

MONTAVILLA NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

GENERAL MEETING SUMMARY

FEBRUARY 11, 2008

Board Members Present: David Linn, Acting Chair; Lisa Laurenceau, Secretary/SEUL Delegate; Maria Sworske, Treasurer; Stephen Sequeira, SEUL LUTC Delegate.

Residents: Cory Angell, Andrew and Bethany Johnson, Raydene Taylor, Alta Gaylord, Jennifer Tamayo, Roger Warren, Chelsea Ingle.

Guests: Sonjeev Balajee, ONI; Officer Stephen Mirau, PPB, Neighborhood Response Team Officer; Ken Taylor and Johnnie Beth Jones, 82nd Avenue of Roses.

The meeting was called to order by David Linn, Acting Chair at 7:07 p.m. Introductions followed. Raydene Taylor moved and Andrew Johnson seconded to approve the agenda as corrected. The vote was unanimous. David encouraged residents to join the Montavilla listserv.

Officer Stephen Mirau, Neighborhood Response Team Officer from the Portland Police Bureau, handed out crime statistics for Montavilla. He answered questions of residents. He also passes out yellow "Stop, Thief!" signs and instructions for participants to use in their cars. Larceny from a vehicle is preventable. He cautioned everyone not to leave anything in a car that could be stolen. He said one of the main items that are stolen these days are GPS navigation units. He said if you get lazy after taking them out when you park and put them in the glove compartment instead of taking them with you, it will result in having it stolen, since thieves can see where they go in the car and will break in to see if it's in the glove box or under the seat. He also reminded everyone never to leave anything inside that can be seen. Also, he told everyone that if they're leaving valuables in the trunk, to put them there before leaving home. He told of young women who go to music clubs downtown and put their purses and coats in the trunk after they park downtown, only to find upon their return to the car that someone has pried open the trunk (or broke into the interior and "popped" the trunk from inside) and their valuables were stolen.

Ken Turner and Johnnie Beth Jones from 82nd Avenue of Roses: The second annual parade will be on April 19, 2008. For more information: Johnnie Beth Jones, 503-252-9143, e-mail: johnni.jones@gmail.com; Ken Taylor, 503-484-6225 or The Support Group, 503-774-2832. Flyers will be canvassed from Ash to Holgate. If anyone one wants to volunteer, there will be free T-shirts for anyone who volunteers. The meetings are every third Tuesday at 5:30 at Bank of the West at SE 82nd and Division Street. Volunteers will meet on parade day at PCC at 7:00 a.m. Parade starts at 9:00a.m.

Community Connect: Sonjeev Balajee, from Office of Neighborhood Involvement: Community Connect, a community-led volunteer workgroup initiated by Mayor Tom Potter, has completed the “Five-year Plan to Increase Community Involvement in Portland.” This plan is focused on strengthening involvement in all of Portland’s neighborhoods and communities, and increasing the skills and tools to solve local problems, and invigorating the partnership between community and government. He handed out summary reports. Over the past two years more that 1,400 Portlanders were interviewed or surveyed as part of Community Connect. A workgroup of neighborhood and diverse community volunteers led a two-year review of community ideas before developing these recommendations. Finally, the Office of Neighborhood Involvement’s Bureau Advisory Committee included funding for the first-year of implementation of the Five-year Plan in its FY 200-09 budget request to the Mayor. He outlined ways that citizen’s can urge the Mayor to approve these funds. They can write a letter to the mayor and city council members, call or e-mail the mayor and city council members, write a “Letter to the Editor” of The Oregonian or Portland Tribune, attend the City Council meeting on Wednesday, February 27, 2008 at 2p.m. 1221 SW 4th Ave, and by spreading the word to other residents who may not have heard about Community Connect. He, Sonjeev, started as an aide in the Mayor’s office and is now working at ONI with Community Connect.

Parks Committee-David Linn, Acting Chair, is also Parks Committee Chair, and will be checking into the progress of the Bridger Rainwater Garden, the Mableville Garden and The Rosemont Bluff Project of the Center Neighborhood in the next few weeks.

Southeast Uplift Board- Lisa Laurenceau, SEUL Delegate, said that the SEUL Board had a presentation on Community Connect and the Board had voted to send a letter to the Mayor urging funding of the first year of the Five-year Plan. They also had a letter from the Mayor saying that he would let the Portland

Planning Commission implement The Portland Plan, rather than a Citizen's Advisory Committee as is usual. The Board voted to write a letter requesting the mayor to form a separate Citizen's Advisory Committee to implement it.

Treasurer-Maria Sworske, Treasurer, reported that there was \$2,341.49 in the Savings Account and \$3,944.00 in the Checking Account. Roger Warren asked where the \$2,000.00 addition to the Checking Account came from. David Linn said that he went to Thatcher's Brewfest and handed out some information about the neighborhood. Thatcher's then donated a portion of the proceeds of the Brewfest to MNA as they have before.

Southeast Uplift Land-Use and Transportation Committee-Stephen Sequeira, SEUL LUTC Delegate, reported that Gary Burger had quit his job as Staff Liaison of the SEUL LUTC and Neighborhood Planner without notice or explanation. Bureau of Planning has funds to look at zoning and street connections around MAX stations to make the areas more livable. They plan to hire an outside consultant

Chelsea Ingle said she knew of where there was a Meth house that burned down and now it was just a vacant lot. She said she knew who the owner was and she will contact them to ask if we can have the site for a Farmer's Market. Another Resident suggested that it could also be a community garden. Roger Warren made a motion for MNA to form a committee to work on these ideas. Chelsea Ingle seconded. The vote was unanimous.

Jennifer Tamayo, Friends of Trees, announce the next tree planting in Montavilla will be on March 8, 2008. She asked for volunteers and passed around a sign-up sheet. She said people can help even if they're not getting a tree for their yard.

Secretary's Report-Copies of summaries of last general meeting and Board meeting were passed around. The Secretary noted 3 corrections. Raydene Taylor moved to approve the summary of the last general meeting as corrected, Roger Warren seconded. Vote was unanimous.

Old Business-Carolyn Risen has had problems with Albina Head Start that leases space from Highland Christian Center. Their playground is right by the fence that is right by her bedroom window and since she works at night and sleeps during the day, it wakes her up. It also disturbs the sleep of some night workers

who live at the apartment next to her house. David Linn spoke with her and Albina Head Start and said that they had got as far as they could get with MNA and he referred her to mediation.

Jennifer Tamayo moved to adjourn and Stephen Sequeira seconded. Vote was unanimous. Meeting was adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa Laurenceau