

**Boise Neighborhood Association General Meeting  
June 13, 2016 7-9 pm – Q Center**

**Attendees:**

***Board:***

- David de la Rocha, JP Castiaux, Katy Wolf, Kay Newell, Ted Buehler

***Non-board:***

- Anne Greenwood (Humboldt neighbor, mural artist)
- Brad Nelson (Boise neighbor, Mississippi Street Fair)
- Lydia Eberlein (Boise neighbor, Resolutions NW)
- Jes Larson (Welcome Home Coalition)
- Zena Rockowitz (NECN staffer)
- Robin Franklin (pastor, Hughes Memorial Church)
- Elliot Daggett\*
- Jackie Calder (Vice Chair, Portland Harbor Community Advisory Group)
- Carl Allen (Boise neighbor - Albina/Shaver)

\*unscheduled - Houndstooth Development - 3525 NE Garfield. Looking to do mostly studios, some 3 BRs, commercial general zoning. Katy reached out to schedule him for next LUTC meeting.

**Agenda**

7:00 Introductions

7:05 Guest speaker Brad Nelson from Axiom Event Productions regarding the Mississippi Street Fair

7:20 Guest speaker Lydia Ledgerwood-Ederlein from Resolutions Nw regarding mediation services

7:30 Guest speaker Anne Greenwood regarding a mural project at the Interurban building.

7:40 Guest speaker Andrew Warren from Welcome Home Coalition regarding a bond measure for affordable housing

8:00 Board elections

**Minutes**

**7:00 Introductions**

- Rebuilding Center is giving out free pride flags to the community after the sad news in Orlando. Several Mississippi businesses are displaying them right now.

**7:10 Brad Nelson (Albina/Failing) - Axiom Events, representing Mississippi Street Fair**

- **July 9 - 15th Annual Mississippi Street Fair.** Music stages, food, activities, kid zone, etc. New things this year: open air gallery, interactive art on Shaver between Mississippi and Albina. Expanded kid zone on Beech Street with more participation from Boise-Eliot PTA. Also this year the main music stage ends a little later- Ural Thomas and the Pain is headlining, going to 9:15 pm. Brad posted some practical items for neighbors about

street closures to Nextdoor (note: Katy can't find the post). Towed cars will be at cost of the Street Fair and all the towed cars will stay in the neighborhood. They emphasize that people call Portland non-emergency to report towing. The Fair has a hotline, which has worked well. Cleaning crew comes in Sunday morning. Volunteers are needed, for variety - info booth, setup/takedown, art gallery, kid zone. This year the beneficiary is the Boise Youth Unity Project - which subsidizes internships with businesses.

- The event is put on by the Mississippi Business Association and managed by Axiom Events. Kay Newell was part of the original organizers in 2001. Her business, Sunlan, usually loses money that day but still supports it. Those businesses that do sidewalk sales or booths in front do well. Results are mixed depending on the type of business. It's hard to see the businesses when they're blocked by the booths.
- Average is 30,000 attendees. #4 bus is diverted to Borthwick that day. Same number of stops.
- MississippiAve.com has contact info. Let them know of any concerns.

### **7:23 Lydia Eberlein - Resolutions NW**

- Lives in Boise, but also in this year's cohort for Resolutions NW. Speaking today about the free neighborhood facilitation, which is for neighbors that have any kind of conflict. They have trained mediators who will sit down with people to help people come to a mutual resolution. The point is not to pick a winner or loser. Sometimes it may seem trivial but may be about more and may take a skilled mediator. They don't get involved if there would be lawyers involved. Becoming a mediator takes over 100 hours of training. Examples: loud upstairs neighbors, cats coming into the wrong house/yard, hedge/trees on property lines, roommate situations, perceived or actual racism in neighbor interactions.

### **7:36 Anne Greenwood - proposed mural concept on Interurban building**

- Artist, recently completed mural at Beech School. Also did mural at Cherry Sprout/Red Fox. One parent at Beech School happens to own the Interurban building on Mississippi, they talked about doing a mural on the south-facing strip with the gutter running down. Haven't made the design yet but concept is to reference the historical building, Clarence Walker business which had a florist business by doing a floral design. Will go to Portland Archives to do some research, and Humboldt historian Clifford Walker will provide input. Would like to apply for the RACC grant. Building owner is getting bids to do restoration to resurface the wall, and might use that contribution along with another business owner as matching funds for proposal. Also working with a graphic designer with business in that building who would donate services to do renderings of historic building and proposed design. Already gotten paint donation from Miller if we get a BNA approval, they need a tax ID #. Once the design is 100%, she would return to present the design.
- Board members and attendees are supportive of the project concept. BNA has supported public art proposals in the past. We'd like to see the final design before providing a formal letter of support for the RACC application. Also, BNA is not a 501c3, so we encourage people to use NECN as the fiscal sponsor or to provide a tax ID #.

