

MONTAVILLA NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

GENERAL MEETING SUMMARY

JULY 9, 2007

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

Guests-Sharon White, Transportation/Pedestrian Safety-ODOT; Ben Cannon, Oregon State Representative-District 46; Christy, Legislative Aide for Ben Cannon.

Neighborhood Residents-Daniel Fike; Jennifer Tamayo; Michael Flagg; Michelle Scott; Max Deardorff, Burgerville; Alta Gaylord; Raydene Taylor; Laura Sturm; Daniel Linn; Alema McCrea, METBA.

Erica Thygesen, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:02p.m. The agenda was approved unanimously. Introductions followed. Erica then directed everyone to look at the copies of meeting summaries being passed around. The copies were of summaries for the MNA Board meeting of 5-28-2007, the MNA General meeting of 6-11-2007, and the MNA Board meeting summary for 6-25-2007. There were some corrections suggested and made note of by the secretary. The summaries were then approved with the corrections.

Erica then introduced Sharon White, of PDOT, to talk about Pedestrian Safety. She handed out a brochure of information and safety tips about Pedestrian Safety for automobile drivers. She intended to show a video, but the equipment malfunctioned. She said that residents could get signs for their streets, example: "Slow down for kids," etc. (there are three different signs to slow drivers). To obtain the signs for your street, you need to get pledges (pledging to drive at "family

safe” speeds in residential neighborhoods) signed by 5 residents of your street, or pay a \$25 deposit. PDOT is setting up advisory committees, one composed of citizens for feedback on PDOT Action Plan, that they’re in the process of forming, and also ideas about what that A.P. would look like. They’re asking for volunteers from NAs for Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC). There were some questions from residents which she answered. She referred them to the PDOT Transportation Safety Hotline 1-800-922-2022, for further information and to inform PDOT of unsafe conditions and suggestions on how to change those unsafe conditions to make them safe.

The 1st Annual International Montavilla Festival will be held on September 15, at PCC Southeast Center. The date had to be changed from September 29, because there was already plans for music outside and no outside music is allowed, since PCC students are in class that day. MNA Outreach Committee was awarded a grant for the festival and MNA also has an intern, Natalie, working directly with MNA to help the Outreach Committee with planning. Natalie met with the Roseway Neighborhood to get information on how they are planning their International Fair which will be on July 14, 2007. She is contacting many organizations and businesses in Montavilla to get ideas and interested people to help with planning. The Outreach Committee meets the first Monday of the month at Bi-Partisan Café at 7:00p.m. Natalie has planning meetings every Sunday at Noon at Mocha Express. Each of those Sunday meetings last for about an hour. The Outreach Committee meetings generally last for 2 hours. They’ve already planned Haitian Dancers, etc. Donations are being solicited. There is a donation letter printed on the listserv, to be given to businesses and individuals.

For the Parks update, David Linn, Parks Committee Chair, yielded the floor to Roger Warren, Parks Committee member. Mt. Tabor is continuing with it’s annual Music in the Park series for every Tuesday in July at Mt Tabor Crater at 6:30p.m.

David Linn then discussed a Block Party to be hosted by Josh Shirley, a neighborhood resident, who holds one every year. He had asked for sponsorship from MNA, this year, in return for serving liquor and asking for a donation with any money left after expenses going to MNA. He had originally planned it for the week of National Night Out, but has rescheduled it for August 25. David researched ONI guidelines and Southeast Uplift insurance /liability. The insurance is free and liability lies with the host, not with any sponsors. Liquor can be served, however, Josh has decided not to serve any liquor or ask for donations for it. David has made this motion for consideration:

Shall Montavilla Neighborhood Association participate in/sponsor Josh Shirley's Block Party on August 25?

Roger Warren seconded the motion. There was some discussion. Vote: 16 in favor, 1 opposed and 4 abstentions.

