

**Boise Neighborhood Association General Meeting
December 14, 2015 7-9 pm – Q Center**

Attendees:

Board members: Katy Wolf, Stephen Gomez, Kay Newell, Sarah Cantine, Ted Buehler

Absent: Garner Moody, JP Castiaux (both excused)

Non-board: Robin Franklin (Hughes Memorial United Methodist Church), Stacey Rice (Q Center), Samuel Garcia (PSU student intern), Greg and Becky, Jordan Winkler

Agenda:

7:00 Chair's Opening Remarks

7:05 Presentation of check to Q Center

7:15 Public Comment

7:30 Treasurer's Report

7:35 LUTC Report - Stephen Gomez

7:50 Communications, Safety & Livability and other Updates - Katy Wolf

8:00 Discussion of speakers to invite (candidates, ballot measures and other public interest items)

8:10 Discussion of possible replacement of January meeting with a board retreat to set BNA objectives for 2016.

8:30 Continued discussion

9:00 Adjourn

Meeting Minutes:

7:00 David de la Rocha, rotating Chair

David is is thankful for the level of civic engagement with neighbors here and for the Q Center's generosity in allowing us to meet here twice a month for the last two years. The values of the Q Center are very much in line with the values of the Boise Neighborhood Association. BNA will send Q Center a donation as a thank you, and will continue to budget this donation each year.

7:10 Introductions and Public Comment:

- Kay's Sunlan holiday window displays are up now. One has light-up Santa Claus figurines, and the others are windows about acknowledging and respecting world religions and community.
- Robin's church Hughes Memorial United Methodist Church (111 NE Failing) is having a Christmas potluck luncheon. They are getting donations from local merchants and grocery stores. All are welcome. This invite has been posted to Nextdoor.com and our Facebook page.
- Board member Sarah Cantine is on the City's Residential Infill Advisory Committee. There is a short survey (on our Facebook page) for public input. Asks people to rank their positions on maintaining neighborhood livability issues like not blocking sunshine, equity for low-income and people with disabilities, urban forest canopy and parking

which are some of the common themes they have found. Sarah also has first-hand recent experience fighting an unpermitted arborist, sent from the City, cutting down trees illegally on her property, which was recently rezoned for higher density. Sarah is now much better educated on the tree code and tree removal permitting process after researching it for herself and her neighbors. She will bring this issue back to the Infill Committee.

- David suggests we might want to provide some training to neighbors about this process and maybe have a City speaker.
- Stephen - There is a proposal to amend the tree mitigation process and notice - there will be a hearing on Jan 12. (posted on our Facebook page). Sarah will try to attend and report back.
- Ted - It's a good idea to take photos of a site to create evidence in case trees are illegally removed.
- **Tree Code Hearing:**
 - January 12, 12:30pm
 - 1900 SW 4th Ave Rm 2500A (2nd floor)
 - There has been large public concern about large trees being removed in development situations throughout the neighborhoods, so in response the Bureau of Development Service (BDS) [proposes to amend the Tree Code](#). To get more information, including how to submit written testimony, visit the [BDS page](#).
- Ted - Since the activation of traffic signals on Vancouver and Cook, traffic is backing up on Vancouver quite a bit. We might consider asking PBOT to increase the light changing frequency. The other option is Fremont, and he doesn't want people using that, since it is a neighborhood street, not an arterial.
 - Karis - The PBOT theory is that people will adjust to the traffic.
 - Stephen - I can ping Peter Koontz, who manages the traffic signals.
- Katy - The latest edition of Portland Monthly has "50 Things Every Portlander Must Do" which includes joining your neighborhood emergency team and going to neighborhood association meetings.
- Stephen - Sons of Haiti Lodge update - This is an update on items that been going on the last few months (see previous meeting minutes). Right now they are close to selecting a final contractor, which will be around \$55,000. The PDC has agreed in writing to fund up to \$45,000, and privately they have gotten \$14,000 additional funds. Bryan Steelman of Por Que No made the introduction to the PDC and personally donated \$2,500. They will hold some kind of community event in mid-January to raise awareness about what the Lodge does, about the project, and provide the opportunity for individual contributions and put the funding campaign over the top. The Rebuilding Center has become a partner and will host and plan the event, date TBD. The goal of the project is to get the Lodge in compliance with City code (\$45,000 in fines and a lien on the building due to code violations), and to raise the income to a sustainable level for the Lodge (four food carts will be able to operate there). HMBA is also a partner. More to come, the BNA role will be communication. The project will include excavation, landscaping around

perimeter, bioswale in back to collect water off the asphalt parking lot, and removing structures.

7:45 Treasurer's Report

Karis presents a proposed 2016 budget, which the board can discuss further at a January board retreat.