### **7:46 Jes Larson - Welcome Home Coalition**

- Have been organizing for about 2 years to address need for more affordable housing especially for those with very low incomes. This is Jes's second time presenting to us, the last time was with the N/NE Neighbors for Affordable Housing. There is an upcoming ballot campaign, the region's first, for affordable housing. Welcome Home Coalition came out of other groups and non-profits and affordable housing developers.
- Focused on helping those like grandparents on Social Security, families working minimum wage jobs. Looking at building back supply at 50% of median family income- at or below \$35,000 a year per family - so rent would need to be \$500/month, or a third of their income. Have an extreme shortage of deeply affordable housing - lacking 25,000 affordable housing. 3 out of 5 families with low incomes can't afford to live in Portland. Used to be able to promise that we could get a family into a shelter immediately and could promise a permanently affordable apartment after several months; can't do that anymore. It's spilling out into disorganized camps and tent camping and other cities in Oregon.
- Have public support after doing a lot of policy work, so ballot measure coming up. Vancouver is also doing it. 15 cities along West Coast are doing it. To stay in touch and learn more you can sign up for updates. City Council will refer a general bond ballot measure backed by property taxes to the ballot. Bond will be around \$248M. Bonds are like a mortgage, we pay it off over 20 years with taxes, to pay for things we need. In this case it will buy housing that's permanently affordable, which will create homes for tens of thousands of people. About 400-500 units a year now, and this will help to more than double it. 1,200 units - \$206,000 per unit. The longer we wait, the more expensive it gets. It's \$500K/unit in the Bay Area. Buildings would be government-owned but would be built and managed by a variety of CDC non-profits.
- Asking for BNA to sign onto a letter of support.
- Kay asks about zombie houses and what happened to the Interstate Renewal Zone funds which were designed for permanent low income housing. Kay has not been able to find out what happened to the money and the homes after the housing CDCs dispersed. Jes agrees we should look into this and also that we need comprehensive strategies to address the problem. Anne asks if the disbursement of CDCs that happened before could happen again. Jes says there is no way the money from the ballot measure would not stay with affordable housing.
- Welcome Home Coalition is over 140 orgs, many neighborhood associations, with non-profit status. Oregon Opportunity is their fiscal sponsor. The WHC has 1.5 paid staff.

### **8:12 Jackie Calder - Portland Harbor Community Advisory Board**

- Jackie has been working on the Willamette River Superfund site project for the last 15 years. The proposed EPA plan is inadequate. The most effective thing you can do is comment to the EPA - the deadline is August 8. The plan is not giving us several things, namely edible fish. Comments should ask for edible fish and to meet the Clean Water Act. **There is a public forum: June 21 7-9 pm at Harriet Tubman School - 2231 N.**

**Flint.** Speakers will be Travis Williams of Willamette Riverkeeper, Bob Sallinger of Audubon and Rose Longoria of Yakama Nation. Speaking up has been effective in getting them to do more dredging. We need to write in to put pressure on the EPA to do the cleanu and the polluters to pay for it. **Go to [portlandharborcag.info](http://portlandharborcag.info) to find where to submit your comment to the EPA.**

### **8:23 Board Elections**

- Zena calls for nominations. Karis Stoudamire-Philips (Treasurer, 9 years on board) texted last minute to say she can't make it to meeting and wishes to remain on the board. Garner, Sarah, and Ted are not running for the board again this year.
- After nominations, the slate is: JP Castiaux, David de la Rocha, Kay Newell, Carl Allen, Katy Wolf
- Unfortunately since Karis is not present she cannot accept our nomination, according to bylaws/ONI standards. The board would be happy to re-appoint her at the next meeting.
- David: interested in livability and in keeping tabs on the force of change happening. Owns a home, building an accessory structure so learned a lot of City processes and being a good neighbor in that process.
- JP: Owns a house, happy to serve the community, open to learning more about the race dynamics of this neighborhood and how to make a positive impact.
- Katy: Renter for 5 years, on board for about 3 years. Enjoys serving on the board and being involved at this level where it feels like making a difference. Wants to continue to do the roles of Secretary, Communications, Safety & Livability, Social, and Sustainability.
- Kay: Owns a house that she built, and rents out several units which she keeps affordable, and owns Sunlan Lighting. Built an ADU that's handicap accessible. Her son and she own a house on Vancouver too. Been on the board since 1992. Have also been on several other City committees. Helped start Mississippi Ave. Business Association and Street Fair. Has a lot of history, including from Alice Turowski who has lived here for her whole life for 80 years.
- Carl - Been in the neighborhood almost 2 years, daughter will be renting down the street soon. Livability concerns are responsible pet owners, seeing business owners contributing to sidewalk upkeep/litter. Won't be around for every meeting but wants to contribute,
- Kay makes motion we vote to approve the slate, JP seconds it, all accept the nomination.
- Call for vote to approve slate. All in favor. Motion passes.

### **8:50 Katy Wolf - Event updates**

These are events coming up that we're either participating in, promoting, or organizing:

- The **One North Courtyard Summer Party**, which is a grand opening of their public courtyard, is happening on Saturday 6/18 2-6pm. Katy will have a BNA table giving away swag, and offering a free painting activity - paint a cabinet door and take it home to install as alley art!

- **Juneteenth** is also on Saturday 6/18 at 6 pm at the PPS building at 501 N. Dixon (in Eliot). The event description is: Children who live in America are standing up for their FUTURE!!! Join local [#BlackLivesmatter](#) Protestors and other community leaders as we organize OUR Testimony!! Education is A Right and in honor of Juneteenth 2016 Students will have the opportunity to see Democracy In Action! More Details Coming SOON!
- **Good in the Hood** is happening all weekend, 6/24 - 6/26. It's a multicultural music, arts and food festival at Lillis Albina Park.
- The **BNA June Last Wednesday Social** will be at Hopworks Bikebar on Williams Ave. - 6/29 7-9 pm. The pub is kid-friendly with a play area inside and outside. It's an opportunity to socialize outside of our meetings and get to know each other better.