Alta Gaylord asked if anyone can participate even if the Block Party is not held on their block. Erica explained that National Night Out and all Block Parties associated with NNO are for people to get out and meet their neighbors, possibly have a barbeque or a potluck, and that all Block Parties associated with NNO are open to anyone who wants to attend/participate. Craig Bach said that his block held one a couple of years ago and 60 people showed up.

Erica then introduced Ben Cannon, our Oregon State Representative to the Oregon Legislature. He stated that he is a Montavilla resident, so he's especially glad to be at the meeting. He passed out a list of bills passed by the legislature this year with the addition of 1 or 2 that are expected to be passed during the next session. He answered questions from residents. One was about the "bottle-bill" that has been expanded to include water bottles. There will be a 5-cent deposit charged that will be paid back when a plastic water bottle is turned in,

just like pop bottles and cans. Unfortunately, this will not kick in until January 1, 2009. Other bills were discussed and questions were asked and answered. He discussed a ballot measure that will be on the November 2007 ballot, taxing cigarettes to pay for health insurance for uninsured children. He passed around a sign-up sheet so that neighborhood residents (his constituents) could sign up to get an e-mail update or one mailed to their home address. One resident expressed concern that so much of Oregon's National Guard force has been deployed in Iraq that Oregon is not as protected as it should be. Rep. Cannon said that the legislature has also been concerned about this and has asked the U.S. Congress about it.

Mt. Tabor/East Tabor Business Association (METBA)-Farmer's Market starts on July 22, 2007 at 76th and Stark. It will be open every Sunday until September 30.

Maria Sworske has found out that a metal recycling center has opened on Glisan Street. Residents are concerned because it attracts Methamphetamine addicts and leads to theft of metal objects that can be sold to buy Meth. There are also many metal recycling centers in Portland and another one is not needed. Maria heard about this from business owners, who received notice about a proposed zoning change that has to be made for the center to be on Glisan Street, since zoning doesn't allow for recycling (it is zoned general commercial and recycling centers are only allowed in areas zoned for industrial), and they are also concerned. The hearing will be held on July 24 at 7:00p.m.

Erica announced the open positions for Chairs of Land-Use and Transportation Committee and Sustainability Committee. Michelle Scott, a neighborhood resident, volunteered to be the new Sustainability Chair. Roger Warren moved to elect her, David Linn seconded. Vote was unanimous.

SEUL Update-Lisa Laurenceau said that due to the Ice Cream Social last month (some of MNA's Board members attended and did some great networking), the SEUL Board meeting was only half an hour long. The Board simply elected their officers for 2007-08. The Board officers are the same as last year: Paul Leistner, Chair; Marianne Colgrove, Vice-Chair; Michelle Isbell, Secretary; Kurt Krause, Treasurer; and Linda Nettekoven, Past Chair.

Public Safety Update, Craig Bach, Public Safety Chair, said many drug and prostitution strings are continuing by the PPB in Montavilla. Car theft and car prowling are up in the neighborhood. It is recommended that people use "The Club" to prevent car theft and to park in a well-lighted area when parking in the street. PPB's Southeast Precinct is having its Open House on July 14, 11:00a.m.-3:00p.m. He showed a Bar Ad that was put up outside the bar "SLUTS AND DRINKS INSIDE." He said he thinks they've taken it down, now. Everyone agreed this is not an acceptable way to advertise.

SEUL LUTC Update-Stephen Sequiera, SEUL LUTC Delegate said that if anyone has any ideas on how to make 82nd Avenue Safer they should call the PDOT Transportation Safety Hotline (see previous mention).

There will be an Open House for the building that was formerly Baptist Manor. It's been advertised as Food, Wine, and Information.

Erica said she'd been involved in interviews for the new SEUL Americorp volunteer. She said she'll make sure it's a good one.

Next general meeting will be August 13. It will be a Seed and Produce Exchange. Anyone who has extra seeds and/or produce from

their garden is encouraged to bring them and anyone who wants produce and/or seeds, even if they have none to contribute, is welcome to come and get some. There will also be speakers from Growing Gardens and Bridger School Rainwater Garden.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa Laurenceau
MNA Secretary