7:50 Land Use and Transportation Updates - Stephen Gomez

1. The developer Marathon was approved for their MULTE grant (a 10 year property tax exemption) which will provide 57 affordable housing units in their four apartment buildings: 30 units at 80% of median family income, and 27 units at 60% median family income. Median family income is \$53,000 a year for one person. There will be some 2 BRs available. BNA supported Marathon on the MULTE grant application, Stephen testified at City Council, and BNA has an affordable housing statement in our Land Use Guidelines. Having affordable housing within a market rate housing development makes sense, has lots of good benefits. Sidenote: Marathon has contributed \$2,500 to the Sons of Haiti Lodge. We would like to have Aaron Wigod of Marathon to the BNA at some point so we can thank him for taking on the extra work to make this happen. Marathon also got MULTE funding for the Willmore building, 15 units. Half the units went to veterans. There is huge demand, there is a waitlist of more than 100.
2. North/Northeast Business Association (NNEBA), as part of the Comprehensive Plan process, is asking to rezone the three blocks that are currently owned by Legacy Emanuel from institutional use to mixed use residential. This area is in Eliot, not Boise. They are also calling for the City to bring back over 100 affordable housing units to make up for the displacement that took place when the hospital removed the residents and took the land, but never developed it. NECN and Eliot neighborhood has signed a letter of support, and Stephen recommends that BNA do so as well.
 - a. **Follow up action: We will post this on our website and forward it on to the WVBA.**
 - b. Board motion: Stephen recommends we follow the template of the NECN letter and submit our own letter of support to City Council supporting NNEBA's letter, and supporting rezoning the property and implementing affordable housing, with references to our language from our affordable housing support statement. Sarah seconds. All in favor, motion passes.
3. Tree code amendment (see above)
4. Next LUTC meeting is January 25. One agenda item is Solterra, a developer doing five projects in Boise and in Eliot. They will present final plans for the Antelope.

8:12 Safety and Livability/Other Updates - Katy Wolf

1. Williams Ave Trash Cans:
 - a. Will help organize Venture Portland workshop in February to help people across the city trying to put trash cans into their business districts. Will create a working group of these people across the city to share resources and ideas.

2. Emergency Prep Group:
 - a. Boise/Eliot/Humboldt team forming - for both NET and non-NET trained people. First meeting is tomorrow, Tues 12/15 6:30 - 8:30 at Mac! on Mississippi. Will meet quarterly. Will have PCC Emergency Preparedness class instructor Jeremy O' Leary at March meeting.
 - b. Purpose is to work on our neighborhood operations plan, staging area and team cache, practice emergency drills, map our hazards and assets, etc.
 - c. Working with Lokyee at NECN to put together an emergency prep workshop, showing of OPB Unprepared doc, some guest speakers, talk about the NET program
3. Alley Project Update:
 - a. Introduce Samuel Garcia, new PSU ISS intern and MURP graduate student.
 - b. Working on a lighting demonstration project to set up different kinds of lights along alley fences in one alley. Working on budget now, and will put forward a request to NECN committees for funding. Then would put it out like a mini-grant so people could ask for it to happen in their alley.
 - c. Samuel met with Urban League Harvest Garden organizer, to support that project.
 - d. Samuel met with Linda Hunter at Our United Villages, to support and get involved in their spring time storytelling project, and integrate alley project. A story of a person could result in naming an alley after them, and adding signage. Or it could be a visioning prompt with a suggestion box to leave behind their written vision.
 - e. Samuel to meet with Pastor Robin Franklin to help with their community garden.
4. One North Advisory Board:
 - a. First meeting was 12/10, with representatives from many neighborhood stakeholder areas. Will meet quarterly. Board purpose is to guide development of guidelines and programming for public use of courtyard.

Communications Update - Katy Wolf

1. Our other Communications team member, Rebecca, is taking a break. Katy needs help with Comm. duties: website, Facebook, Nextdoor, and email newsletter.
2. Time commitment is about 4 hours a month. Meet twice a month for 2 hours.

8:21 January meeting and Retreat planning

Discussion prompts:

- Discussion of possible replacement of January meeting with a board retreat to set BNA objectives for 2016.
 - Sarah - We should make it clear that if we did it at a restaurant, it would be on our own dime. Also if we have a retreat we should make it open to the public.
 - David makes the motion that we cancel the January general meeting and hold a board retreat, open to the public, at a time to be determined offline, then communicated out to the public. Ted seconds. All in favor, motion passes.

- **Follow up action: Doodle poll for the BNA retreat scheduling. Then when we have the date, we can promote the date/time/location publicly. Retreat topics will be accepted online.**
- Discussion: Quarterly newspaper idea
 - Kay - If we could get ads from local businesses, we could sustain a paper newsletter. The previous newspaper was run by a person who did it for about four or five years. Distribution came from both mailing (AdMail) and hand fliering. Several contributors wrote articles, and one woman did all the formatting.
- Robin would like an urban gardener to help grow food. They want help growing it more efficiently and connecting it to people in need.
 - Samuel will follow up to help Robin find a gardener.
- Stephen - We could try to get Commissioner Novick in conjunction with a report back from our emergency prep group.

8:36 Parking SAC Update

Board member Kay Newell serves on the City's Parking Stakeholder Advisory Committee. The Parking SAC is putting forward some proposals, including one that neighborhood associations can request a parking district. This will be of great interest to our neighborhood. Once the proposals go to City Council to be voted on (where anyone can provide testimony in support or opposition), we can communicate the changes (whatever they are) out via online communications channels. At this point not everyone in the City supports this plan. Stephen recommends that we have Grant Morehead of PBOT return to the BNA or LUTC to walk us through the changes, and do a lot of communication about the changes, and how people can be involved in creating a new parking district.

8:55 Motion to approve October and November meeting minutes

- Stephen moves to approve both sets of minutes with no changes, David seconds. All in favor, motion passes.