been somewhat confusing, the motion that had been voted on and approved was for a single secretary to the board. Sandra suggested that we review the minutes from that meeting to see how the vote had gone, but Lisa acknowledged that she had taken those notes and they reflected her interpretation of the events. She stated that she would stand by the board's decision but acknowledged that she felt hurt and unappreciated. She stated that she felt mistreated by Erica T. and would have liked to have been approached directly by her. Erica T. responded that she had not meant to be disrespectful, but stated that she had been confused at the October general meeting when Lisa identified herself as a co-secretary, as Erica T. had been under the impression that the position was not being shared. Erica T. acknowledged that as a new board member she had simply asked a question about the interpretation of the vote in order to clarify her own responsibilities and duties to the board. Victor and Megan both acknowledged that Lisa has been a long standing member of the MNA and the board and has made valuable contributions to the community that they hope to see continue in her role as board member at large. Victor then pointed out that the group often interrupts or

talks over one another and that that can lead to confusion about the topic at hand. The board was reminded to pay attention to communication styles, to listen without interrupting, and to make sure that any motion that gets voted on must be read aloud with the correct wording immediately prior to the vote and after the vote has been completed. Sarah also stated that she would follow up with the Brooklyn Neighborhood Association to discuss options for audio recording devices that may be used in addition to written records of meetings.

8:34 pm: Sarah moved that the meeting be adjourned.

Megan seconded the motion.

The motion was passed by unanimous decision.

Meeting was adjourned.