

MONTAVILLA NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

GENERAL MEETING SUMMARY

January 14, 2008

Board Members Present: Erica Thygesen Chair; David Linn, Vice-Chair; Lisa Laurenceau, Secretary/SEUL Board Delegate; Maria Sworske, Treasurer; Stephen Sequiera, SEUL LUTC Delegate; Craig Bach, Public Safety Committee Chair.

Residents: Roger Warren, Carolyn Risen, Kristen Hubert, Raydene Taylor Christina Chan, Doris Oldenburg, Adam Samish, Justin Cutler, Kevin Hedahl, Tricia Satterlee, Justin McNeil, Chelsea Ingle.

Erica Thygesen, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:04pm. Raydene Taylor moved to approve the agenda, Justin McNeil seconded. The agenda was approved unanimously. Introductions followed.

Chair's Report-Erica announced that she is stepping down effective at the end of January. The January Board meeting on the fourth Monday of the month will be her last meeting as Chair. She said that things in her life have changed and she will no longer be available on Monday evenings. Until a special election is held, Vice-Chair David Linn will be Acting Chair.

Vice-Chair's Report-David attended the Rebooting Democracy Conference. It was about progressive policy issues. He brought informational materials from various political issues such as 1000 Friends of Oregon, a Citizen Initiative Campaign, a Rally for Equity at Terry Schunk Plaza on January 30th at 5:30 pm., Fusion Voting Initiative, Autism Awareness, and a flyer about an impeachment effort.

Secretary's Report-Lisa Laurenceau submitted the summary of the last General Meeting, there was no December Board meeting due to the holidays. Some corrections were noted by the secretary. Maria Sworske moved to approve the summary, Roger Warren seconded, and Kristen Hubert abstained. The motion passed.

Treasurer's Report-Maria Sworske reported that there was \$2,341.13 in the savings account and \$1, 944.00 in the checking account.

Outreach Committee-Yvonne Garcia is not able to attend tonight.

Public Safety Chair's Report-Craig Bach reported on the continuing meetings of the Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED), which works on changes to Tri-Met stops and transit centers to reduce crime. He said people should make their opinions known to Tri-Met on possibly doing away with Fareless Square. Tri-Met is welcoming opinions from the community. Community members can comment through the website, make phone calls or write letters. Tri-Met feels that possibly doing away with Fareless Square may reduce crime by getting rid of undesirable elements. There have been some incidents of crime, mostly at night on Tri-Met buses/stops and MAX trains/stations. Unfortunately, one of the worst MAX stops after dark is 82nd Avenue MAX stop. Fare inspectors will not go on Max at night without a police officer with them. But doing away with Fareless Square is a controversial issue. Discussion followed.

Parks Chair's Report-David Linn reported that there has been a suggestion that Vestal School should have a Rainwater Garden, and there has been some interest. Gateway Green Spaces Visioning Project in conjunction with the Gateway Regional Plan has asked for a representative from Montavilla Neighborhood Association. However, the first meeting is tonight, which is a conflict with this general meeting. So, MNA doesn't have a representative at this time.

Southeast Uplift Land-Use and Transportation Committee Report-Stephen Sequiera reported that at the last meeting there was someone from Parks and Rec Bureau who spoke about a System Development Tax. They need an increase in order to purchase and develop land for new green spaces. The current budget pays only about 25% of the cost. With the increase, it will pay about 75% of the cost. SDCs will be a higher rate for inner city development where land and development costs are higher. State law prevents these funds from being used for park maintenance. A City Council hearing was held on December 12 to examine the Park System Development Charge; more than 30 community members provided testimony on this important issue. At that hearing the City Council voted to accept the Park SDC report, and asked the PP & R to provide additional information that will help in determining the appropriate SDC rate. Once the additional information has been collected, the Park SDC Task Force will convene to provide feedback to PP & R staff and Commissioner Saltzman's office. Two additional community open houses will also occur prior to the issue returning to City Council for a final decision on a Park SDC rate.

The Portland Courtyard Housing Design Competition attracted over 250 submittals from 33 states and 15 countries. Competition participants were invited to submit innovative designs demonstrating how medium-density courtyard housing can serve as an attractive option for families with children, while also contributing to environmental sustainability, providing an affordable housing option and responding to neighborhood context. On Tuesday, January 29, the winning designs from the Portland Courtyard Housing Competition will be recognized by city officials. The event will take place at the Northwest Natural Gas Building, 220 N.W. Second Ave. The winning designs will be on display and designers will be on hand to talk about them.

Sustainability Report-Michelle Scott, Chair, is not able to attend. Erica said that Michelle is selling Chinook Books, sale will benefit Montavilla's general fund. The city will no longer accept gable-topped cartons (i.e. milk and juice cartons) for recycling. There will be a Plastics Roundup on January 29 at Floyd Light Middle School. Plastics accepted will be: Plastic bags, plastic lids from recyclable bottles, soft margarine and yogurt tubs, bubble wrap. NO STYROFOAM will be accepted. A Resident mentioned that they had discovered a People's Co-op that practices "Reduce, Re-use, Recycle."

Southeast Uplift Board Report-Lisa Laurenceau said that in conjunction with the PDX Visioning, all Neighborhood Associations were being asked to work on a Neighborhood Plan for their neighborhoods. Those NAs with plans are being asked to look at them again, revise and update, make sure their plans are not just lists of wishes with no plan of how to achieve them. Montavilla has a plan, so the MNA Board should probably look at Montavilla's plan at the Board meeting.

Jennifer Temayo announced a Friend's of Trees tree planting on March 8, 2008. She is looking for volunteers to help with the planting. Erica told of her fun experience as a volunteer last year, she volunteered even though she was not getting a tree herself. Jennifer is looking for people to help with the actual planting, but also for volunteers to recruit food donations from local vendors, go to the nursery, drive the U-Haul. She passed around a sign-up sheet. A question was asked about the staging area. Jennifer said it was at Montavilla Baptist Church.

Carolyn Risen, a resident of the neighborhood, explained a problem she has. She said she works at night and sleeps in the morning. She said her house is nearly up against the fence between her house and Highland Christian Center's Parking Lot. She said she woke one morning to the screams of small children as they played just on the other side of the fence. She said the sound was deafening and

she couldn't sleep even though there were only 10-12 children. She found out that it is Albina Head Start. When she asked if they could ask the children to be a little quieter, they refused and said it was natural for children to scream when they play and they would not ask them to be quiet. Highland Christian Center has disclaimed any responsibility even though it's their property. There were suggestions from residents. Carolyn will work on this and keep in touch with the MNA Board.

David Linn said the Visioning process is looking for volunteers.

David Linn moved for adjournment, Justin McNeil seconded. The vote was unanimous. The meeting was adjourned at 8:00pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa Laurenceau