

Neighborhood Association Presidents Meeting
February 25, 2015
7:00 PM

Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM by NAP Chair Ed Schwarz.

NA Presidents, or their representatives, present were Kazi Ahmed of Robinwood, Steve Garner of BHT, Tracy Gilday of Skyline Ridge, Sally McLarty of Bolton, Karie Oakes of Marylhurst, Bill Relyea of Parker Crest, Ed Schwarz of Savanna Oaks, Mike Selvaggio of Willamette, and Doug Vokes of Sunset. Also present were Citizen Engagement Coordinator Lori Hall and Neighborhood Association liaisons Councilors Russell Axelrod and Brenda Perry.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Meeting minutes from the January 14, 2015 meeting were reviewed and approved.

NA Reports

Savanna Oaks – Nothing new to report.

Robinwood – Kazi Ahmed stated that they had approximately 50 people in attendance at their February meeting, including all 5 city councilors. Kazi presented a “State of Robinwood” report.

Parker Crest – Bill Relyea reported that Parker Crest is monitoring the proposed expansion plans for the Adult Community Center and has had some discussions with the city regarding the expansion.

BHT – Steve Garner reported that BHT is now a “firewise” community, Representatives from ODOT, the Dept. of Forestry, and TVF&R visited BHT and worked on remediating the area between BHT and I-205 to enlarge the fire buffer. Steve mentioned that BHT continues to prefer that the proposed hiking trail be located on the far side of the freeway as there is concern about fire if the trail is located between BHT and the freeway. Finally, Steve also mentioned that BHT is vetting roofing companies to try to get the best price on replacing shake roofs with other, more fire resistant, materials.

Bolton – Sally McLarty reported that Bolton has been going through a rough patch. Attendance at their meetings has increased to the point where they need additional space for their meetings. They will be having officer elections.

Skyline Ridge – Tracy Gilday reported that they need a porta-potty in the park. They have discussed this with the city but have been told that the expense is too high. Councilor Axelrod stated that he would look into this. Tracy also stated that they have one neighbor with a cluttered yard. They have approached the neighbor about cleaning it up but the neighbor doesn’t have any interest in doing so. They will discuss this with the city.

Willamette – Mike Selvaggio reported that at their last meeting WNA passed a letter of support for Bolton regarding the LOT water plant construction time extension. Representative Julie Parrish will be attending their March 11 meeting – all are invited to attend. Willamette NA is supporting the formation of the West Linn Historical Society, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit. Representative of the WLHS are available to come to NA meetings and discuss the organization. Willamette NA has undertaken a revision of its by-laws which will be a large project. Finally, Mike reported that WNA membership has been steadily growing recently.

Sunset – Doug Vokes reported that a representative of the school district is scheduled to attend their April meeting to discuss the plans for the replacement of Sunset school. The NA has concerns about the geological stability of the new Bolton reservoir but their concerns are lessened if it is not placed in Wilderness Park (which was one of the two sites being considered) because it would no longer be in Sunset NA. They have also been looking into requesting a change of zoning for a property currently zoned residential/commercial to attempt to keep the property from developing into a structure which is not compatible with the neighborhood. They have been told by the city that the zoning change application would cost \$3,000.

Marylhurst – Karie Oakes reported that Zach Pelz attended a recent meeting to discuss the update to the city's Transportation System Plan (TSP). MNA had a work session devoted to identifying a list of priorities. These include: a safe pedestrian path on Marylhurst Drive to Highway 43, continuous sidewalks on one side of Suncrest Drive, and adding a cross walk near a bus stop. MNA also discussed and passed a letter of support of Bolton NA related to the increased construction time schedule of the LOT water project. Finally, Karie expressed MNA's concerns about the poor state of the pavement repairs being done on Highway 43 by the LOT water project crews as they install the water pipe.

Lake Oswego-Tigard Water Project Construction

Discussion was held regarding the Highway 43 construction process and poor condition of the patched pavement. Councilors Perry and Axelrod reported that discussions are ongoing with the construction company to see what can be done.

Municipal Code Chapter 2 Update

Councilor Perry reported that the City Council is taking up Chapter 2 of the Municipal Code dealing with Neighborhood Associations. Karie Oakes noted that the Neighborhood Association Presidents provided comments to the City Council regarding Chapter 2 updates in 2013. The City Council did not take any action on the NAs' suggestions. It was decided that the next NAP meeting should be a workshop to discuss the updates to Chapter 2 of the Municipal Code as related to Neighborhood Associations. NAP members are asked to come to the workshop prepared to provide ideas on how to bring NAs together.

Other Items

Lori Hall and Councilor Perry discussed the city's Public Safety Committee and disaster preparedness work. They are currently meeting with TVF&R, the West Linn Police Dept., the school district and city staff. There are plans for meetings with each Neighborhood Association.

There was discussion of a coordinating an "NA Fair" to promote NAs. It was decided that booths would be provided for NAs at the upcoming Music in the Park concert series. Lori Hall will coordinate the booths.

Lori Hall stated that the city's web use and social media policies are under review. She will keep NA Presidents informed as this progresses and involve NAs as necessary.

Ed Schwarz shared a mock-up of the NA newsletter which the city is planning to include in the March utility bill. Each NA has the opportunity to provide 250 words to describe their NA. The deadline for submitting is March 1.

There was discussion of the city's process for collecting NA member's email addresses from a link on the NA web sites. It was decided that each NA can control whether new email sign-ups flow through the city or directly into MailChimp. It was also decided to encourage NAs to use MailChimp for their mass emails. Lori Hall will see about adding MailChimp training to the upcoming NA training session. Lori also mentioned that the city is happy to help NAs set up a Facebook page.

Next Meeting

Ed Schwarz will review the City calendar and send an email with a few suggested dates for the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM.