

MONTAVILLA NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

BOARD MEETING SUMMARY

October 22, 2007

Board Members Present: Erica Thygesen, Chair; Lisa Laurenceau, Secretary/SEUL Delegate; Maria Sworske, Treasurer; Stephen Sequiera, SEUL LUTC Delegate; Craig Bach, Public Safety Committee Chair; Yvonne Garcia, Outreach and Communications Committee Chair/ Newsletter Editor.

Guests: Jenny, representing Jennell Andrews, Montavilla Community Center Manager.

Erica called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm. The agenda was approved unanimously. Erica said that hereafter all General Meeting minutes will be approved at general meetings; board meeting minutes will be for information only. Lisa asked if the bylaws provide that kind of flexibility since all minutes are generally to be approved and accepted by the general membership. Erica said the bylaws are flexible enough for that to be legal.

The minutes of the last general meeting were distributed for approval. Some corrections were noted by the secretary. Stephen moved for approval to send summary to general membership, Craig seconded. Board approval was unanimous.

Treasurer's Report-Maria reports that there is \$2, 339.95 in savings and \$2,614.00 in checking. Maria still doesn't have access to savings account. She and Vice-Chair David Linn are working on that, but there isn't any urgency on the matter.

Outreach and Communications Committee-No bill yet from Portland Community College for the space for the International Festival held in September. There is some confusion about it. Natalie, the intern who worked on the Festival with the Outreach Committee, said it was her understanding that the space was free, that Montavilla would just need to

pay a small fee for janitorial cleaning. Actually, there is a site fee for use of the space, about \$200. Some money is left on the grant that Montavilla received for the International Festival. Erica asked Yvonne to check with Southeast Uplift, the fiscal sponsor of the grant money. Erica said we will vote on that when we have clear numbers both from PCC on the fee for the site, and from SEUL on how much money is left from the grant money. There will be more information at the general meeting, and we will vote on it then.

Erica said that Montavilla received their Communication money from SEUL. It totals \$2,458.54. The Outreach Committee is taking ideas at their meetings on how to spend it

November 19 is the date for the Burgerville Partnership Night. Yvonne wants to do some coupon giveaways. Burgerville will donate some. They are also working on redoing their inside garbage containers to provide for proper paper sorting for recycling.

Newsletter-Maria says she's great at selling ads, but not at all good at following up to remind advertisers to get their ads in by deadline. In the next issue there will be a history of Multnomah Bible College.

82nd Avenue of Roses-Montavilla/East Tabor Business Association wants MNA to host an After the Parade Party for next year's parade. Lisa mentioned that we need a firm date before we can do any planning. Discussion followed. It seems that there are problems with the Rose Court, METBA wants them to be in the parade, but that there wasn't a firm date from the organizers of the Rose Court's activities, yet.

Montavilla Second Annual International Festival-The Outreach committee is thinking about planning for next year. The Date in September, 2008 will be finalized later.

Parks and Rec-David Linn, Parks Committee Chair said he held a meeting, but no one showed up. He'll organize another one. There is some talk about Vestal School making a Rain Water Garden. David wants the Parks Committee to help with that.

Friends of Trees-a Tree planting is scheduled for Montavilla in the spring. Jennifer Tamayo is heading that up. There was discussion about the starting location-a Church on Hawthorne Boulevard. Further discussion included the number of bags of compost per tree, etc. Yvonne said that the goal for Montavilla is 60 trees planted in 2008.

Southeast Uplift Land-Use and Transportation Committee-Stephen Sequeira said that the LUTC had a presentation from Safe and Sound Streets. They plan to repair many streets in the city that need it, and to add improvements to increase pedestrian safety. City government is proposing several types of fees: A Street Use fee added to the sewer bill, a .03 cent increase in the gas tax (the first since 1993). The county would implement a vehicle registration fee increase, and a Bond. Discussion followed. Erica asked if Stephen could find out the process for fee increases. On Saturday, October 27, at Academy Theatre, at 10 a.m. there will be an information meeting on Measure 49, organized by Stephen and David Linn. State Senator Avil Gordly is sending her chief of staff and State Senator Ben Cannon will be there.

Public Safety-Craig Bach said that 800 hours of Private Security is being provided for the worst MAX stops. Craig made a motion to mail a letter from MNA to all convenience stores. The letter would ask the store owner to remove products that can be used to sell drugs (very small zipper bags) or that can be used as drug paraphernalia (roses in small glass tubes of water-the tube can be used to smoke cocaine or meth-amphetamine). Craig has brought this up before, but the Board has not

taken action, yet. Craig says other NAs have sent out similar letter. The letter must go to the District Attorney for final approval, but the first step is approval by the MNA Board. Lisa seconded the motion. Discussion followed. Craig showed the Board a sample letter. He said that the letter includes a Good Neighbor Agreement to be signed by the store owner. Lisa said that usually the Board asks anyone that is a party to a GNA to a face-to-face meeting first. Yvonne said the letter needs to be more diplomatic. Lisa asked if the Board would invite them to a meeting first. Maria said the letter should say "...in the interest of a better community..." Erica asked Craig to make some diplomatic changes to the letter. She suggested "...can we meet together and talk..." etc. Final vote was 1 in favor, 3 opposed, and 1 abstention. Discussion followed. Stephen said some action needs to be taken. Craig will work on the letter.

Erica said the Annual Neighborhood Clean-up is in the planning stages. Someone needs to contact Montavilla Baptist Church to confirm the church as the site of the Clean-up this year.

Erica said that Tim O'Neal (a SEUL AmeriCorps volunteer) is looking into grants for sustainability and will be passing on that information.

Secretary Report-Lisa Laurenceau had a suggestion to move the general meetings along more quickly. At the last meeting Erica had a lot of "Community Notes" that were mostly about various upcoming meetings. Lisa said that those dates could be put at the bottom of the agenda. Erica said she'd consider that suggestion.

Southeast Uplift Board Report-Lisa said she asked Cece Hughley Noel about the requested donation to SEUL from the proceeds of the Clean-up as per Erica's request about where that money goes. The money goes into the general fund to deliver services to NAs. Cece said that SEUL is

5

not required by their contract, nor does the city give any money for the Neighborhood Clean-ups. But, SEUL has always given start-up money to the NAs in the Coalition for the Clean-ups, so SEUL asks if the NAs could donate a small percentage of the proceeds of the Clean-ups back to SEUL for the last few years. Erica said that they would put it to a vote at the next general meeting.

METBA is having it's Annual Meeting on Wednesday. Stark Street Pizza and other merchants are donating food for the event. They are having their annual elections. This is the Second Annual Celebration.

Yvonne moved for adjournment, and Maria seconded. The motion was carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:03pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa Laurenceau
MNA Secretary